

BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

NOVEMBER 2020

Seacliff

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Warrington

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Evansdale

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Waitati

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Doctors Point

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Purakaunui

THE MULLET FESTIVAL WARRINGTON



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plus lots more ...

Blueskin Bay Community Spaces

Warrington Hall

Available for birthdays, family gatherings, exercise classes, dances and do's etc at reasonable rates. Hire includes a fully equipped kitchen and tables and chairs.

Contact Lyn 482 2896 or Rowena 482 2667

Waitati Hall

Suitable for large meetings, weddings, parties, concerts, dances etc. (up to 120) features kitchen, toilets, stage, sound system and large projection screen.

Contact Blueskin Nurseries on 482 2828

Waitati Hall Meeting Room

Suitable for committee meetings, small gatherings, demonstrations etc. (up to 20 people) features kitchen and toilets.

Contact Blueskin Nurseries on 482 2828

Blueskin Bay Library Meeting Room

Suitable for committee meetings, presentations, training, interviews etc. (up to 12 people) features modular tables, large projection screen, kitchenette and toilets.

Contact Blueskin Bay Library 482 2444 | blucirc1@dcc.govt.nz

Hire charge is usually applicable, details can be obtained on request

Editor's Note

Many New Zealanders associate 5 November with Guy Fawkes and an evening of family fun and fireworks. But some Māori remember the date for a very different reason.

For Taranaki Māori, 5 November 1881 is known as 'Te Rā o te Pāhua' or the 'Day of Plunder'. The invasion of the pacifist settlement of Parihaka — te pāhuatanga — happened when around 1500 armed constabulary and volunteers led by the Native Affairs Minister, John Bryce, invaded Parihaka. Soldiers entering the village were greeted by singing children and women offering them fresh loaves of bread. It made no difference.

Following the invasion of Parihaka, its leaders, Tohu Kakahi and Te Whiti o Rongomai, were arrested and imprisoned without trial. Sixteen hundred followers were expelled, and buildings and crops were destroyed by the troops.

Several groups of prisoners, taken by the troops, were sent south to Dunedin. They were put to work as prison slaves and did much work on the infrastructure of the city. There is a memorial to them "The Rongo Stone" on Portsmouth Drive.

The Parihaka Reconciliation Bill – a formal apology from the crown for the invasion of Parihaka and the imprisonment of its people passed into law in 2019.

Thanks to Giselle who asked me to include this story.

See us on www.blueskinnews.org. Enjoy this month's read, keep safe, warm and well – Bernie



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For more information on how to get involved head to www.ebird.org/atlasnz/about

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The End of the Golden Weather

by Bruce Mason

DIRECTED BY Lisa Warrington

PERFORMED BY Matt Wilson

Saturday 14 November 7pm | Waitati Hall

Seating is limited and we strongly recommend that you book asap to avoid disappointment.

Tickets are koha, thanks to generous support from our sponsors
FOR INFO AND BOOKINGS VISIT: WOWPRODUCTIONS.NZ

Keep Dunedin Beautiful Awards

KEEP
DUNEDIN
BEAUTIFUL



On the 13th October, after rescheduling several times we were finally able to acknowledge the amazing work of the wider community to make Dunedin the special place it is, as always several locals were part of the awards.

Taste Nature, Organic Shop, won the Spiralis Consultancy Sustainable Business Award (see article p10)

The Winners of the Taylor Community Pride Shield were the **Waitati Music Festival Crew** for their Zero Waste plan.



Held annually, the Waitati Music Festival attracts approximately 1500 people. Each year they have made huge inroads into reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill from each festival, and this year they were able to achieve a diversion rate of 80% – an increase of 20.5% compared to last year. For the festival they arranged a wash up station, promoted it as a zero waste event in advance, encouraged people to bring their own mug, cutlery, and plate for food vendors, and put agreements in place with the vendors to ensure they would follow the zero waste approach, and provided a point to refill water bottles

Working with Res.Awesome these guys did an audit of the waste, sorted it properly to allow recycling and calculated diversion from land fill. The volunteer crew on each shift also kept their eyes open for litter on their rounds and recycled as appropriate. The festival site is always spotless after the pack down is complete.

Congratulations Waitati Music Festival!

Our other community groups all received highly commended:

Halo Project – working alongside communities to develop healthy and resilient landscapes beyond Orokonui Ecosanctuary. The Halo Project work with residents on predator free initiatives and projects

Karitane School – continuing work in partnership with local Runaka in planting on the Karitane Spit, and other environmental and restoration projects in the area.

Judy Martin POWA chairperson as an individual was acknowledged for her work during Lockdown on Waikouaiti covid care network (facebook page), the Community Garden, POWA, The Otago Green party newsletter and endless community spirit.

OneCoast Group have experimented with a variety of waste minimisation projects over the last year including a Green Gold day of workshops which demonstrated the ways in which garden and green waste can be kept out of landfill, a community beach clean up, a Wardrobe Workout day, and ongoing work keeping the freecycle service running at the Waikouaiti Transfer Station

Orokonui Estuary and River Care Group – Chris Baillie and her team. Chris is the volunteer co-ordinator of the tree planting group which has planted 400 plus trees. She is also the Halo programme volunteer co-ordinator, Thanks for your mahi Chris and your tireless eco-minded contributions to the wider community.

Mandy Mayhem-Bullock



Photographer. Storyteller. Creative

ph: 0210511022
email: kerryhodgephotography@gmail.com

www.kerryhodgephotography.com



opening hours:
Fri 4 - late | Sat & Sun 12 - late
We are a small family brewery owned and operated by Jono and Emma, located in Evansdale on Blueskin Bay.

We are focused on brewing small batch crafted beers!
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That cursed couch

by Hilary Rowley

I've been weeding out couch grass and convolvulus from the garden (again), cursing the damn fool who introduced them to this paradise. As far as I know the only garden bad guys were grass grubs, bush lawyer, and those little low growing biddy biddy things which get seriously tangled in dogs and socks.

Who introduced couch? Well, I was reading the local history book "Northern approaches" by CWS Moore and he relates the story of John Duncan, a miller, who took over the former Johnny Jones property known as "Cherry Farm" and found it impossible to cultivate for grain because it was taken over by couch grass. It was thought that the couch had been introduced accidentally or even purposefully by Jones in the grass seed he sowed there. Thanks a bunch Johnny.

Mr Duncan, presumably with the help of many staff, managed to clear 300 acres by "grubbing, harrowing and removing the multitudinous rhizomes with hand forks" in three years. It is hard to imagine how many people and hours that took. If I take it upon myself to weed couch out of a patch of garden it can take a whole day to clear a couple of metres square, produce several wheelbarrows full of roots, while all the time knowing it will be back again within a year.

The best way seems to be to cover the couched ground with a thick layer of cardboard and mulch, grow potatoes in it, and the next year the roots will have established themselves in the mulch layer and be easier to pull out.

There is no such thing as a permanent removal of couch. An old local farmer once said to me "if you can't control the weeds on your farm with manual methods, then your farm is too big", or perhaps you need more staff.

My conclusion from this is that in times of high wages, farms should be smaller so weeds can be controlled without the use of dangerous toxins like glyphosate. Just saying.

ONECOAST

OneCoast is looking for a facilitator – paid position, up to 10 hours a week for 6 months.

As work begins on our community resource recovery site at the Waikouaiti Transfer Station we are looking for a person with enthusiasm and initiative to work at OneCoast to help us set up our first depot and shop. The main tasks will be:

- working with the OneCoast committee to oversee the development of the Resource Recovery site over the first half of 2021;
- helping develop a memorandum of understanding between OneCoast, the Dunedin City Council and Waste Management regarding respective roles and responsibilities at the Transfer Station;
- recruiting and training volunteers to help at the Resource Recovery Depot; and
- investigating grant and community funding for the continuation of the position and the further development of the Resource Recovery Centre.

We are looking for a person who can demonstrate both the big picture thinking and the attention to detail that such project management requires. Another essential is the ability and willingness to connect with people in all sectors of the community. We welcome in particular applicants who are resident in the Transfer Station catchment area, roughly between Blueskin Bay and Palmerston. Detailed knowledge of New Zealand's current waste minimisation practice is not essential, but sharing OneCoast's vision of a low waste future for our area is.

Hours will be flexible and by negotiation.

Applications close Friday 13 November, 5pm.

Please send applications and enquiries to Judy Martin at onecoastotago@gmail.com or mobile 021 130 7765

Warrington Hall

Warrington Hall Committee recently held their AGM. Many thanks to those who have offered to stay on the committee for another year and a big welcome to Pete who has joined us. Thank you to Heather who has given her time and energy to help us in the past.

We look forward to a new outside paint job of the hall in the near future. Welcome back to our regular users of the hall now that things are back to normal after dealing with Covid. Thank you to Tae kwon do, ping pong, Yoga, Waitati Warblers and the indoor bowls club for using our hall regularly. The hall is available for many uses - see the hall 'ad' (page 1) for further details.

BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

Yesterday 22 members visited two local gardens on the Mount Cargill Road. A sunny, but windy afternoon saw us first at Carol's where we had a tour of her 5 acre block which has been planted out over the last 7 years with 5,000 plants, including natives, fruit trees, flowers and even native weeds.

Carol and Murray, your efforts amazed us all and thank you for making us so welcome. Here we also enjoyed a cuppa and chat and went home with plants from the bring and share table.

We then crossed the road to Shelley's garden and small nursery. Here Shelley tends 150 acres and also propagates and sells lots of plants. You will pass Shelley's stall as you come down the Mount Cargill Road so stop and have a look at what she's got for sale. Many thanks to you too Shelley - and Don of course.

Our November get together includes two Warrington gardens and a "posh" high tea in the Warrington Hall. If you would like to meet some locals then please contact one of our committee and come along and join us. Lyne Carlyle, President 482 2822 or Carol Fletcher, Secretary 482 1443.

Lyn Hastie Publicity



Waitati Volunteer Fire Brigade

In light of the situation recently in the Mckenzie Country near Lake Ohau it's a timely reminder that we are not immune from such a situation. Remember last year!

At Warrington the power transformer arcing caused a fire in several hedges, and with the strong winds a house was damaged.

Whilst this was accidental there are considerable considerations should you think of lighting any fire in the open. How close you are to your section boundary – wind direction and forecast – are you able to put the fire out – do you have water on hand – will the fire be out by dusk?

Fireandemergency.co.nz have a listing of what you are expected to do regarding fires in the open, from the use of BBQs to large burns in open areas. Look it up before you light a match, you may require a permit.

All open fires must comply with current permit conditions but even if you do not need a permit these conditions still apply.

Let's keep our community safe, give some thought to an escape plan, what would you grab in the two minutes before you need to evacuate, do you have a "grab bag"?

Paul Clements

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1pm until 5pm : Sunday 29th November : Waitati Village Hall
Local artwork display + gentle jazz music
from the Waitati Warblers and Paper Moon

Light refreshments available. Gold coin entry.
Artists include : Anita DeSoto, Alex Henderson,
Lynley Workman, Lovey Crossman, Metiria Turei,
Molly Devine, Sara Williamson, Steve Bourne
and more

Asking Difficult Questions

During the build up to the election we saw a lot of very blunt questioning of politicians, which is fair enough, we need to know where they stand and for them to be accountable for their past actions. We are living in a society which is seeking out and demanding justice for past wrongs. We all demand transparency and honesty from those in power.

There are some questions of transparency I have relating to a local organisation. For more than a year we heard fantastic stories about BRCT's latest project the "Climate Safe House". Multiple articles appeared not only in the Blueskin News but the ODT and various other media hailing this wonderful project. We were told thousands of dollars were donated by generous companies providing building materials, numerous groups and individuals donated their time and professional skills. The aim was to provide a warm, dry home for a local woman living in a bus, whose house had been flooded many times.

Well somewhere along the line this has become an unsafe project. The person whose land the house was situated on has demanded it be removed less than a year after it arrived. I hear the house is to be sold. What went wrong? I think our community, and all those who donated time and free materials, not to mention the many grants organisations (including free resource consent from the DCC) deserve some honest answers.



The person whose land the house was put on was required to give up equity in their property in exchange for the long term (how long?) rental of the house. This seemed like a very dubious deal on many levels. How much rent was the person required to pay (they are on a fixed income) and how much could this rent be increased over time? How much say did this person have over the design and positioning of the house?

This outcome reflects very badly on BRCT, not on the person who was cajoled into being the host of this very dubious project. Now apart from facing up to the failure, I think our community and all the donors need to be told the actual financial details behind the unsafe house. What did it cost, who paid what, does it have outstanding debts, what will happen to the funds from the sale, will funders and donors be reimbursed?

Geraldine Tait

BRCT Response

Thank you Geraldine for raising issues about the Climate Safe House Project. The BRCT Trustees are also disappointed that the house has to be moved and sold.

We are hugely appreciative of all the support the community provided to the project and it is our preference that the house remain in Blueskin Bay. However, we are not the decision-makers because the house is owned by Blueskin Energy Limited (BEL) and is being sold by them. BEL are also responsible for the lease and tenancy contracts with the landowner. BRCT cannot answer any questions about those contracts and the relationship with the landowner - you are best to seek answers from Scott Willis (General manager, BEL) or Tony Wilson (Director, BEL). If you want more financial information about the Climate Safe House, its full cost, what debts may be outstanding and what will happen to the funds from the sale then again, you are best to ask Scott Willis or Tony Wilson as all of that information is held by them.

As the new Treasurer for BRCT I am still working through the accounts. As far as I understand in 2019 for the Climate Safe House we raised \$22,443 through the Pledgeme campaign, received a \$30,000 grant from the Polytech and a grant of \$14,000 from the DCC. That money was used to pay the wages for both Scott and Renee as well as for the materials and labour that was not donated to the project.

We have now revised our strategy and policies, which we presented at our AGM in September, to improve our financial management, assessment and reporting processes. We have also committed to focusing on smaller, more localised projects rather than large scale flagship projects such as the Climate Safe House. It was an audacious project, but the fact that it is now being sold by its owner proves that it was not a success. The BRCT has learned from our involvement in that experience which has helped drive our new strategic focus.

Metiria Turei Treasurer

BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

28 Harvey Street, Waitati, 9085 • Ph 03 474-3690

www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz

WHAT'S ON

Children's Book Club

Monday 9 November, 3.30 - 4.30pm

Last month we had lots of book chat. Our snail mail experiment took four days from Stephaney posting letters, to them arriving in our letterboxes. We made postcards using book places/characters and thought about who we could send them to. This month we will be making a Christmas decoration using old, donated encyclopaedias. Please note this Club is for Year 3 and up.



Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Info Desk

Wednesday 11 November, 10.30am - 12pm

A uniquely Māori learning environment for everyone. Not a university or a polytech, a wānanga. Come along and find out more.

Games Galore

Every Thursday, 2 - 5pm

Love Gaming? Why not try the old-fashioned way. Come along and join in the fun of board games – new and old for all ages.

Lego Club

Thursday & Friday, 19 & 20 November, 3.30 - 4.30pm; Saturday 21 November, 10.30am - 12pm

We supply the Lego you bring your imagination. Suitable for ages 5+.

Bookshare

Thursday 26 November, 3.30 - 4.30pm

Join us for a chat over afternoon tea about what you're currently reading. A relaxed way to make friends and share ideas about what to read next. Tea and coffee provided.

Blueskin Bay Knitwits

Mondays, 6.30 - 8.30pm

1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays, 2.30 - 4.30pm

All ages and experience levels are welcome. Bring your own wool and knitting needles, and maybe a pattern or two to swap with fellow knitters.

Bee Cards

Catching the bus with the Bee Card is much easier and quicker. The tag on tag off bus card gives bus passengers cheaper fares in nine regions around New Zealand, including Otago. Pick up and top up at the Library.



Explore the Digital Library

■ **Genealogy** – Go to www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/digital-library/genealogy – to find:

1. **Papers Past** – 45 digitised 19th and early 20th Century newspapers from all over New Zealand, 30 of which are searchable, including the locally published Otago Witness.
 2. **FindMyPast** – 50 million records for Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands and Papua New Guinea.
 3. **Family Search** – a genealogical website hosting a large collection of free family trees, genealogy records and resources.
 4. **British Newspaper Archive** – millions of pages of historic British newspapers.
 5. **Ancestry Library Edition** – makes family research easy for beginners while still providing in-depth tools for even the most advanced genealogists.
 6. **Births, Deaths and Marriages** – Government records for births, deaths and marriages.
- And a host of useful genealogy links.

■ **Beamafilm** Fierce and fabulous fashion, all your fashion needs in one movie collection, including *McQueen*. This documentary is an intimate revelation of Alexander McQueen's rags-to-riches story. It is a modern-day fairy tale laced with the gothic, mirroring the savage beauty, boldness and vivacity of his design.



Please note, COVID-19 Alert Level changes impact the Library hours if in doubt please check the website. Library hours are normally:

Monday & Tuesday: 2-6pm
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:
10am-12pm & 2-6pm
Saturday: 10am-1pm


dunedin public libraries
Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti



Pūrākaunui School

Hi everyone, Term Three ended with a lovely community assembly to celebrate a great term's worth of work.

The kids presented a fantastic array of work, with highlights being the newspapers the senior children created as part of their media topic work and the juniors performed an entertaining shadow puppet show using an overhead projector. It was fun to dust off this essential teaching tool from yesteryear!

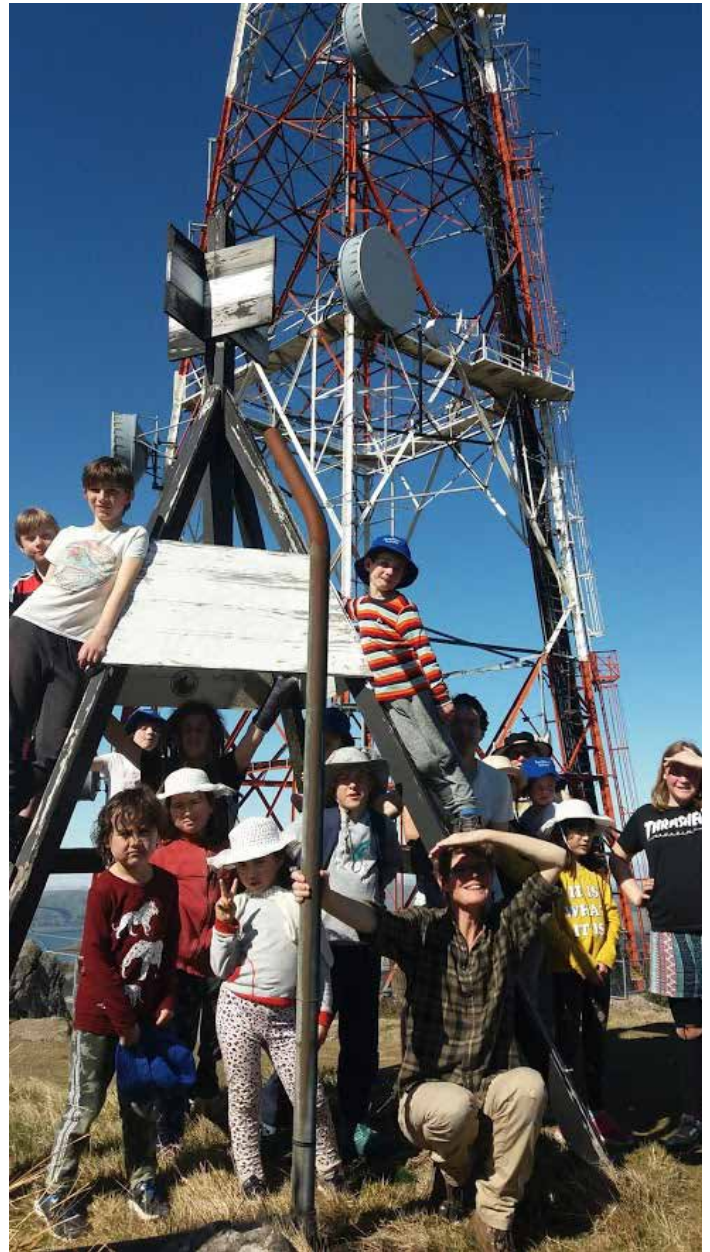
The evening was also a farewell to Antoinette who has been the school secretary since 2013. It was sad to say goodbye after such a lengthy tenure and we appreciate her wonderful contributions to school life over the years. Luckily for us Antoinette will still be running her after school club and will also be available for relief teaching in the future.

We are looking forward to Term Four as we will be doing some more interesting science work, this time with a local focus. We will be spending time at Pūrākaunui inlet looking at marine science and also through the sanctuary where we will be learning about the growing kaka population and how our community can assist to keep them safe. It will also be good to get back in the pool in Term Four to catch up on missed swimming lessons from lockdown.

We are looking forward to our fair on 8 November and hope to see you there.

Any queries about Pūrākaunui School please call the office on 4821026.

Tim Cook, Principal



A recent hike up Mt Cargill Kapukataumahaka



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Labour

Authorised by David Clark, 32 Albany Street, Dunedin



We finished Term 3 with an exhibition of learning. Everyone felt so proud of what they had achieved. We held it in the Waitati Hall and finished with a Whanau Hui.

The holidays

We celebrate with **Olivia Dickson** who got second in the South Island Ice Skating Champs and is now the youngest ever child to be invited onto the development team. Also, **Freya Des Fountain** playing in the Football South Community Competition for team Roslyn under 14 Southern United Academy under 14 placed 2nd and third in the Wimack Comp Regional, playing for Southern United Academy under 14. **Elliot Wilson-Deaker** representing Māori Hill Gunners Football team who won their competition. Congratulations.

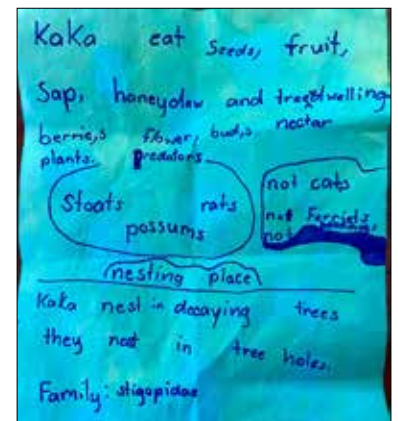
Term 4 at Waitati school is full of learning.



Passion projects is moving to one whole day every fortnight. Ākonga choose from a range of options, like felting, weaving with flax, Kei Hea ngā Kākā (a combined project with Orokanui ecosanctuary), pottery, forest play, film making and robotics. Wow, who wouldn't love to choose from that amazing list. We also continue to put time aside caring for our environment.

Here is some pretty stunning research from **Alexia White**, who is joining the Kei Hea Ngā Kākā passion project (completed in her own time because she is interested). Alexia is one of our ecowarriors and really lives and breathes caring for our environment.

A big shout out to **Cargill Contracting** for putting in a pathway for the children during the holidays. We are really grateful.



As always, thanks for your support community and if you have any questions, please let us know.

Tara O'Neill, Principal



**Pets Church Service,
St Barnabas Church
sent in by Alister Wright**



Taste Nature

And the winner for Best Sustainable Business at the Keep Dunedin Beautiful awards goes to locally based organic grocery store, Taste Nature.

The store has re-filled over 35,595 containers in one year, while encouraging reusers via their 'refilled not landfilled' board. In July last year, with the help of Responsible Cafe Directory, UYO, Taste Nature erected a 'refilled not landfilled board'. This one-of-a-kind board kept a tally of the total number of containers that have been refilled at the organic grocery store over a period of a year. Each container represents one fewer single-use package, and one planet-friendly decision made to reuse what already exists.

Taste Nature owner, Clinton Chambers, said their customers feel like they are contributing to something. "Sometimes they can feel like nobody is acknowledging their efforts, but the board means their efforts aren't going unnoticed."

Chambers hopes the impressive end total and success of the board will inspire other organic stores and refilleries to follow suit. "Imagine if this was multiplied by even just 10 around the country," he said.

Taste Nature is incredibly staunch when it comes to reusing over single-use. Whatever Taste Nature sells in bulk, they don't sell in packaging. Their refillery efforts are some of the most extensive in Aotearoa New Zealand. For example, shoppers can return their peanut butter jars to be reused by the local peanut butter supplier. Shoppers are also able to return things like egg cartons, jars and bottles, and trust that each container they return will be reused and circulated back in the system.

Taste Nature is already developing its next campaign to raise awareness on plastic packaging. Taste Nature's new policy will be to stop purchasing new products in packaging that cannot be recycled by Dunedin City Council kerbside recycling.

New changes for Dunedin residents mean only plastic types 1, 2, and 5 will be collected and recycled. Furthermore, Taste Nature will be asking customers who purchase products that do not meet kerbside recycling criteria, to sign a letter requesting the supplier to review their packaging.



BLUESKIN RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TRUST

November 2020

First Keep well, and be safe.

Thank you everyone who came to our AGM in late September. It was great to present to you our revised strategy and to discuss our future plans for the Trust. We appreciated the questions you asked and the support you showed us. Craig Marshall remains our chairperson, Toby White is our new Secretary and Metiria Turei our new Treasurer. We want to thank Jacinta Ruru and Charles Abraham, who have both stood down from the trustee role, for their service and commitment to the Trust.

Our revised Strategic Plan has committed us to the 5 year Goals of (1) Strengthening our effectiveness; (2) Providing structures to facilitate decision making for Blueskin Communities and (3) Developing effective relationships with funders. We have set out priorities for the next two years:

1. Re-established the Trust on to a sustainable financial footing.
2. Secured at least 12 months guaranteed future funding.
3. We will have employed a 0.5 EFT Community Engagement worker in 2020.
4. The Community Engagement worker will complete a comprehensive community engagement program, which identifies the priorities of Blueskin communities for the BRCT.
5. That plan will have been reported back to the community and endorsed by them.
6. That plan will be successfully rolled out over 2021 and 2022.
7. Our successful local projects such as the Community Directory and Affordable Firewood will have continued and grown.
8. The Mihiwaka Track is completed with BRCT recognition and a plan to extend its community value through the sharing of the skills developed and leading to further track development.

We look forward to gaining funding to begin our community engagement program and to begin building our financial sustainability. If you want any more information please email brctoffice@gmail.com.

And if you are interested in becoming a trustee of the BRCT, give Metiria a ring 021 440 701.

WAIKOUAITI COAST COMMUNITY BOARD UPDATE

Freedom Camping To paraphrase an old rhyme :- *"Spring is sprung; the grass is riz; I wonder where the campers is"*? (Particularly with reference to Warrington Domain) With an absence of new international travelling tourists for the foreseeable future, the freedom camping scene will likely be quite different from what we have seen in the past few years. But we have noticed that, over the winter months, people are still travelling around the country. After the full Level 4 lockdown ended there was a steady trickle of vehicles visiting the hard-stand area at the north end of the ground. With the arrival of Labour Weekend the grassy area has been opened up, portaloos have been placed and daily rubbish collections are underway. We had over thirty vehicles each day over the long weekend and we'll see where it goes from here.

As a Community Board we supported the proposal to change the Thomas Burns Street site in town from a 'trial site' to a permanent site. I spoke at the Council hearing, and also requested that additional city sites be considered. It seems that DCC has adopted the proposal. We noticed over the past couple of years that having a city site reduced the demand in Warrington by around 35%.

Regarding the possible volume of vehicles into Warrington over the coming months, without a crystal ball we have no idea what to expect. We monitor vehicle numbers daily and DCC Rangers are operating from 1 November. If you have any concerns or comments on this topic, feel free to give me a call.

Grants The DCC new financial year started on 1 st July and our Discretionary Fund was topped up by \$10,000. To apply for a grant to support a community project, please feel free to either contact a board member or download the application form from the DCC website.

Our next formal meeting will be held in the Warrington Surf Lifesaving Club Rooms on Wednesday 18 November starting at 5.30pm. If you wish to speak at the public forum please contact Rebecca Murray on 477 4000.

Alasdair Morrison, Chairman Waikouaiti Coast Community Board – info@calmarine.co.nz 027 4354 384



Blueskin Playcentre



Kia ora e te takata o Waitētē

Tēnā koutou! Blueskin Playcentre has been having some Roar-some sessions lately! We recently had an excursion to see the Dinosaur exhibition at the Otago Museum – the kids loved the bus ride over the hill almost as much as they did marvelling at the moko tuauri (dinosaurs). It was such a great day out and it has inspired lots of learning activities back at centre – everything from drawing dinosaurs to roaring like dinosaurs!



We have also been celebrating a number of birthdays recently, including several of our older kids who are turning five! Fortunately, these children will be "jumping the fence" to attend Waitati Kura so there will be plenty of opportunities for continued connection; our familiar faces over the fence for those big kids, and our wee ones can be inspired by the adventures of the older ones. We wish these children and their families all the very best for this exciting new chapter! Please do keep in touch!



Lastly, is there a more iconic summer combination than sunshine and some sweet tunes? We are currently working on improving our music corner – just in time for some summer jams! We are very grateful for our new addition – a piano!

If you are interested in coming to join the fun, we would love to see you at Blueskin Playcentre! Please find us on (03) 470 1228, at www.playcentre.org.nz/centre/blueskin/ or at blueskinplaycentre88@gmail.com

We hope to see you soon!

Aroha nui,
Blueskin Playcentre

Little blue penguins nesting

Together with Halo's volunteers, especially AAPES Otago Uni students, we monitor kororā (little blue penguin) nesting sites at Doctors Point and Māpoutahi twice each year. This is the third year of regular surveys and the population trend is looking good. What's really important right now is to keep these nesting birds safe while they raise their young. There are several ways we can help penguins: by keeping dogs under control and within sight on beaches, by avoiding disturbing penguins and/or their nest sites if you see them, and by trapping introduced predators in and around nesting areas.



Halo Project volunteers after surveying penguin nests at Doctors Point and Māpoutahi in September
(Photo: Liz Sherwood)

Possum trap return and reuse

Over the past couple of years our 'host a possum trap' scheme has become increasingly popular. It's not uncommon for residents to remove possums from their neighbourhood and no longer need our traps. If you have a Halo Project possum trap which you are no longer using, please contact us so we can collect it and redeploy it to another backyard. Email info@haloproject.org.nz

With that, if you know or suspect you have possums on your property, contact us and we can lend you a trap!



A Halo Project Trapinator possum trap (credit: Halo Project)

Derek the Dunnock



Papal Bull.

We've always suspected that Dortmund Dunnock was of Continental stock. Apart from his name, a dead giveaway if there ever was one, he's famed for making the epic open water flight to Kamau Taurua. [Quarantine Island for those of you who still call us Dunnocks mere hedge sparrows.] Us Mother Country folk, forcibly transported to the colonial ends of the earth, never had much call to move around but those from foreign parts with brass monkey winters that'd freeze yer cloaca off or summers that'd have yer sweating so's yer scaps stick to yer carpals, they had the migration gene and like the upper class Mother Country swallows and martins would repair to more amenable climes for the season. So it was that Dortmund's Italian cuz Domenico found himself in Rome for the winter having nipped down from his cool summer pad in the Apennines to feast on the Body of Christ in St Peter's square. Or bits of it anyway in the crumbs of the communion wafers.

And it was there while bemoaning the fact that the Blood of Christ was never spilt on his watch, *meravigliosa proteina* that'd be, that he heard that Pope Francis was allergic to adjectives. Poor chap he thought pecking at a distinctly un-consecrated MacBurgher and here's me allergic to spaghetti. Honestly said Duschka, down for the winter from Veliky Novgorod, don't they teach you anything in school down here. Adjectives ain't food, they're words that qualify nouns. His Grace says "The communicator must make people understand the weight of the reality of nouns that reflect the reality of people. And this is a mission of communication: to communicate with reality, without sweetening with adjectives". You a Catholic says Domenico.

Dortmund's been pining for the likes of Duschka since he came out of the egg in a gorse bush in Don's Creek and was so pleased [poor chap] to see she was on his side when it came to adjectives and their "facilitation of self aggrandisement and obfuscation." And in an intellectually amorous flicking of wings he tweeted Duschka. Wholeheartedly agree with your appreciation of our Pope's demonising of adjectives and obfuscation. Here in Lower Waitati we seek the Truth from an organisation that has a presence akin to the Vatican. Proclaiming Sustainability, Resilience and Community from on high, it has gained a huge following in the media of all persuasions by proselytising. BRCT's Sept BSN missive was so chocka wiv adjectives and obfuscation that us Dunnocks was left gossiping in our gorse bushes, tweetering as to if their's pope were excommunicated, restructured or had flitted off to Greener pastures? It seems The Truth is as elusive as it has been for the last 13 years..

Duschka tweeted she was Russian Orthodox.

Waitati Toastmasters Club



The club held its first meeting at the Port Chalmers library on 7 October running a typical Toastmasters meeting consisting of a prepared speech, impromptu speaking practice and evaluations.

Our Toastmaster, Esther, led the meeting using the theme of

'Lifelong Learning' to provide interesting links between key segments.

Jane presented a speech from the third speech project in the Toastmasters education programme, to research and present a topic in a 5-7 minute speech. Afterwards, Jane said that just a short time of researching her topic had given her so much material that at first it had been difficult to know where to begin. However, "the information in the Toastmasters education programme helped me to focus on my key message, and to pick out information relevant to that".

Three Waitati club members attended the meeting online, and were able to take part fully in the meeting. Belynda (online) ran the impromptu speaking section which was a lot of fun!

Toastmasters provides a variety of different speaking opportunities, and is good for gaining confidence, and speaking and leadership skills. New members welcome. No previous experience needed.

Contact waitatittoastmasters@gmail.com or phone/text Jane 022 020 0702.

Picture: Shae MacMillan, President of Dunedin Club takes a selfie with participants at the Toastmasters meeting in Port Chalmers.

Lonely tomtits in a snowstorm

by Isla (age 9)



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THE RANT

by Ian Melvin



This is an opinion piece designed to promote feedback. If you feel you'd like to respond – email blueskin.input@gmail.com

WHAT MAKES ME SAD

Small minded pettiness and personal attacks against those we disagree with... This election was a triumph over all of those that chose that avenue. We can and should all learn something from this, life is too short to hold grudges, if you don't agree with what is happening around you, and feel strongly about it, get involved in a positive way to help change things for the better.

WHAT MAKES ME GLAD

Our community – the **Library**, and Louise and Lesley helping me set up the Skinny Jump \$5 a month wifi. Scaled down my phone plan by \$5 and have free wifi! Talk to Louise to see if you qualify.

The **BRCT AGM**, a good cross section of the greener part of the community turned out to find out what is happening, and where they intend to go next and offer input.

The **Blueskin News**, 2 years on from coming back from the brink and still going strong. Working with a really good team. Big ups to them and to Bernie for the great work she puts in... (she hates these dots....)

WHAT MAKES ME MAD

What makes me mad - Taking a leaf out of Rebecca's book (nothing much makes me mad) and hopefully trying not to get so mad, and look to the positive instead.

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WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

An enjoyable gathering minus one at Ross's place in the far reaching untamed wilderness of Purakaunui. Our southern urban members eventually arrived by a circuitous route, due to the road up from Port being closed. Politics of course dominated the conversation but no blood was spilt! Scott entertained us with tales from the hustings, or the stump as it is known in the rural parts of his electorate apparently.

THE BOOK

The Uncommon Reader by *Alan Bennett* – This book was enjoyed to a greater and lesser degree by all members present. “A gloriously entertaining comic narrative, but is much more; a deadly serious manifesto for the potential of reading to change lives.”

Ian – *Edward Marriott*, The Observer about covers it I think.

OTHER READING

Scott – summary of “**Our atmosphere and climate 2020**” just released by the Ministry for the Environment is not cheery reading. We're not on track to reduce our emissions. I worry for our children, but I also know we can turn the ship around if we sit up and take notice then act!

Ian – If that is not worrying enough for you try **Collapse** by *Jared Diamond*. Lent by my friend Jurgen, a very relevant to our times factual account of civilisations that have collapsed, and why! “Environmentalists who read him will have their views confirmed. Others currently neutral, may find their lives changed!”

Sunday Times Review – very scary wakeup to where we are headed...

TV/ FILM

Ross – **False Profit** on *Stuff* (<https://interactive.stuff.co.nz.2020/10/false-profit-down-the-rabbit-hole-of-billy-tk-jnr/>). If you're missing hard hitting ,well researched current affairs you might want to check out this documentary.

Thanks to Marc's other half Inge for passing this on to me – **I AM – McCahon documentary 2010** shown at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and also on TV ONE ON SCREEN. Well worth a look, if this is your thing

MUSIC

Ian – following on from the doco that Ross has recommended try **Billy TK JNR- live@Aro Bar 14th Dec 2019** on YouTube. Like his dad a really good guitarist. Actually nowhere near as good as his dad but pretty good though. If only he had stuck to what he was good at!

BEER

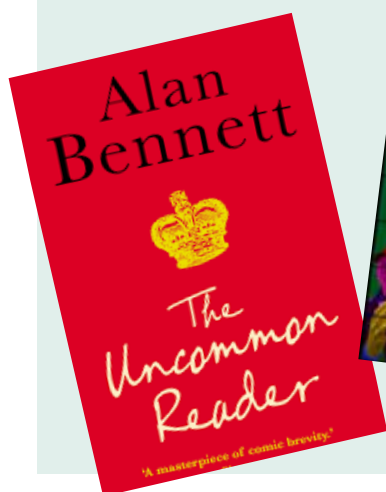
Scott – **The West Moon Old Ale**. I was intrigued by the description of long boiling and refermentation to increase strength. 10.5% is a strong beer for a special occasion (like bookclub). Because it has been refermented in oak barrels for months it has developed a real fruitiness and depth, with a sharpness that is surprising. A very special drop and really you should share the big bottle! Note, Scott did share and he wasn't driving. Mention should be made that 3 members of the group were happily imbibing **Cashel's Milk Stout** world champion for the second year running!

WORD OF THE MONTH

Humility - in Maori haehaa. The quality of a modest or low view of one's importance. Apparently humble people handle stress more effectively and report higher levels of physical and mental wellbeing. I know they are certainly easier to get along with, ask any Buddhist! Lose the ego and... I wonder where I can buy some?

THE MEANING OF LIFE

Advice received a long time ago from someone who knew my failings well and was always worth listening to. That I do try to remember... “Its not always what you do but how you do it! If you put things to someone in a reasonable and respectful way and respect their right to differ, you are much more likely to be met by them listening and taking on board what you are trying to say!” As a passionate person who has strong opinions I must admit to sometimes forgetting this and ALWAYS regret it afterwards.



WARRINGTON SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Warrington Surf Life Saving Club first Sunday Club Day was Sunday morning 1 November. The weekly Sunday Club Day is not only for junior surf members (children). Senior sport teams also train that day.

The beach comes alive at 10am and we finish with a community BBQ. All community members are welcome to come on down to the club house and buy a \$1 sausage and have a free cup of tea – what a great way for a weekly catch up with the neighbourhood. With over 100 junior surf members from Warrington, Waitati, Palmerston, Waikouaiti and beyond – everyone is there and the club is a hive of activity. Come on down and join us - no strings attached!

On 5 December, we will be having our first social event of the 2020 – 2021 season, which will celebrate the 40th anniversary of our club building. We will use this event to (finally!) be able to give the prizes out for last season. The event will start at 6pm, and will include a shared meal. All community members are welcome.

We will have on display some concept drawings for a deck to be built onto the northern side of the building and we hope you will leave us with some comment, as community view as stakeholders is very important to the club.



Junior Surf Members pictured with Rhys Owen, WSLSC volunteer lifeguard and coach

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by Alfie West

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You smell of almost nothing.
Yet that miniscule hint of you,
that mere suggestion
is more tantalising
than any aroma
a marinated tart
might achieve
in its wildest dreams.

And before I turn off the light each night,
the cat and I will wink at one another.
His nose is more sensitive than mine and
I like it when he smiles.

Pets on the Wet please!

Spring is here and our shorebirds have started building nests on the sand – if you are lucky you may spot courtship displays from our pair bonding Oystercatchers.

This is a very vulnerable times for these iconic Warrington species. The Variable Oystercatcher (*Torea pango*) is totally black in Warrington and breeds on our beach. The Pied Oystercatcher however, breeds on South Island river beds and will arrive a little later in the year. These birds are black and white, are smaller and more numerous.

Now is the time to review the way we walk our pets – the low tide time provides a vast expanse of sand for dogs to run free. Nature lovers and those who wish to ensure our native species survive alongside human activities will choose to keep their dogs on the wet sand, will not venture past the “gap” while walking dogs down the beach and will not allow their dogs to roam the dry sand where our birds are mating and nest building.

Let's make room for our native shorebirds! Pets on the wet thanks.



Image: Nick Beckwith

www.doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/birds/birds-a-z/variable-oystercatcher-torea/



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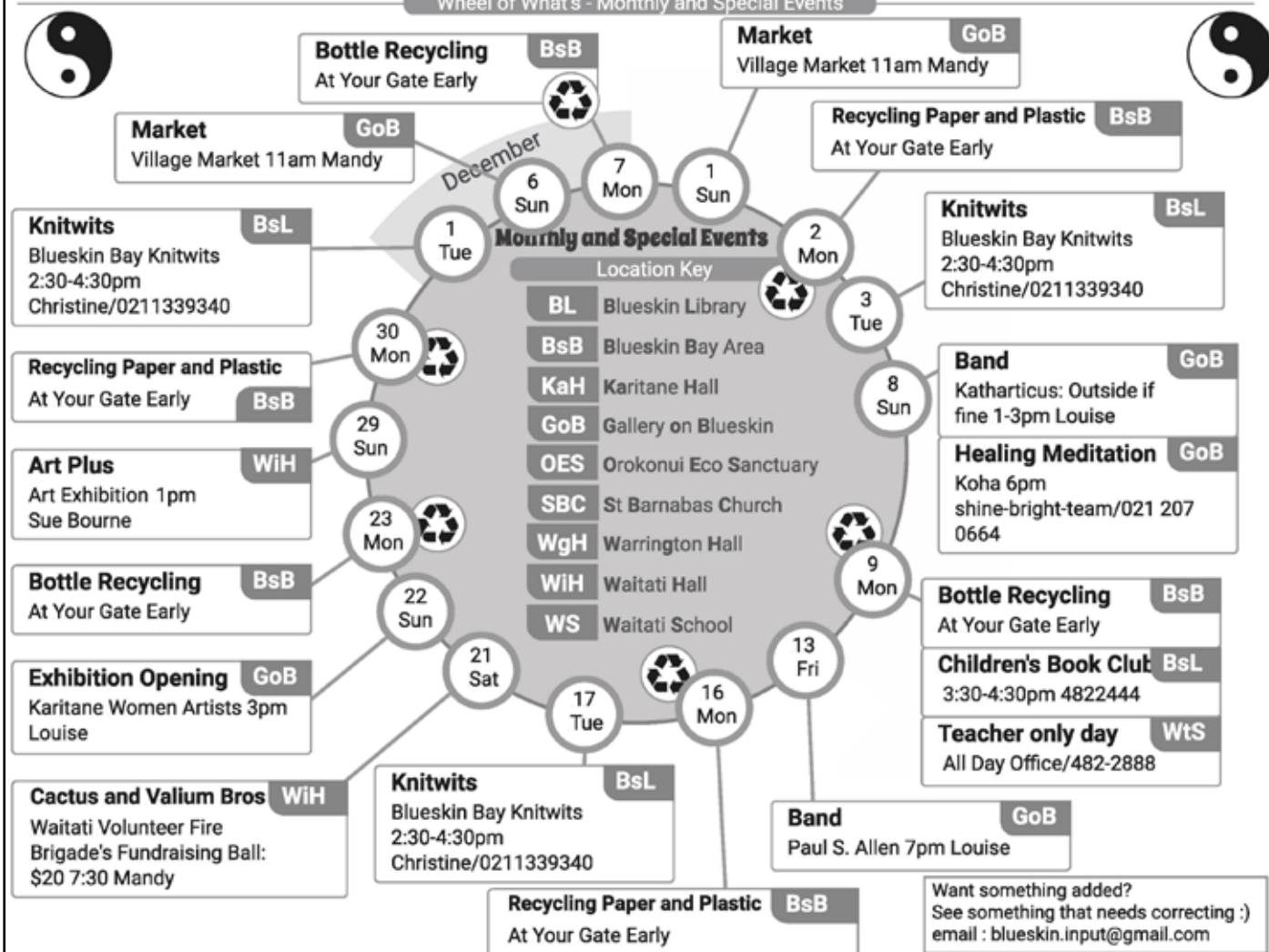
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Wheel of What's - Monthly and Special Events



Weekly

Monday at (WiH)

- Yoga Foundations** with Hagino 6-7pm hagino.yoga@gmail.com
- Table Tennis** 7.30 pm til late Nigel 0212362818
- Steady as You Go** Age Concern 1:30pm

Monday

- Knitwits** 6.30-8.30pm Christine 0211339340 (BL)
- PILATES** 11am Pilates for Your Back and Posture with Sabine 021 207 0664 (KaH)

Tuesday (GoB)

- Pattern Class** 6pm shine-bright- team, Koha, 021 207 0664

Wednesday

- Nordic Walking 9am** Karitane Sabine 021 207 0664
- Yoga with Hagino** (WiH) 6-7pm and 7.15-8.15pm hagino.yoga@gmail.com

Thursday

- Yoga** 6.15 to 7.15 pm, \$10 please bring your own matt, Tess 0211741135 (WgH)
- PILATES** 1 pm Pilates for Your Back and Posture, Sabina Sabine 021 207 0664 (WiH)

Friday (GoB)

- Live Music** 6 or 7pm start, various performers, Louise

Sunday (SBC)

- Service** 9.30 am Jeremy 0274361481



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