valley VOICE

whiria te taura tangata
connecting our community

Issue #7 | E whitu rerenga | Your local newspaper published by The Valley Project | OCTOBER | OKETOPA 2026

GENERATIONS GATHER TO CELEBRATE A VERY SPECIAL 175TH BIRTHDAY



North East Valley Normal School celebrated its 175th birthday with a morning of memories, music and family connections, bringing past and present together at the heart of the Valley.

Opening in 1851 with just 31 pupils, the school has certainly seen a few changes over the years. The day's celebrations began with a warm mihi whakatau, karakia and waiata, bringing guests together before principal Rachelle Moors welcomed everyone and reflected on the school's rich history, its connection to mana whenua Kāi Tahu, and the generations of children, families and staff who have helped shape its story and make it such a special part of the Valley.

When the school moved to its present site on North Road in 1858, it was already growing beyond its original beginnings. By 1882, a new stone building with five classrooms and an infant department was needed to accommodate a roll of 329 pupils. The school has since seen several building changes, with the old stone classrooms demolished in 1968 to make way for the school layout used today.

The celebrations featured two particularly interesting family stories. Year 5 pupil, Tobi McKenzie, shared how his great-grandparents once lived in the old schoolhouse, where the lower playground now sits, while working as the school's caretakers. His grandmother attended the school, too, and remembers watching the construction of the lower blocks. Happily, the original bell stand she remembers is still there today, providing a tangible link between her school days and Tobi's! *(Continued page #7...)*

Photo: Cutting the 175th birthday cake are returning students Ruth Pearson and Rona Potiki, alongside teacher and former pupil Amanda Townsend and her daughter Emily, a current NEV School student, celebrating generations of connections to the school.

Valley Arborists
Complete Tree Care
For free quotes by a professional and qualified arborist
Pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, advice, assessments, planting.
Sam 0223023607
Declan 0220528771
info@valleyarborist.co.nz

Proud to support
The Valley Project
Open 7.30am - 9pm Daily
NW **Gardens**



SAY WATT ELECTRICAL
North Dunedin's Electrician
REWIRING
LIGHTING UPGRADES
POWER POINTS
COMMERCIAL
022 465 9220
saywattelectrical@gmail.com
Registered. Qualified. Experienced.

heads UP!

KEEP STORIES ALIVE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

A community's true legacy isn't measured in years, buildings or milestones, but through its people and their stories. Ask an older neighbour about their Valley memories, and share your own with a young person.

VALLEY PROJECT RECEPTION HOURS

262 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm | Closed public holidays

- gifts
- trap hire
- laminating
- placement of notices
- newspaper advertising
- printing & photocopying
- seed library
- room bookings
- food assistance
- event hireables: marquees, tables, PA system, dishes



Subscribe to full-colour digital copies of the Valley Voice and/or OpenVUE newspapers: ***tinyurl.com/VPnewspapers***

Join the Valley Project Community Business Directory! Listings are entirely free! ***northeastvalley.org/directory***

2026/2027 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #:	#8	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
CONTENT DUE:	Nov 11	Jan 13	Feb 24	Apr 21	June 9	July 21	Sep 1
DISTRIBUTION DATE:	Dec 5	Feb 6	Mar 20	May 15	July 3	Aug 14	Sep 25

VALLEY PROJECT COMMUNITY ROOMS FOR HIRE



FRED HOLLOWS COMMUNITY ROOM has a max capacity of 30 and is equipped with a kitchenette (microwave, sink, jug, dishes/cutlery, serving wares, fridge, etc.), tables & chairs, whiteboard, TV, and more.

TE PŪTAKE ROOM is suitable for small meetings of up to 10 people. Available all hours over weekends and after 5pm on weekdays. The room is equipped with a kitchenette, heat pump, and TV w/HDMI.

CLINIC/QUIET ROOM is ideal for the provision of health and social services, or other one-on-one sessions.

Check the bookings calendar on our website for availability (***www.northeastvalley.org/services/community-room-bookings***), then book by emailing ***reception@northeastvalley.org***.

Fred Hollows Room	Te Pūtake Room	Clinic Room
$25 (inc. GST) p/hour	$23 (inc. GST) p/hour	$13.50 (inc. GST) p/hour

A NOTE FROM THE VP TEAM

Valley Fest 2026 was a wonderful reminder of what makes North East Valley such a special place to live. A huge heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped bring Valley Fest to life. To our sponsors and collaborators, the people and groups who delivered events, our incredible volunteers who gave so generously of their time and energy, and to everyone who came along, joined in, tried something new or simply enjoyed being part of it all — thank you. It takes a community to make something like Valley Fest happen, and I feel very lucky to be part of ours.

As we settle into spring and leave the cold winter months behind, there's a lovely feeling of new growth in the air - a time for fresh ideas and new beginnings. We'd love to hear from you if there's something you'd like to see happening in our community — whether it's a new programme, an activity, a workshop or an idea that brings people together. The Valley Project is here to listen, connect people and help good ideas grow.

Our AGM is coming up on 2 November, and you're warmly invited to join us. It's a chance to reflect on what we've achieved together over the past year and look forward to what's ahead. Thank you for being part of our community. Cheers to continued connection, collaboration and new growth! *-- Jennie Wagner-Gorton*

Stress, anxiety, migraines, chronic pain, digestive problems, trauma, mental and emotional issues, and more...
CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY *may help.*
My name is Laura and I am a member of the Pacific Association of Craniosacral Therapists.
summeroak.cranio@proton.me

Why YOUR GOALS AREN'T WORKING
Design your 2027 to work with your life — not against it.
SCAN HERE
$59
21 NOV
A 3-hour workshop on THE ECOLOGY OF GOALS
The Valley Project

Your local Dunedin electricians
DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • 24HR SERVICE
03 473 8519
www.mcarthursymons.co.nz
39 North Rd. North East Valley

Peter Waymouth
Arborist
Tree pruning professional
greentrees.co.nz
027 432 9646

KAI SHARE
Short-term help with groceries for Valley region residents.
(03) 473 8614
www.northeastvalley.org/community/kai-share



Everyone is welcome to participate in this year's Crush the Cargill fundraising race: adults, kids, canines, serious athletes, casual walkers, and spectators. Come try one lap! The course climbs from Bethune's Gully to Mt Cargill summit and back: 8.5km with 570m of climbing per lap. Choose the 24-hour challenge, 100-miler, or secretive 200-miler! Whether you're chasing a personal best or simply celebrating our wonderful mountain, there's a challenge for you. Just remember: only complete laps count! Prize-giving 10am Sunday. GRID coffee cart (cash only). Overnight camping; pack it in, pack it out.

Registrations not required but encouraged. Both races start and finish at the trailhead within Bethune's Gully. Koha entry. Proceeds go to The Valley Project. Donations graciously accepted via *givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/crush-the-cargill-2026*

100-MILER: 19 laps of Mt Cargill (161km) within 36 hrs.
10pm FRIDAY, 11 DECEMBER - 10am SUNDAY, 13 DEC.

24-HOUR RACE: As many laps as able within 24 hrs.
10am SATURDAY, 12 DECEMBER - 10am SUNDAY, 13 DEC.

CrushtheCargill | crushthecargill.wordpress.com





save the dates

Valley Project AGM	Monday 2 November
Cuppa & Connections	Tuesday 3 November
Crop Swap	Sunday 29 November
Sycamore Removal Squad	Sunday 29 November
Cuppa & Connections	Tuesday 1 December
Community Resilience Hui	Monday 7 December
Crop Swap	Sunday 27 December

Follow our Facebook for official event info and notices.

(03) 473 8614
262 North Road, North East Valley, Dunedin
@valleyproject
www.northeastvalley.org
project@northeastvalley.org
facebook.com/valleyproject

the VALLEY project

The North East Valley Community Development Project (The Valley Project) is a registered charitable organisation that builds community connections and promotes the wellbeing of local whānau. If you like what we do, you can donate at:

givealittle
www.givealittle.co.nz/northeastvalley

The opinions expressed in articles are the author's own and are not necessarily shared by the editor or Valley Project team. Submitted articles may be edited at the editor's discretion.

We'd love to hear from you! Send us your local photos, stories, announcements, etc. Next deadline for newspaper copy is 11 NOVEMBER, 2026. Submissions later than this date cannot be guaranteed space. Please keep your contributions to 300 words or less. Advertising information available on the VP website.

SPRING INTO ACTION: KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR WASPS!

As the days get longer and the weather warms up, queen wasps are waking from their winter slumber and getting busy building nests. Spring is the perfect time to keep an eye out around your property, as spotting a queen early can help prevent a much bigger problem over summer.



New Zealand has several native wasp species, but the ones causing the problems are introduced species, particularly German and common wasps. Both are well established in Dunedin. During spring, queens that've survived winter emerge from their hiding places and begin building small nests in dry, protected spots such as sheds or roof spaces. Keep an eye out for underground nests as well.

With few natural predators here, wasps can reach remarkably high densities - potentially growing to thousands of workers in their colonies over summer! This means they have a significant impact on our local environment. These wasps eat large quantities of insects and other invertebrates, competing with native birds and lizards for food. They also feed on sugary honeydew produced by scale insects, reducing this food source for native species. In places with high wasp numbers, they can put considerable pressure on indigenous ecosystems.

What can you do around your home? You can make your property less attractive to wasps by keeping rubbish bins sealed, clearing fallen fruit and covering food and pet bowls outdoors. Spring is a useful time to spot small nests before colonies grow. Look out for wasps regularly flying in and out of the same hole or sheltered spots around your property, including roof spaces, wall cavities, sheds, under eaves and holes in the ground. Watch for regular wasp traffic, but keep your distance and don't disturb a suspected nest.



If you find a nest, don't try to remove a large or hidden colony yourself. Wasps can become aggressive when disturbed, so contact a professional pest controller if needed. If you use any wasp-control product, follow its instructions carefully and keep it away from children, pets and beneficial insects. Want to try a pesticide-free wasp trap? For step-by-step instructions, visit ***northeastvalley.org/community/valley-blog/backyard-pests-wasps.***

A little awareness now can make a difference later in the season. By keeping an eye out and dealing with nests safely, we can help protect our households while reducing the impact these introduced pests have on the native species we're working to support across North East Valley. ***-- Jennie Wagner-Gorton***

UNDERSTANDING THE LINDSAY CREEK FLOOD HAZARD

Live in or around North East Valley? You may be interested in finding out more about the Lindsay Creek flood hazard and the results of a new flood hazard study.

North East Valley has a long history of flooding, with significant flood events recorded since the 1860s, including in 1868, 1912, 1923, 1929, 1991, 2006 and 2015. Over the years, ORC has investigated flooding in the Lindsay Creek catchment and considered different approaches to managing flood risk.

Today, ORC also carries out ongoing maintenance, monitoring, and flood forecasting to inform a flood response during heavy rainfall events.

The current Lindsay Creek Flood Risk Reduction Programme was launched in 2024 to take a fresh look at the problem.

The new 2026 flood hazard study gives ORC, DCC, emergency management agencies and the community better information about flooding from Lindsay Creek so we can work together to increase community resilience.

The next stage of investigation is to develop a Flood Risk Reduction Plan for the Lindsay Creek catchment. Past flood protection options will be re-examined, as well as a fresh look at new options. Future investment will be considered as part of the ORC Long Term Plan (2027-37) deliberations.

There will be plenty of opportunities during this process for you to have your say.

What causes the flood hazard? Lindsay Creek rises on the flanks of Mount Cargill and runs southwest, draining North East Valley and joining the Water of Leith at the Botanic Gardens. The catchment is compact with an area of about 12km^2 , and the main channel is relatively short, being about 7km long.

Lindsay Creek has a relatively narrow channel including in the lower sections, at times only a few meters wide.

Several hundred residential properties and several thousand people have some degree of exposure to flood hazard in North East Valley and can be directly or indirectly impacted by flooding. During flood events, Lindsay Creek can overflow its channel and flood adjoining low-lying land in North East Valley. The extent of flooding and its characteristics vary with the size of flood event.

It can be as little as two hours from the onset of heavy rain to flooding occurring. This leaves a very limited ability for residents and Emergency Services to plan a response during a heavy rainfall event which is why having a well-informed and prepared community is key.

ORC shared the findings of the new flood hazard study in October at a community meeting held at the NEV Bowling Club. If you couldn't make that one, don't worry, you can find all the relevant info here: ***orc.govt.nz/lindsaycreek***

Further dates for community events will be publicised through ORC's Facebook page, and right here in the Valley Voice!





kieran's GARDEN

SOW MUCH FUN TO BE HAD

It's peak seed-sowing season this time of year. Even November is not too late to get started. Broccoli, beans, coriander, lettuce, leeks, parsnips, turnips, and radishes can all be sown now — and many more species besides.

I love sowing from seed, rather than buying plants from the shop. It's cheaper, and the varieties on offer in a seed catalogue are vastly more numerous. Every year there's this tinge of excitement thinking, "Oh, what shall I try this year that I've never grown before?"

That being said, don't dismiss the punnets of seedlings in a garden centre. If you've only a small space, this can be cost-effective, and doesn't leave you with dozens of spare seedlings looking for a home. Punnets give you a head start, and oftentimes help get small seedlings over the hurdle of hungry pests looking for those fresh, juicy early leaves to munch. Do watch out, however, for leggy, tired and overgrown seedlings that probably won't do so well — smaller plants are better. Certain crops, like fennel or carrots, want to be sown directly into the place where they'll grow — don't plant them in pots. Even though garden centres will still sell you a punnet of carrot seedlings for transplanting, that doesn't mean you should buy them.

Seed sowing needn't be costly. Seed trays and old six-cell punnets can be found at places like the rummage store, and often for free. Or make some holes in an old takeaway container or yoghurt pot. Better still, take an old toilet roll tube and cut four slits into one end, creating flaps that you can fold inwards to create a base. You now have yourself a DIY biodegradable pot. Fill it with seed-raising or potting mix (or homemade compost, or even soil from the garden), place your seed in it, let it germinate and, when it's grown up a bit, plant everything, toilet roll tube included, into your garden. Don't forget to label — I buy ice cream sticks from the supermarket for this: much cheaper.

Now the ground is warming up, direct sowing is the easiest method. Prepare a space to grow something: remove any weeds, and rake over the area creating a fine "tilth"— that is, small particles of soil —and make a shallow channel for your seeds to rest in. Sow liberally or cautiously, depending on your personality, then cover, water and wait. A few weeks later, you might be pleasantly surprised.

Particularly if you've got kids, go out and buy a packet of seeds, get the seeds into a pot or the ground, and get the kids involved. You could be sowing the seeds of a wonderful future of growing for generations to come. *-- Kieran Ford*

Kieran writes a weekly email newsletter, The Kōwhai, *which can be found at:* ***thekowhai.substack.com****. He co-hosts a radio show,* The Potting Shed, *with Sam Williams on OAR FM. And, Kieran runs the gardening services company Kingford Gardens:* ***www.kingfordgardens.co.nz***

NOV 22 SUN — **Residential Solar Energy Sharing**
7pm | Opoho Church
Local Opoho families share their solar stories.

DEC 02 WED — **Burns Reserve AGM**
7.30pm | Opoho Church
Annual General Meeting for our local reserve.

DEC 10 THU — **Fellowship Community Xmas Lunch**
12.30pm | Opoho Church Hall
Celebrate the festive season with delicious food & company.



WELCOME SESSIONS FIRST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH. CHECK OUR ONLINE CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT DATE!

NEV COMMUNITY GARDEN, BEHIND NEV VALLEY NORMAL SCHOOL 248 NORTH ROAD

TEL. (03) 473 8614

DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 14 Nov. 10am	Sat. 12 Dec. 10am	Sat. 12 Jan. 10am
Sat. 28 Nov. 10am	Sat. 26 Dec. 10am	Sat. 26 Jan. 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sun. 8 Nov. 1pm	Sat. 28 Nov. 9:30am	Sun. 20 Dec. 1pm
Sat. 14 Nov. 9:30am	Sun. 6 Dec. 1pm	Sat. 26 Dec. 9:30am
Sun. 22 Nov. 1pm	Sat. 12 Dec. 9:30am	Sun. 3 Jan. 1pm

KAMPUNG DUNEDIN: MALAYSIAN FLAVOURS IN NORTH EAST VALLEY

Technology helps! Arina and her family run Kampung Dunedin (KD) via Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp. To order, just send Arina a text at 022 5054 722. Unless you state otherwise, she's happy to add you to her WhatsApp group of more than 800 members, where you'll find out about her weekly menu every Wednesday morning, along with delicious specials and updates on what's cooking.

The weekly ordering and payment cycle runs from Wednesday morning until Friday at noon. Arina delivers food to your door on Saturdays between 11am and 1pm, with delivery costing $3–$5 p/order. Alternatively, you can pick up your order from Normanby.

KD accepts orders for everything from small dishes to large party catering. Some of their regular offerings include:

Karipap Pusing (six curry puffs, available in chicken, beef or vegetarian, wrapped in flaky pastry) – $15

Nasi Ayam (Malaysian chicken rice) – $17
Additional sambal (chilli shrimp paste) – $2

Nasi Lemak (fragrant coconut rice served with chicken, anchovies, peanuts and cucumber) – $16

Mee Kari (curry laksa noodles) – $16



Arina arrived in Dunedin with her father when she was a child and spent her school years in North East Valley. Drawing on her family's rich tradition of Malaysian cooking, she started this small family business with the help of her mother, Anija, and her husband, Fareez. Together, they hope to bring happiness to their customers through the aromas of Malaysian food and the joy of fellowship.

Their WhatsApp group includes people from a wide range of backgrounds. Through their food, they hope to bring a taste of home to the Malaysian diaspora, including students and migrants living in Dunedin. They also hope to connect with local Kiwis and other international migrants, sharing the rich aromas of Malaysian spices, the fragrance of pandan (screw pine leaves) and the distinctive flavour of banana leaves.

-- The Food Explorers, hungry golfing pals

AROUND THE VALLEY TABLE: THANKSGIVING, 26 NOVEMBER

In the United States, the White House (the president's residence) issues an official Thanksgiving Day Proclamation each year, which traces Thanksgiving back to President Washington's call in 1789 and President Lincoln's call in 1863 for the last Thursday of November to be set aside for Thanksgiving and praise.

Although Washington proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving under the new federal Constitution in 1789, the first harvest celebration in the USA was held in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The English settlers attended this earliest celebration, as did the Indigenous Wampanoag people living in the region. Turkey was served, along with a Wampanoag dish called *nasaump*, made from boiled, dried, ground corn mixed with dried local berries, crushed nuts and maple syrup.

The tradition of giving thanks remains a very important part of Thanksgiving, expressed through spoken words of gratitude around the dinner table and through prayer. The President's proclamation also expresses profound gratitude to Almighty God for His love, grace and infinite blessings.

Thanksgiving dinner, which most American families prepare at home, typically consists of turkey, potatoes, autumn vegetables, green beans, corn, cranberries and pie, such as pumpkin, pecan or sweet potato. Feeding America, a nonprofit network of 200 food banks, provides meal boxes and groceries to help many people take part in this Thanksgiving tradition, too.



Thanksgiving dinner now includes specialities from many parts of the country. These include macaroni and cheese, fried turkey, and stuffing made from cornbread, onion and sage in the South; wild rice, mushroom and pecan stuffing in Wisconsin and Minnesota; oyster stuffing in coastal areas; and green bean casserole in the Midwest. With fresh cranberries harvested just before November, many people also make their own cranberry sauces and relishes. ***-- Lara Anderson***

WHITE HOUSE THYME-ROASTED TURKEY

For the brine
3.8 litres of water
1 bunch fresh thyme
4 whole heads garlic
2 medium onions, quartered
Zest 4 lemons
1 Tbsp whole peppercorns
2 bay leaves
1 cup salt
1 cup brown sugar
Ice, as needed

For the turkey *(available at Pac'nSAVE, Woolworths, and Deep Creek Deli)*
1 whole turkey (~9k), neck and giblets removed
1 cup butter, softened
2 tsp sea salt
1 Tbsp ground pepper

(Halve recipe for chicken)

METHOD: In a large pot, combine the water, thyme, garlic, onion, lemon zest, peppercorns, bay leaves, salt and brown sugar. Heat, stirring until the salt and sugar have dissolved. Transfer the liquid to a large, food-safe bucket or container, add ice and stir until cooled. Submerge the turkey in the cooled brine, cover and refrigerate for 12 hours. Preheat the oven to 230°C. Remove the turkey from the brine and pat dry thoroughly with paper towels. Rub the softened butter over the entire bird, then season with sea salt and ground black pepper. Place the turkey breast-side up in a roasting pan and roast for 1 hour. Reduce the oven temperature to 175°C and roast for a further 2 hours, or until the thickest part of the thigh reaches an internal temperature of 165°F (74°C). Remove the turkey from the oven and let it rest for 30 minutes before carving.



ISLINGTON KINDERGARTEN JOINS WHANAU MANAAKI

Islington Kindergarten is a North East Valley treasure, surrounded by gardens and trees on Islington Street. Established in 1974 by local whānau and members of the Dunedin Collective for Women, it was founded on principles of quality education, community involvement and opportunities for whānau, and it operated as an independent, not-for-profit early childhood centre for 52 years.

To ensure Islington continues to thrive, its committee spent two years carefully considering governance options. In July, with strong support from the Islington community, the centre joined Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens, a not-for-profit association with a 120-year history and 136 kindergartens, now including eight in Otago.

Whānau Manaaki's values closely align with Islington's. It places tamariki at the heart of all decisions, values relationships with whānau and community, and promotes connections with the environment. Importantly, Whānau Manaaki celebrates the individuality of each kindergarten. Islington will retain its character as a small, welcoming centre that embraces whānau involvement and learning within our neighbourhood.

Over the past 18 months, Islington has welcomed three new qualified kaiako/teachers who have brought fresh energy and passion to the centre. This teaching team will continue at Islington and being part of Whānau Manaaki will mean access to stronger systems, professional support and valuable learning opportunities.

The Islington committee would like to thank our community – the whānau, kaiako, committee members, volunteers and supporters who contributed to Islington's success over the last five decades. The decision to join Whanau Manaaki reflects our commitment to ensure Islington remains strong and sustainable for future generations. While its governance has changed, the values, relationships and community spirit that have defined Islington will continue and we look forward to its next chapter as a member of the Whānau Manaaki family.

Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens appreciates the approach from Islington and is proud to welcome the centre to its family of kindergartens. What happens each day for children and families has not changed. Behind the scenes, Whānau Manaaki is working to ensure the support that makes every day at kindergarten full of fun, learning and friendship.

WHĀNAU MANAAKI

Islington Early Childhood Centre

(...cont. from front page.) Current teacher Amanda Townsend also shared memories penned by her grandmother, Beth Townsend, who attended the school in 1926. In those days, Beth walked around 6.5 kilometres daily between home on Evans Street and school, often returning home for lunch. Her memories included a teacher threatening to put her in the wastepaper basket for talking too much. Despite finding classroom discipline challenging — which sometimes involved the dreaded strap — Beth went on to win a Temperance Essay Prize, proving there were some achievements amid the trials of school life.

Beth's story also highlighted just how much school life has evolved, from slate boards and classroom fires to modern heating and whiteboards. Amanda's family connection continues today, with her daughter Emily having recently started her own school journey at NEV Normal.

The school choir delighted the audience before Sound Check took to the stage for a special first: the school band's debut public performance! A cake-cutting ceremony followed, with returning students Ruth Pearson and Rona Potiki joining Amanda and Emily to mark the occasion.

Guests then explored the school with student house leaders before gathering for morning tea, photographs, memorabilia, and a slideshow tracing the school's history. Among the many stories shared was that of former pupil Gavin, who attended in 1958, earned road-safety recognition and served as milk monitor. He also assures us he can still play marbles!

Over 175 years, the school has grown and adapted alongside the Valley. It became a Normal School in 1968, working with the University of Otago to help train future teachers, and in 2017 opened Te Rōpū Manaaki, its bilingual pathway in te reo Māori and English. While classrooms, teaching methods and school uniforms may have changed, the school's commitment to learning, inclusion and community remains at the heart of its story.

Want a piece of school history? Commemorative stationery packs are available from the school office for $10, and handmade anniversary badges cost $3. All proceeds support the fit-out of the refurbished classrooms.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LIVE A LIFE YOU GENUINELY CHOSE?

Back in 2010, I arrived in New Zealand as a backpacker and spent several months walking the length of the country from Cape Reinga to Bluff. That experience eventually became the heart of my memoir, *One Step at a Time: 3,000km of Grit, Growth & Grace on Te Araroa*, and the foundation for my work as an author, speaker and facilitator.

Te Araroa was not officially opened at the time and was largely unknown by locals. The wild ruggedness of the adventure gave me a deeper understanding of what happens when we stop following the path we think we're supposed to take and instead step onto the one we have always wanted to explore.

Many of us have walked a path that led us to a life we never wanted to have. The little decisions made each day became our footsteps along its distance.

When we adapted to circumstances not of our choosing. When we did what was expected of us because of external pressure. When we "filled the void" — being useful, capable or agreeable — without considering our own needs.

For some of us, those decisions have compounded into the life we are now living. And it is not what we ever wanted it to be. We are on a career path we don't like. In relationships that don't help us thrive. Living a lifestyle that feels like autopilot. Setting aside dreams we think will never be.

Personal development often tells us to better ourselves through productivity, discipline or success. That setting another goal is the key to becoming free.

But I think it's more than that.

If we are brave enough to delve deeper into understanding ourselves—who we are at our core—we can walk a path that genuinely reflects our authenticity. And if each of us were to find our way back to ourselves, embrace our uniqueness and discover our purpose, I believe we would inadvertently make this world a better place.

Having spent years living with the label of a people-pleaser, it has taken me a long time to have the courage to walk the path I have always dreamed of. And now I work with others to do the same, one step at a time.

Join me at The Valley Project for my workshop, *Why Your Goals Aren't Working*, on 21 November, or find out more about my work at *shalanehopkins.com*



november

2 Poker Night - $20 tournament. Entry by 7.30pm.
3 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
4 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
5 Emma Papworth. 7pm, koha entry.
6 Hami Haritau - A Drag Show feat Cherri Cola, Gabbie Pentyn, and Sam in Colour + music from Gryn. 8pm.
7 Monkey Do + Purple Dog + Scapegrace. 7.30pm, koha.
8 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
10 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
11 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
12 Emma and Luc from 7.30pm, koha entry.
13 Leigham Fitzpatrick and friends. 7.30pm, koha entry.
14 Paul Allen. 7.30pm, koha entry.
15 Electric Open Jam. Sign-up and music from 7pm.
16 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
17 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
18 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
19 Poetry Night - 6pm sign-up, 6.30pm poetry. Bought to you by lowercasepress.
20 Hamish Waddell + friends. 7pm, koha entry.
21 RK, heartfelt vocals & acoustic guitar. 7pm, koha entry.
22 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
24 Electric Open Jam. Sign-up and music from 7pm.
25 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
27 Leigham Fitzpatrick and friends. 7.30pm, koha entry.
28 Julian Temple from 7.30pm. Koha entry.
29 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.

dec.

1 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
2 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, $5 entry.
3 Dee Street Band from 7.30pm, koha entry.
4 Monthly Drag Night! From 8pm, koha entry.
5 Keren Enright from 7.30pm, koha entry.

Check socials and bar blackboard for more Inch Bar events and details.

DALE WILKINSON
BUILDER
Local, loyal and licensed builder practitioner at your service.
No job to big or small, quotes available.
Please call
021 867 896

R&L SYSTEMS
Computer Repairs & Upgrades
Computer & Software Sales
Phone & Tablet Repairs
Custom Builds
www.rlsystems.co.nz
021 666 425



Holistic Coaching
for clarity, confidence, purpose
www.kindliving.co.nz

Leith Croquet Club
9 Quentin Avenue
1:15 pm
Wednesdays & Saturdays
Season open until May 2027
ALL AGES WELCOME FREE COACHING
Leith Croquet Club | 021 136 5463

VALLEY PROJECT VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



I was looking for marketing volunteering opportunities in Dunedin, and came across the Valley Project online. When I researched the organization, I found that VP does very good initiatives for the wellbeing of the North East Valley community. I immediately felt like getting involved with the organization.

I am handling social media campaigns, content creation and some copyrighting. I coordinated the recent Spring Wellbeing Expo at Kids' Day Out. One of the most rewarding parts of my experience with the Valley Project so far has been seeing my social media content getting a good response from the community.

Some people might be surprised to learn that I have a background in English literature but ended up becoming interested in marketing.

I love reading, gardening, cooking, baking and travelling, and visiting the Botanic Garden — it's my favourite hangout place.

To anyone who has thought about volunteering but hasn't taken the leap yet, I would say go for it.

-- Anjana, Social Media and Marketing Volunteer



I first approached the Red Cross looking for work and they suggested I try some volunteering. I have now been a volunteer for the Kai Share programme for over a year and half. Since, my English has improved, I've made friends with other volunteers, and got a job at the Polytechnic working as a cleaner. My favourite task at Kai Share is distributing the fruit, especially to my fellow halal community members. And I am grateful to also receive a food box to feed my family.

I arrived in New Zealand two years ago and have lived in North East Valley the whole time. My family and I love this community (though the housing could use a little work). My children and I often spend time together at local parks and playgrounds. One of my dreams is to take them beyond Dunedin, and I hope to one day soon earn my driver's licence and buy a car.

In Afghanistan, I was a plasterer and a painter, and I would be very happy to volunteer or work in this capacity, too. I am particularly interested in understanding the differences between the two countries, including building practices, materials, and techniques, and learning how my skills and experience could be applied here.

-- Khaista, Kai Share Volunteer

I first heard about The Valley Project through the Social Impact Studio at the University. I wanted to get out of my comfort zone and interact with new people.

At the moment, I have been helping with the HR side of things. I am creating a complaints process that is easy to understand and accessible for the diverse range of volunteers that the VP has.

I never would have thought I would volunteer, let alone enjoy it as much as I have. I've met new people and built so many skills that I know will be invaluable. I get to talk to people from all different backgrounds, and I show up each week knowing that I am helping work towards a common goal of supporting the community.

The most surprising part of my experience has been how friendly everyone is at the VP. I'm not saying I wasn't expecting this, but for the past three years I've been at university, the only time you really work with people who aren't your friends is through group projects. They aren't always the worst, but there can still be a sense that you are only speaking and interacting with each other because you have to. It has been really refreshing to work in and amongst people who are friendly and genuinely want to be there.

-- Liliana, Admin Volunteer



My name is Karl, I write articles for the VV and help out at community dinners, with the occasional stint of parking management for events. The Valley Project was an important consideration in purchasing a home in NEV in 2012 for myself and my two kids - I was pretty stoked that such a community hub could survive and thrive here in Dunedin and wanted to be around people that shared a sense of community spirit. Just open your copy of the Valley Voice to be amazed at the amount of people doing incredible things around the area to keep it beautiful, educate others and create an environment of support and resilience.

Imagine my happiness then, when I discovered my skills in communication could be useful to others as well!

I've been in bands since I was 15 and when I'm not writing for the VV or paying the mortgage, I enjoy writing and playing music with friends. I'm also writing a video game with my talented sister, and I collect and restore vintage computers when I get a spare second. One thing I would love to see is a support group happen in the valley for retro gamers who wish they had the time anymore, but really just like a good book and a sit down.

-- Karl, Valley Voice Volunteer

TIPPLER'S
Bar & Cafe
Your friendly neighborhood bar
★ Happy hour everyday 4-6pm
★ Self-service TAB
★ Pokies
11B North Road
473 1795

EVlution Ltd
Solar Installations
On-grid/Off-grid
Solar & Battery Solutions
Locally Owned NEV Company
03 395 6565
ev-lution.co.nz

Wood Quarter
021 042 1877
Bespoke cabinetry
kitchen
vanity
wardrobe
furnitures
daniel@woodquarterltd.co.nz
Unit 6, 7 Watts Rd, NEV

Need a painter?
• inside or out
• no job too small
• waterblasting available
COMPETITIVE RATES & QUOTES
Contact Bryan:
473 7488 or 021 108 1860
porteous.a.b@gmail.com



Good news is that the resealing and refurbishment of the Ōpoho tennis/basketball/netball courts is completed. Go and have a look, bring your rackets and balls as you like, and enjoy yourselves. The courts are open and free to the public 365 days a year.

We also invite you to join us at the courts at 5.30pm on 4 November for a sausage sizzle/byo picnic to celebrate!

This facility is a project of the Lovelock Environmental Society, formerly the (private) Ōpoho Tennis Club. The Society took up the lease in 2011 after the old clubhouse burned down and the club was disbanded.

The idea back then was to keep a local tennis court open rather than see it turned into a car park or such, and now that the refurbishments are complete, we are confident that the courts will be here for years to come.

The resealing and refurbishments were paid by the DCC. It took a bit of pushing from the Society to get the project over the line, but it surely was worth the effort, and we are grateful to the Council.

See you on the courts! *-- Jim Takas*



Archer Broad sinking a basket at the new hoop. Archer's family has been involved in the courts for many years now, starting with his great-grandfather Dick Calvert. By the way, Archer made the shot.



DJ AUTO THINK TANK

Q: Hybrid Car Servicing: What Happens When the Heat Is On?

A: Hybrid cars are clever, economical and environmentally friendly, combining petrol power with electric efficiency. But their batteries, motors and inverters generate heat that needs careful management. Without effective cooling and regular servicing, small problems can become expensive headaches.

Unlike conventional cars, hybrids rely on specialised cooling systems to keep electrical components within safe temperatures. Depending on the vehicle, these systems use air, liquid cooling or both. Some batteries draw air from the passenger cabin, meaning a blocked intake can cause bigger problems than you might expect.

Cooling fans work quietly behind the scenes, preventing overheating. However, dust, pet hair and lint can clog ventilation openings, while worn fans, faulty sensors or electrical connections can disrupt cooling. Warning signs include unusual fan noise, reduced performance, changing fuel economy or a hybrid-system warning light. Persistent changes deserve investigation.

If your dashboard displays a battery-temperature or hybrid-system warning, consult your owner's manual and stop safely if instructed. Smoke, burning smells or visible battery damage require caution. Move away and seek emergency assistance if there's a fire or immediate danger. High-voltage batteries can remain dangerous even when switched off, so leave repairs to trained technicians.

A proper hybrid service involves more than changing engine oil. Depending on the vehicle, a technician may inspect battery vents, cooling fans, coolant levels, hoses and cooling circuits, scan diagnostic codes and assess battery performance. Routine checks of brakes, tyres and filters remain important, too. Requirements vary between manufacturers, so choose a repairer experienced with hybrid systems.

You can help your hybrid keep its cool by keeping battery air intakes clear, reducing cabin dust and pet hair, listening for unusual fan noises and addressing warning lights promptly. Follow the manufacturer's service schedule, use specified fluids and never spray water or cleaning chemicals into battery vents. Don't remove covers unless approved by the manufacturer.

Regular servicing and early diagnosis protect your hybrid's performance, reliability and expensive components. Preventative maintenance could save a costly surprise. After all, the only thing overheating should be the debate about who's driving on your next road trip. Drive smart, service regularly and keep your cool!

Email/ text us with any questions: ***dud.dj.automotive@gmail.com*** *or* ***021 331 528****.*

Auto SUPER SHOPPES
NZ's PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CENTRES

NEW! TRAILER HIRE!

D J AUTOMOTIVE

134 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY, DUNEDIN

Holiday Closures: 26 Oct–1 Nov, 24 Dec–10 Jan

Selling Soon? Make Sure There Are No Surprises!

The Valley market in brief

We're now into the traditional selling season, with spring and summer, when longer days and sunshine usually help bring the market to life. This year, it's been a slow start. Across Otago, the latest Real Estate Institute figures show prices up about 2.8% on a year ago, while the national median price slipped about 2.3% to $755,000. Fewer homes are changing hands, with Otago sales at their lowest for the time of year since 2023.

Closer to home, a recent report covering the Valley suburbs showed buyer searches up about 40% compared with the same time last year, with more new listings. But the median time to sell was around 46 days, 39% longer than a year ago.

So why the slow pace? Plenty of people are looking, but few are ready to commit. The election is part of it. People don't like uncertainty, so many are waiting to see what happens. Whichever way it goes, we'll at least know where the country stands and can all move forward. Rising fuel prices, driven by events overseas, aren't helping confidence. A relatively dreary spring hasn't helped either, because nothing lifts people's mood like a sunny day. Hopefully it's sunnier by the time you read this. When confidence returns, buyers who have been sitting on the fence could decide all at once.

Which brings me to this issue's topic. When buyers can wait, a paperwork problem gives them a reason to walk away, and unconsented building work is one of the most common.

What 'compliant' means

Most building work in a home needs a council building consent first, and a final sign-off when the job is finished. Some minor work is exempt, but it always pays to check. Think of the consent as the council saying, "Yes, you can build this," and the sign-off, called a Code Compliance Certificate (CCC), as "Yes, it was built the way we agreed." Two problems come up often...

Consent but no sign-off: The owner got consent and did the work, but the council never signed it off. The LIM shows this as a consent with no matching certificate. If the work was finished to the approved plans, it should only need a council inspector to visit and confirm.

No consent at all: Worse, some owners skip the process, sometimes doing the work themselves without a qualified tradesperson. Even if it looks fine, it may be difficult to prove it was done properly.

Common surprises: An extra toilet, ensuite or conservatory added without consent; A garage, attic or basement turned into a bedroom, sleepout or flat; Tall decks and retaining walls; Wood burners, moved walls, and relocated kitchen or laundry plumbing.

How buyers find out: Agents are legally required to tell buyers about any 'materially important' issues, normally in a formal 'disclosure statement'. Buyers' lawyers review the LIM, the council's file on the property. Buyers often get an independent building inspection, often a bank requirement, which can highlight what the paperwork missed. Sale agreements ask vendors to confirm work was consented, so a hidden problem can come back as a claim after settlement.

Why 100% right matters now: In a slower market, buyers have plenty of choice and no reason to rush. If a home looks uncertain, many will simply move on to the next one. That's why I'm so pedantic as your agent about getting everything right. Before marketing, I look for red flags, like building work that isn't original to the house, and compare what I find with the council's LIM and property file. Then I work with the owner on how big any problem is and what to do about it.

Once it's all sorted, the sale runs more smoothly, with less stress for everyone. It also reduces the chance of a nasty surprise, like a lawyer or buyer finding unconsented work halfway through, which can mean delays and even legal trouble. Sometimes the answer is to fix it. Other times an owner may prefer to disclose the issue to buyers and accept a lower price.

Three ways to sort it out

Code Compliance Certificate (CCC): For work that had consent but was never signed off. The council inspects the finished work and, if satisfied, issues the certificate.

Certificate of Acceptance (COA): For unconsented work done since 1 July 1992. The council inspects it and, if satisfied, issues a certificate. It isn't quite a full sign-off, and hidden work may be left out.

Safe and Sanitary report: For work done before July 1992. An independent building professional inspects it and writes a report, which can be lodged with the council. The best time to investigate these options is before marketing starts, not mid-sale, under pressure, with a buyer who can walk away.

Not sure where you stand? If you've added a room, a bathroom or a deck over the years and can't remember whether it was signed off, ask me. I'm happy to talk through your options, and help facilitate a CCC, COA or Safe and Sanitary report.

Disclaimer: This article provides general information from a real estate perspective only. It does not constitute legal, tax, or financial advice. Always seek independent professional advice specific to your situation.

Let's Chat Before You Start

Before you pick up a paintbrush or call a builder, give me a call. I'm happy to pop by and give you honest, practical advice about what's worth doing–and what isn't. My goal is to help you make the smartest decisions for your next move.

Have a coffee with Pete

Thinking about downsizing or your next move?

No presentations. No sales pitch -- just a relaxed chat over coffee.

peter@nzps.co.nz



Peter Gale is a long-time Ōpoho resident; and also the agent/licensee and advisor for NZ Property Solutions

Peter Gale | 021 608 107 | peter@nzps.co.nz

NZ PROPERTY SOLUTIONS
Licensed under the REAA 2008

art, craft & music

ART CLASSES
For all levels. Casual attendance welcome, tutor Rose Shepard, Valley Project, 10am–noon, Thurs. 027 406 4154 or email: roseshepard.artclasses@gmail.com

ART CLASSES
Continuous class, newcomers welcome, 1–3pm Wed, Valley Project; 1–3pm, Thurs, St Peter's Church Hall, Caversham; 7–9pm, Thurs, Logan Park High School, $15 per session. Friederike 482 2025

ART FOR BUSY PEOPLE
Caters for all levels and styles of art. Qualified art teacher, Denise McMahon. Valley Project, 262 North Road, Thursdays 1.30–3.30pm. artforbusypeople@gmail.com 0290 455 3070

CALLING LOCAL CRAFTERS
The Valley Project invites local crafters to sell their creations at our reception gift shop. Pop into 262 North Road, Mon–Thu 9am–2pm.

CURIOUS ABOUT SINGING?
Sing with us! Dunedin Harmony Chorus is for women of all ages singing and performing a cappella barbershop. Join us Tuesdays, 7pm. Enquiries@dunedinharmony.org

DIAL-A-PIPER
Available for any functions: birthdays, weddings, funerals, Haggis Address, etc. Feel free to contact me to discuss your function. Can travel. 03 473 0045 or 027 473 0060 thepiper50@gmail.com

DUNEDIN BRAIN SING
Fun and casual singing group for people affected by brain injury (neurocognitive conditions), and their carers/supporters. Caversham Baptist Church, 239 South Rd. Tuesdays, 10.30–11.30am. Gold coin donation. 03 471 6156 manager.dunedin@brain-injury.org.nz

DUNEDIN FIDDLE CLUB
Mostly Celtic tunes, mostly fiddles. New players always welcome! Wednesdays 7.30pm at The Valley Project rooms. Just drop in or anna.bowen1@gmail.com

FOLK CLUB OPEN MIC NIGHT
Songs, tunes and convivial company. Thursdays 7.30pm. Dunedin Folk Club, 80 Lovelock Ave. Come and join the supportive circle to play or listen. info@dunedinfolkclub.co.nz

GROUP DRUM LESSONS
Learn to play djembe, cajon percussion with a focus on enjoyment, finding your sound and jamming. Jamie: 027 550 2858 drumwithjamie@gmail.com

GUITAR LESSONS
Want to learn how to play the guitar in NEV? $15/hr for your first session and $25/hr for future... sessions. Jeremiah 021 221 1039 or raganclan0077@gmail.com

KIDS ART CLASS
Thinkit Art, dynamic art classes for 7–15 year-olds. Focused on enriching creativity & exploring who you are as an artist. Book now! Kiri Scott: Thinkit.fie@yahoo.com @thinkitart 021 118 9882 @thinkitartfeuerstein.art...

KNIT/CROCHET LESSONS
Beginner to intermediate. One-on-one or small groups, 8yrs+. First 30min free! Tutor Aurora, at a public place or at your home. Flexible time/day. 020 4031 4040 aurlyn.knits@gmail.com

PIANO LESSONS
Beginner and advanced, all ages, all welcome. Your place or mine. Places available on Tuesday. Rates TBA. Text 021 0842 5948 in first instance. Marian Poole: RMTNZ, ATCL, PhD, Music Journalist.

SHE CHOIR DUNEDIN
A non-auditioned, collaborative choir welcoming women, non-binary, and gender queer people. Rehearse Wednesdays, term times, 6.15–7.30pm at DNI. No prior contact or experience needed. Just turn up and sing with us! shechoirdunedin

SINGING FOR FUN
For social and practice. Meet in Musselburgh at 10am on Mondays. Singing at aged homes approx. every 6wks. At present mixed group of 6–8 ladies + 2 men. Graham 03 929 4834

SINGING LESSONS
All ages and stages. Contact Griffin to enquire: 0210 815 5593 golden.protoceratops@protonmail.com

UKULELE SESSIONS
Wed, 7–8.30pm. Just turn up or call/text Mary for info: 027 929 9813

community

ALZHEIMERS OTAGO
Concerned about your memory loss or supporting someone with dementia, we are here for you. Free support for individuals, carers and families. 03 471 6154 Still.Me@alzheimersotago.org.nz www.alzheimersotago.org.nz

BIKE WORKSHOP
Get help, use our workshop. Bikes available for koha, 3–5:30pm Tues, and 9.30am–12.30pm Sat. Valley Community Workspace, 11 Allen St.

BOOKBUS LIBRARY
Gardens New World, Fri. 11am–12.15pm | North Rd./Watts Rd. Thurs. 1.30–2.45pm | Signal Hill Rd./Farquharson St., Thurs. 3.15–4.30pm | Pine Hill Rd./Forrester Ave. Thurs 6–7pm.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU
Free, confidential, independent info & advice. Know your rights, how to take action and access needed services. For ANYONE about ANYTHING! 155 Princes Street 03 471 6166 or 0800 367 222 www.cab.org.nz CABDunedin

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING
Dunedin Community Accounting. Free accounting training & advice for non-profits. kiaora@dca.org.nz www.dca.org.nz 0800 113 160

COMMUNITY PATROL
Dunedin North Community Patrol. Assisting police to ensure our communities are safe to live in. Volunteers welcome. Call Garry for more info: 027 364 1485

COMMUNITY STUDY CIRCLE
Baha'i Spiritual Training. Develop your capacity to offer service to your community as a result of exploring spiritual concepts and how to apply them to everyday life. Strictly FREE. Ash: 022 615 6115

CUPPA & CONNECTIONS
Drop in for new faces, warm cuppa and engaging chats, hosted by The Valley Project at 262 North Rd. Stay for 5 minutes or the full hour. First Tuesday of every month, 1–2pm. Koha welcome.

CRIBBAGE CLUB
Anyone want to start a cribbage club at the Valley Project community rooms, or brainstorm the possibility of spaces? Pat Hanah: dumpton.ph@gmail.com 03 473 0559

DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN
Join us fortnightly at the garden on Allenby Ave., Pinehill. All welcome. Tools provided. Check Facebook for dates/times or dalmorecommunitygarden@gmail.com

DUNEDIN CURTAIN BANK
Got a StudentID, Community Services card, or SuperGold card with CSC? See us at 174 Princes St. 9–4pm Mon–Thurs. or apply online: dunedincurtainbank.org.nz

DUNEDIN NORTH PROBUS
Retired/close to retirement? Could you benefit from meeting others? Enjoy social outings? Combined Mens & Women's Club! NEV bowling club, 10am, 2nd Monday p/month. Peter: peabee@xtra.co.nz or 455 1256 or Don 473 7544

ENABLING LOVE
Friendship and social connection. 18–65yrs welcome to weekly coffee group. More info: enablinglove.nz or enquiries@enablinglove.nz

FERN COLLECTIVE
Accepting new clients. Self referrals welcome. Open to all ages. Support for individuals & families facing unique challenges of neurodiversity and more. Let us support your journey w/practical tools & resources. ferncollectivenz@gmail.com

GARDENING TOOLS
Give To Grow charity collects, repairs, and redistributes surplus gardening tools to help community members grow their own food. Donating or needing tools? Contact community@northeastvalley.org

GOT BAGS?
38 paper bags are used weekly for the Valley Project's Kai Share programme. We would appreciate any donations of these. Drop at reception at 262 North Rd.

LEGAL ADVICE
Free legal advice at Community Law Otago, available by appnt. Qualified lawyers. Practical solutions. reception@dclc.org.nz 03 474 1922

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT
Create safer, more caring communities. For info and local contacts: coordinator@nsotago.nz 03 456 0857

NEV COMMUNITY GARDEN
North East Valley Community Garden, directly behind NEV school. Pay us a visit! We meet every wknd: 1st & 2nd Saturdays 9.30–12pm, 2nd & 4th Sundays 1–4pm.

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Pine Hill resident, Colin Lind, available for JP services. Flexible days and hours. 03 473 7174 colinlind@hotmail.com

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Upper Junction resident, John Campbell, available for JP services by appointment only. johnandmaryjanecampbell@gmail.com 021 646 266

NORTH DUNEDIN SHED
Open Mon, Wed & Sat mornings, 9–1pm. 35 Bonnington Street, over the bridge. North Dunedin Shed Society Inc.

NORWOOD STREET NEIGHBOURS
Newcomers to Norwood Street, Normanby, are warmly invited to join our friendly, community-minded Facebook street page to connect, share ideas, ask questions, and support one another. Norwood St Neighbours

VCW REPAIR CLINIC
Seeking volunteers with specialist or generalist repair skills, willing to fix and repair items for the community. Currently building a network of people to repair either in their own space or a small space within Valley Community Workspace. Email the co-ordinator at vcw-repairclinic@northeastvalley.org

WILD DALMORE RESERVE
Help protect and restore the native biodiversity of Dalmore Reserve. Meet Sunday afternoons. Entrance at 20 Allenby Ave, Pine Hill. Wild Dalmore Reserve 021 206 3593

WRITING GROUP
Seeking new members. Meetings once a month. Great way to receive constructive feedback from other writers. Guy 021 203 2734

fitness & health

BALFOLK DANCE
Classes are now paused until mid-september.
Minibals continue: Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, 2pm last Sunday each month, 2–3.30pm. FREE!
balfolkdunedin@gmail.com
www.balfolk.co.nz

BELLEKNOWES GOLF CLUB
Green fees $15
$10/player after 4pm
Come & enjoy our fantastic 9-hole golf course on Lawson St. Spectacular views over the city. Call Secretary, Lorraine Lobb: 027 465 1516

BRAIN INJURY SURVIVORS
Brain Saver is dedicated to assisting individuals who have experienced brain injury. Free recovery support packs for survivors. No one should have to face recovery alone. Get in touch: brainsavernz@gmail.com 022 574 9254 brainsavernz

CONTRA DANCE
Every Monday 7.30–9pm. Ōpoho Presbyterian Church, Signal Hill Rd. No partner required. $3. Info 021 185 4566

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY
Suffering from stress, anxiety, migraines, chronic pain or digestive problems? Quiet your mind, relax your body, settle your nervous system with craniosacral therapy. summeroak.cranio@proton.me

CRISIS RECOVERY CAFÉ
Safe, after-hours space for free peer support for mental health & addiction recovery, or anyone simply seeking connection. No referrals needed. Drop in: 262 North Rd. Tues 6.30pm–10pm; Sat 5.30pm–10pm.

CROP SWAP NEV
FREE! Last Sunday of the month, 262 North Rd. Swapping begins 3pm sharp. Trade garden produce, preserves, baking, flowers, bulbs, seedlings, garden supplies, etc.

DIVINE MASSAGE
Mobile massage/reiki for LADIES. Qualified & experienced over 10yrs,,. Weds, Thurs, & Fri A.M. Bookings 022 317 3597. Call or text (preferred). PEACE.

DUNEDIN BMX CLUB
Race night, Forrester Park BMX track, 5.30pm, Thursdays.

'EVERY BODY' HOLISTIC MASSAGE
Based in Ōpoho! Swedish relaxation - deep tissue - myofascial release. Queer-friendly, trauma-informed & disability support-led by your needs. $90/hr. Tamsin 022 1240 525 for info or to book.

FOLK DANCING FOR FUN
North East Valley Bowling Club, 139 North Road, 10–11.30am, Fridays, $5. Yvonne 455 2406 stureid1@yahoo.co.nz

FRUIT & VEGES NFP
Fresh quality fruit & veges at lower prices at St Martin's Church, 194 North Road. Prepaid weekly bags for pick-up. Sign up online: allsaintsdn.org.nz/all-saints-fruit-and-veges/ Want to volunteer? Email: admin@allsaintsdn.org.nz

MASSAGE FOR WOMEN
with Uschi Heyd. Book your session online www.kindliving.co.nz or call/text Uschi 027 360 0238 Mention the Valley Voice to receive a 10% discount on your first massage.

MASSAGE THERAPIST
On-site chair massage (place of work, minimum 3 people) and private studio sessions. Hohohono, Reiki. Merekara 021 171 8094 massage serenity and healing

MEDITATION FUNDAMENTALS
Discover the ART OF WISDOM. 12wk courses consist of 'Theory and Practice.' One cannot go without the other. Koha participation, run all year, and are level based. Contact Colleen Robb: 021 0228 7258 ciga.nz.dunedin@gmail.com

NEV BOWLING CLUB
139 North Rd. New members welcome. Come along and have a go. Room bookings available. Bruce 027 432 8649 or Michelle 027 408 2603 nevbowls@xtra.co.nz

ORTHO-BIONOMY
In pain or discomfort? Had surgery or injuries? Ortho-Bionomy is a gentle way to help you in maintaining balance or accessing your resources during your recovery! For info & bookings: juliafast.nz

PARKRUN
Free, weekly timed 5km run/walk, Sat, Botanic Gardens. Meet at café, 8am summer, 9am winter. Go to parkrun.co.nz for more info.

PERSONAL TRAINING AND BOXING
Interested in one-on-one strength training or boxing sessions in NEV? Flexible schedule and $25 45-minute session(s). Jeremiah 021 221 1039 or raganclan0077@gmail.com

RAJA YOGA MEDITATION
Stressed? Mind too busy? Free 4-lesson course over 4 weeks. Tuesdays 7–8.15pm. Leave a message on 03 473 7137; will... call back with details. Brahma Kumaris Meditation Centre, 88 Watts Road.

STEADY AS YOU GO
(Age Concern) Gentle balance and strength exercises, NEV Bowling Club 10.30am Mondays, Ōpoho Church Hall 1.30pm Tuesdays, and St. Thomas Hall in Pine Hill 11am Thursdays.

TANNOCK GLEN
Torridon St. Ōpoho. 3.5 acre garden of the Dunedin Rhododendron Group. Members of public invited at any time. Dogs permitted on lead.

THREE LEFT FEET
Social dance group. No experience or partners necessary. Folk & traditional European dance. $5 or $7.50 per couple, Nga Maara hall, 6–7pm Thursdays. Marilyn 027 446 3358

ZEN MEDITATION
Traditional Zen for experienced & beginners. All welcome. 7pm Thur. Quaker Rooms, 15 Park St., Dunedin North. Koha please. 6wk beginners courses through the year. 7-day retreat on Quarantine Island annually. 021 050 4605

families, kids, and teens

AURORA TAMARIKI EARLY YEARS CARE AND KINDY
Childcare for 0-5yr-olds inspired by Rudolf Steiner & Emma Pikler, offering homely rhythms, seasonal songs/stories, and natural space for children to learn and grow. Organic vegetarian kai provided. 351 Pine Hill Road. auroratamariki.co.nz

DUNEDIN CITY TOY LIBRARY
St Thomas' Hall in Pine Hill, corner Pine Hill Rd & Raleigh St. Vibrant toy library for children 0–7yrs. Huge range of toys, puzzles, ride-ons, dress-ups, & games. 3.15–4pm Wed. & 10–11.30am Saturdays.

DUNEDIN RUDOLF STEINER PLAYGROUP
Te Whare Ako Marie. A sanctuary for creative play for children from birth to kindy. A place of peace and friendship for parents. Groups meet weekly, term time. Contact us for times and days 471 2163 or dunedinsteinerplaygroup@gmail.com

GO! YOUTH GROUP
Group for youth, school years 7–13. Meet 6pm Saturdays during school terms in Hope Church hall 304 Pine Hill Road. Games, food, activities, outings. Beckha 022 023 5249 or Carlos 027 646 4628.

INTERGENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP
Bringing together multi-generations, supporting communities, and nurturing relationships through play. Every Friday at 11am in the Maybank Room in Ross Home, 360 North Road.

MT CARGILL GIRLGUIDES
Pippins, brownies, guides, & ranger groups in the valley. 0800 222 292 or info@girlguidingnz.org.nz

NEV NORMAL SCHOOL PTA
Monthly meetings at Valley Project on a Thursday evening. Anyone interested in being of service to this wonderful school is welcomed. nevn.pta@gmail.com

NEV PLAYGROUP
0–5yrs. Meet other local families. Free morning tea provided for adults. Please supply your child's food and drink. 9am–noon, Wednesdays. 194 North Road. nev.playgroup@nevbctrust.org

ŌPOHO PLAYCENTRE
Nurturing play space for 0–6yrs, where children and whānau attend together. Child-led learning through play. Make friends, play, learn, & grow. 3 free visits. 28A Signal Hill Rd. Mon and Wed–Fri, 9am–12pm, school terms. opoho.playcentre opoho@playcentre.org.nz or 027 880 2365

ŌPOHO SCOUTS
Keas aged 5-8yrs, Wednesdays 5–6pm; Cubs aged 8-11yrs, Thursdays 6–7.30pm; Scouts aged 11-14yrs, Wednesdays 6:30–8:15pm. Ōpoho Scout Den. opoho@group.scouts.nz

SPACE FOR YOU AND YOUR BABY
Programs run by registered ECE teachers supporting families through their 1st year with new baby. New location: 194 North Road space@nevbctrust.org 021 150 9165

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Variety of classes with stories, crafts, songs, and more. Ages 4–18yrs, 9.30am Sundays (term time only) DNI (tech area). All welcome! No charge. 020 4079 5727 or go to dunedinchristadelphians.org

further education

BEGINNER ENGLISH FOR CHINESE
Beginner English conversation group for senior Chinese new to English language. Shared meal. Small contribution to costs. Improve simple conversation. No English necessary. Tian: 029 02 0009 68 254783519@qq.com

COM2TECH DIGI DROP-IN
Community-led group offering range of free classes to upskill communities in communications technology & online safety. 10am–12pm Monday, Valley Project. office@com2.tech com2.tech com2tech 027 256 9182

Classifieds continued next page...

COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT
Thinkit Feuerstein is a cognitive enhancing program for individuals with learning differences. Enriching thinking and learning skills for ages 5+ to adults. Private sessions held in NEValley/Dunedin schools. Tutor Kiri Scott, certified practitioner in Feuerstein method. 021 118 9882 www.icelp.info Thinkit.fie@yahoo.com

ITALIAN CLASSES
Experienced teacher, native speaker of Italian. Small groups all levels, from absolute beginners to advanced and conversation. 027 341 8312 or 473 0832 antonella.vecchiato@gmail.com italianclasses.co.nz

LEARN ENGLISH
English for daily life and work. Free and low cost courses. Please contact one of our staff at English Language Partners: 455 5266

LEARN GERMAN
with a native speaker. Whether it's for school, business, holidays, hobbies, movies, or casual convo, let's get creative with your learning! 022 189 4564 creativemethodes@gmail.com

MATHS MADE EASY
Experienced maths teacher, recently retired. Primary and secondary certified. Montessori trained. Private tutoring at your home or mine. Zoom option. Different strategies to help your child achieve success. Diane 021 357 565 dvalavanis@aol.com

REO MĀORI
Reo Māori teaching or tutoring for adults. Groups or individuals. John Birnie: johnbirnie@hotmail.com or 021 236 3765

VOCAL TEACHER
All ages, all skill levels. Starts from $30 a lesson. Studio on Vogel Street. Text for more info/to book: 022 122 3405

trading corner

529 PLANTS
Support your local grassroots nursery! Wide plant selection incl. large, diverse succulent & cacti collection. Come by 529 North Rd. 10am–3pm Mon.–Wed. or Sun. Call/text Andy 027 323 1793

ALL-ROUNDER
Available for odd jobs, cleaning, gardening. Good references available. Chris 022 374 5970

BABYSITTER
10 years of childcare experience. Full drivers licence. Have worked with twins. Kelly 027 697 9194

BALDWIN STREET BOOK
Substantially revised and enlarged edition. 32 A4 pages, 8,000 words, 60 photos. $20ea. Available from... saddlehillpress@xtra.co.nz and Valley Project 027 248 0714

BIN CLEANING
Smelly bins? Get them cleaned by Bin Blast. Text 021 157 4953 or email blair@binblast.co.nz. Use code VALLEY for 20% off first clean.

CHIMNEY SWEEPS
Top Hat Chimney Sweeps offering single flue cleans for $100 or two neighbouring houses for $85 each. FREE glass door clean. Replacement services on firebrick, door seal, and baffles. Text Luke 027 332 2915

COFFEE WITH PETE
Join realtor Peter Gale for a relaxed, no-pressure chat about downsizing, selling, buying or simply exploring your real estate options. No sales pitch, just coffee and honest convo. 021 608 107 peter@nzps.co.nz

COMPUTER & MOBILE SUPPORT
Half the usual cost! Patient and honest for SENIORS or anyone needing help. 20% Supergold discount. Free testing of systems and devices. Pete 021 032 1258 mrfixit.today@outlook.com

COMPUTER REPAIR
I fix computers! Low rates, great service, Windows, Linux, Mac Android. Matt 022 048 0012

CROP SWAP
Everything is free! Bring along things you have in abundance from your garden or kitchen. Last Sunday of every month, 262 North Rd. Doors open 2.45pm. Swapping starts 3pm.

DAVE'S COMPUTER SERVICE
Troubleshooting and tuition. FREE optimisation software. Lowest charges in the Valley. Phone Dave: 022 635 9414

DISCOUNTED RAT TRAPS
Open VUE fundraiser for current environmental initiatives. Rat traps $5ea and trap boxes $15ea. Purchase at Valley Project reception, 262 North Road.

DOG WALKING
Homeschooled kid available to walk your dog any time Sun–Fri, even on school holidays. Will be chaperoned by adult or older sibling. Noah: dogwalkingnoahr@gmail.com or 021 836 950. Negotiable pricing. Suggested cost $15/hour per dog.

EXPERIENCED PAINTER
Bruce Interior Painter (B.I.P.) Int/exterior, residential, commercial 20 years in industry. 022 171 5102 bip.painters@gmail.com

FARELLA ORTHODONTICS
Offering Valley residents complimentary consultations for children. Cutting-edge tech. 30yrs clinical experience. Flexible financing options. 021 228 4895 farella.co.nz

FREE SCRAP METAL & BATTERY PICKUP
Free local pickup service for small to medium loads in NEV, Pine Hill, and Ōpoho. Station wagon pickup—perfect for steel, aluminium, copper, brass, and old car, truck, or marine batteries. Friendly, fast, and right down the road. Call or text JT: 027 206 1725

FREE SOURDOUGH CLASS
First Friday each month (usually) in Ōpoho. Details and booking: odough.webspeed.nz

GARAGES TO RENT
Pine Hill. 24-hr level access. Secure, dry garages 5.5m long x 2.8 wide x 2.3 high. 36 cubic metres. Plus new 20ft containers. Only $210 a month GST inclusive. Cheapest in Dunedin. Household items, old car, etc. 027 213 2474

HAIRDRESSER
Retired senior hairdresser providing service for seniors. Your home or mine. Dunedin North only, Helen 467 9644 or 021 104 1011

JESCARGO CARPET REPAIRS
Domestic and commercial carpet repairs. No job too small. 100% local. Jesa 022 012 1194 jescargo_carpet@outlook.com

LAWNS ELITE
Lawn renovation company based in Dalmore. Years of lawn care and landscaping experience. We work with homeowners & renters. WINZ quotes welcome. 022 690 5682 dunedin@lawnselite.co.nz

LAWN MOWING
Ōpoho Lawn Mowing. Servicing the Valley region and beyond: mowing, edging, trimming, wedding, pruning, spring/fall clean-up. Free quotes. 021 080 35799

LOCAL HANDYMAN & LANDSCAPER
Fencing, decks, retaining and all types of concrete and paving. For a free quote contact Liam George on 027 239 0220 or email Lg.contracting98@gmail.com

NEV LAWNS & GARDENS
Lawns, edges, hedges, gardens, bushes, trees, weeds and green waste removal. Consultation & quote: Keegan 027 474 1828 nevlawns@gmail.com

NORTON BIKE WANTED
1930's–50's Norton motorcycle or parts, especially sidecar. Also motorcycle books, pictures or photos, etc. from those years. Please phone 027 213 2474

PALMISTRY & TAROT CARD READING
Here in Dunedin. Reader 30+ years experience. Future predictions and your questions answered psychically. Opening offer until December 1 only $60 for 1 hour. Text/call Jocelyn 020 4019 2852 or Jocekiwi@gmail.com

RELIABLE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
Leaky taps, fence repairs, accessibility solutions & more. Comprehensive services to keep your home in top shape. Professional, high-quality service w/safety compliance and peace of mind. Free consultations. Photo references. Text/ring: Michael 027 509 5642

SPLIT FIREWOOD FOR SALE
Mixed grade & seasoned. $120 per cubic meter. Pick-up only (Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays 9.30am–12.30pm) secretary@northdunedinshedsoc.org.nz

STORAGE UNITS
Located Pine Hill. 24-hr level access. Secure, dry garages 5.5m long x 2.8 wide x 2.3 high. 36 cubic metres. Plus new 20ft containers. Only $210 a month GST inclusive. Cheapest in Dunedin. Household items, old car, etc. 027 213 2474

VENUS FLY TRAPS
Large caliber plants. 5x bigger than sold by shops and are $4.00 cheaper. Growing instructions included. $12 Pat 473 0159 (PM)

WANTED TO BUY
Vintage jewellery, gold and silver, any condition considered. Contact Jonelle 021 255 1465

WANTED: TO LAY ON A WATER BED
It is an unfulfilled childhood dream. Call or text with any leads. Constance, 027 5 88 99 88

WELDING REPAIRS
Gates, fences, balustrades also. Advanced welding courses. More info: Bob 027 206 4064

church services

ANGLICAN: ST MARTIN'S
194 North Rd, 10.30am

GLENAVEN METHODIST
7 Chambers St, 11am

HOPE CHURCH
304 Pine Hill Road, Sun.10am & 7pm

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN
George St. Normal School Hall, 10am

ŌPOHO PRESBYTERIAN
50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am

PACIFIC ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN
160 North Rd. English, 11am on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays; Cook Island 9.30am; Samoan 11am, 4th and 5th Sundays

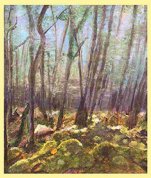
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am

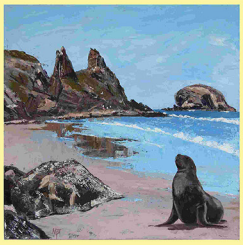
SALVATION ARMY
43 North Rd, community worker only, Mark O'Donnell

Add or update listings:
voice@northeastvalley.org
$2 per listing per issue

ART IN NOVEMBER

November 14th to 22nd 2026


Group Show

Alison Belton
Irina Schreiber
Janet Farquharson
Janet Smith
Julia McNaughton
Judy Wilson
Lynlee Heenan
Mary Thompson
Naomi Wadsworth
Stephen Packer

10am to 4.30pm daily Free Admission

Dunedin Community Gallery

26 Princes Street Dunedin

Paintings and Prints by Local Artists



Every Friday, a talented and welcoming group of artists gathers at the Valley Project to share their love of painting, creativity and community. This year marks their 14th annual exhibition, featuring a fresh collection of artworks created over the past 12 months. From vibrant oils and acrylics to delicate watercolours, prints and beautifully crafted cards, there's something to delight every art lover and suit a range of tastes and budgets. The artists are an accomplished bunch, with many exhibiting their work in galleries throughout Otago. All artworks are available to purchase, so come along, enjoy the creativity, meet the artists and perhaps find a special piece to take home!

ART CLASSES

Valley Project
Thursdays 1.30 - 3.30pm

Art for *busy people.*

Connecting through creativity

Denise: artforbusypeople@gmail.com



Live in or around North East Valley?

You may be interested in finding out more about the Lindsay Creek flood hazard.

See the latest flood hazard information for the area at **orc.govt.nz/lindsaycreek**

Make sure you're prepared for an emergency:
otagocdem.govt.nz/getready

0800 474 082

Otago Regional Council



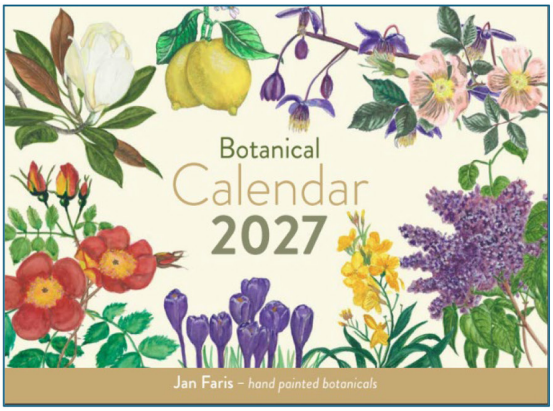
Hand Painted Botanicals

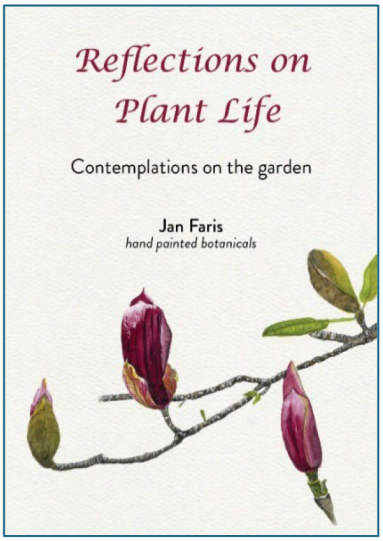
Ōtepoti Dunedin - Jan Faris



Here's some great ideas for Christmas presents …

2027 Botanical Calendar, *Reflections on Plant Life* and cards available at the Public Art Gallery & Info Centre, Botanic Gardens, NEV.





Next year, I have another 'Beautiful Botanics' exhibition from 4 January - 28 February 2027 at the Dunedin Botanical Gardens Information Centre.

Calendar $35 (2027), *Reflections on Plant Life* $35 and Cards $7.00

See website: www.handpaintedbotanicals.org FB: Hand painted Botanicals

Auto SUPER SHOPPES
NZ's PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CENTRES
D J AUTOMOTIVE
03 473 0068
134 North Rd. North East Valley
NEW! TRAILER HIRE!
vtnz Certified Repairer
Mechanical Repair
WOF Inspection
Servicing
Consultation
Pickup & Delivery

Plumbing Laser
"Murray and Corey Ford proudly servicing the Valley for 25+ years"
• Plumbing - new and existing
• Gas fitting
• Drainage
(03) 456 3178
369 King Edward St. South D.
dunedin.central@laserplumbing.co.nz

valley project GIFT SHOP
monday - friday 9am to 5pm

Spring is a great time to showcase your property for sale. Give me a call for a free appraisal.
James Archer
Your Local Property Consultant
027 267 4607 | james@edinburgh.co.nz
Edinburgh
Edinburgh Realty Ltd. Licensed under the REAA 2008



THANKS to Valley Project FUNDERS
OTAGO Community Trust
Lottery Grants Board
AOTEAROA GAMING TRUST
COGS Community Organisation Grants Scheme
Community Trust FOODSTUFFS SOUTH ISLAND
Otago Regional Council
Otago Catchment Community Inc
DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti
SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIANS
THE LION FOUNDATION
Pub Charity Limited
PREDATOR FREE NZ
City Sanctuary Predator Free Dunedin