

GRATITUDE FLOWS BETWEEN VALLEY AND HOSPICE



When a community gives generously, sometimes the best response is to return the favour. That was the thinking behind a recent staff collection at Otago Community Hospice, where employees gathered donations of food and household supplies for the Valley Project as a heartfelt way of saying thank you to the community that has supported the hospice for so many years.

The collection ran for a month and began with a brief email explaining the Valley Project and its role in the local community. Staff from across the organisation took part, including those working at the hospice's satellite offices in Cromwell and Oamaru. It is difficult to say exactly how many people contributed, but participation was widespread and resulted in ten overflowing parcels of goods for redistribution by The Valley Project.

The Valley community has long been connected to Otago Community Hospice in many different ways. Many residents are familiar with the hospice shop in Vogel Street, where purchases directly help fund hospice care. The organisation also *(Continued page #9..)*



CHANGE GATHERS MOMENTUM IN-BETWEEN SEASONS

Autumn reminds us that letting go can be beautiful — whether clearing trees or cupboards, putting gardens to bed, or literally breaking down walls — we are continually making space for new beginnings.

VALLEY PROJECT RECEPTION HOURS

262 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY

Monday - Thursday 9am - 2pm | Closed Fridays and public holidays

- 📁 gifts
- 📄 placement of notices
- 🌱 seed library
- 🍴 event hireables: marquees, tables, PA system, dishes
- 🗑️ trap hire
- 📰 newspaper advertising
- 🔑 room bookings
- 📄 laminating
- 🖨️ printing & photocopying
- 🍽️ food assistance



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 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #:	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
CONTENT DUE:	Apr 22	Jun 3	July 29	Sep 2	Oct 7	Nov 11
DISTRIBUTION DATE:	May 16	Jun 27	Aug 22	Sep 26	Oct 31	Dec 5

VALLEY PROJECT COMMUNITY ROOMS FOR HIRE

FRED HOLLOWES 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 Hollowes Room	Te Putake Room	Clinic Room
\$25 (inc. GST) p/hour	\$23 (inc. GST) p/hour	\$13.50 (inc. GST) p/hour

A QUICK NOTE FROM THE VP TEAM

There's plenty of positive momentum at Valley Project right now, thanks to an incredible mix of volunteers and community members who help keep things running smoothly.

Kai Share continues to support local households, and recent feedback from participants is helping shape how the programme grows. A generous donation of long-life kai and household essentials from local Hospice staff will help strengthen upcoming Kai Share boxes and support our new Valley Cuppa and Connections gathering — a relaxed monthly event where neighbours can meet, chat, and connect.

Community engagement is also ramping up. You might spot the Valley Project Community Connect stall at New World where we'll be inviting ideas and hearing what matters most to people in the Valley. We're always keen to hear from local changemakers who want to get involved.

Several new and returning initiatives are building connection too — Crop Swap, Valley Rōpū Reo, and the Valley Resilience Group.

With volunteers, partners, and community leaders stepping up, the Valley Project continues to show what's possible when neighbours work together. If you'd like to be part of it, we'd love to hear from you. -- *Noho ora mai rā, The Valley Project* | project@northeastvalley.org

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Scott Willis
List MP based in Ōtepoti

scott.willis@parliament.govt.nz

Funded by Parliamentary Service, Auth Scott Willis, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Peter Waymouth
Arborist

Tree pruning professional

greentrees.co.nz
027 432 9646



Short-term help with groceries for Valley region residents.

(03) 473 8614

www.northeastvalley.org/community/kai-share

WEATHERING IT TOGETHER

PLANNING FOR WHEN THINGS GET WILD



NEXT MEETING:
MONDAY 20 APRIL 2026, 6PM
 The Valley Project, 262 North Rd. NEV

Are you passionate about the Valley region and being prepared for emergencies?

JOIN OUR VALLEY RESILIENCE GROUP

Share your local knowledge, skills and ideas to build on our readiness and resilience here in the Valley!
 Email community@northeastvalley.org



Valley Cuppa & Connections



New to the Valley?
 Looking to meet locals?
 Want to practice your English?



Come along for a relaxed cuppa and a friendly chat!

No need to register - just drop in and say hello.
 Stay for five minutes or the whole hour.

Everyone is welcome ♥ Free tea & coffee provided



1-2pm ♥ First Tuesday of every month
 Next get together 7 April 2026

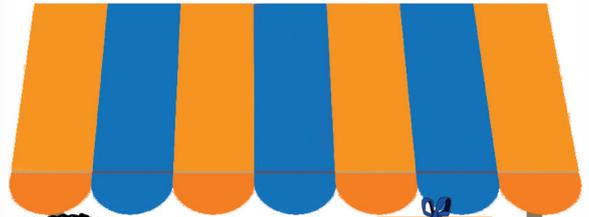
📍 Fred Hollows Room
 The Valley Project
 262 North Road



CALLING STALLHOLDERS!
 Applications are still open for car boots and market tables! Email nevbowls@xtra.co.nz



MARKET DAYS



11:00am – 2:00pm

Sunday, 19 April 2026

139 North Road, North East Valley, Dunedin
 (entrance opposite Craighleith Street)

save the dates

Cuppa & Connections	Tues. 14 April
Valley Resilience Meeting	Mon. 20 April
Crop Swap	Sun. 26 April
Cuppa & Connections	Tues. 12 May
Crop Swap	Sun. 31 May
Winter Warmer	Sat. 6 June
Community Dinner	Sat. 5 September
Valley Fest 2026	Month of September

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 North East Valley Community Development Project (The Valley Project) is a registered charitable organisation that builds community connections and promotes the wellbeing of local families and 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 APRIL 22, 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.



SQUAD GOALS: SYCAMORE NO MORE

The Sycamore Removal Project led by Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary (Open VUE) is an exciting new community initiative working to restore the health of Lindsay Creek and its surrounding habitat in Dunedin. With help from volunteers and local partners, the project aims to gradually remove invasive sycamore trees and give native plants the space they need to thrive.

Sycamore is a fast-growing, introduced tree that spreads easily along waterways. Throughout Lindsay Creek, hundreds of sycamore trees have established themselves along the banks, shading out native species and dropping large numbers of seeds that quickly colonise new areas. Left unchecked, they can dominate the riparian corridor and reduce the diversity of native plants that support birds, insects, and other wildlife.



To tackle the problem, Open VUE recently completed the first stage of the project, including a drone survey and the removal of several medium to large trees in key areas. This work has created new opportunities for restoration, but the next phase is where the community comes in.

Enter the Sycamore Removal Squad — a new volunteer group dedicated to tackling the next wave of smaller trees and seedlings

along the creek. Meeting regularly throughout the year, the squad will work together to remove young sycamores before they become large, seed-producing trees. It's hands-on, satisfying work that directly contributes to restoring the Valley's ecosystem.

No prior experience is necessary.

Volunteers will be supported with guidance, tools, and training; working bees are designed to be welcoming, social, and achievable for all skill levels.

If you enjoy spending time outdoors, care about local biodiversity, or simply want to contribute to a healthier environment in the Valley, the Sycamore Removal Squad would love to have you involved.

Can't make it to sycamore removal working bees but still want to be a member of the Sycamore Removal Squad? Great news! Small actions make a big difference. Autumn is the perfect time to spot and remove young seedlings before they take hold. If you notice maple-shaped leaves popping up in your garden or neighbourhood green spaces, pull them out while the soil is still soft. Sycamores produce masses of winged seeds that travel easily on the wind, allowing them to pop up in gardens, parks, and bush areas across the Valley. Once established, they grow quickly and create dense shade that stops native plants from regenerating.

For more information, or to join the Sycamore Removal Squad, email openvue@northeastvalley.org. -- Jennie Wagner-Gordon



YOUR BACKYARD CAN HELP PROTECT NATIVE WILDLIFE

Did you know your backyard could play an important role in protecting Dunedin's native wildlife?

Across our community, local residents are helping control introduced predators like rats, mice, and possums by setting traps around their homes and gardens. These predators threaten native birds, insects, and lizards, but community trapping programmes are making a real difference.

Autumn is a great time to check traps and get involved. As temperatures begin to drop, rodents often start looking for reliable food and shelter around houses, sheds, and gardens. That means trapping can become more effective during this season.

Even a single trap in your backyard can contribute to a much larger network helping to create safer spaces for native species to thrive. Recording catches and keeping traps maintained helps conservation groups track progress and improve pest control efforts across the Valley.

If you already have a trap set up, keep up the great mahi and continue recording your catches. If you're curious about getting started, now is the perfect time to join the growing community effort to make our neighbourhood a safer place for wildlife. As a fundraiser for current environmental initiatives, Open VUE has discounted traps and trap boxes available for purchase.

Call 03 473 8614 or email openvue@northeastvalley.org for more information.



Need garden tools to start growing your own food?

- hoes
- spades
- trowels
- rakes
- forks
- secateurs

Give to Grow Ōtepoti collects donated garden tools and shares them with people who need a hand to get started.

Small koha welcome, but not required.

Talk to the Valley Project if you have tools to donate, or if you are in need of some!

community@northeastvalley.org

(03) 473 8614

CHECK OUT OUR SEED LIBRARY TOO!





GROWING GARDENERS

“Can I eat a flower?” questioned with the voice of astonishment. Every Friday, a class of children from North East Valley Normal School head into the School Garden. While the parent volunteers always start off with a goal to share the garden, plant seedlings, sow seeds, and harvest edibles, there’s one guarantee: we always get something unexpected out of our time together in nature. Last week it was the voice of astonishment from a 5-year-old boy who learned he could, in fact, eat flowers; the week before it was a guided session in tying knots. Sometimes it’s the unexpected sighting of a new insect or finding out the rocks dug up are the hidden treasure of potatoes.

There are many valuable experiences for the children in the garden. We usually begin by observing the season and talking about what that means in the garden. Perhaps, like other gardens, this past ‘summer’ our amount of produce has been lower than in other years, but there’s learning in that, too.

We do aim for every child to eat something from the garden when they visit; usually it’s a new taste or sensory experience. In the school garden, we often grow things that are similar but not the same as what’s available in the supermarket, so the children might recognise it, but they usually find the taste or flavour is stronger than what’s from the supermarket. Some favourites that children enjoy are sprouting broccoli, rainbow spinach—much more special than silverbeet—and French sorrel is often popular. Many children leave their time in the garden wanting to plant produce at home.

When our harvest is plentiful, we spread our learning into our school kitchen, where the children cook up the edibles. One favourite that many classes have enjoyed is kale chips, a simple preparation that is great for younger learners, who get a real kick out of eating green chips compared with the usual golden yellow of potato chips. In preparation for Matariki and our school-wide soup meal, we are busy planting pumpkins, cauliflowers, carrots, and other delicious produce. One of our teachers is a former cook, so it’s a treat for the whole school to have such yummy tastes, where the garden-to-bowl is right here in our Valley. -- *Laura Hudson*

Crop Swap in the Valley

If you've got a little, or if you've got a lot...
Come share in the sharing at the Valley Crop Swap!

Tables are spread, with spare harvest seeds,
spare jars of jam, and assortments of leaves
(silverbeet, spinach, rhubarb and more)
You'll be welcomed with smiles,
when you come through the door!

Cook books, gardening mags, odd kitchen things...
some of the things you're welcome to bring -
A fresh egg from your chicken, duck or quail...
or a ginger bug to make ginger ale!

A spare bunch of flowers to brighten the day...
a fresh batch of bikkies to sample, and say oooh...
can you share the recipe please?

I think we need some more of these!

So you see, there's a space for everyone here,
something to give, something to share...
Bring a basket, a bag or a cardboard box,
and take home some treasures, a few or a lot!

-- *Rosie, Crop Swap participant*

LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Doors open 2.45pm, swapping begins 3pm sharp
Valley Project, 262 North Rd, North East Valley



**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. 11 Apr. 10am	Sat. 9 May 10am	Sat. 13 June 10am
Sat. 25 Apr. 10am	Sat. 23 May 10am	Sat. 27 June 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 4 Apr. 9:30am	Sun. 26 Apr. 1pm	Sat. 16 May 9:30am
Sun. 12 Apr. 1pm	Sat. 2 May 9:30am	Sun. 24 May 1pm
Sat. 18 Apr. 9:30am	Sun. 10 May 1pm	Sat. 30 May 9:30am



Love getting your hands dirty and sharing garden know-how? The Valley Voice is seeking a regular contributor to this column. All you need is gardening experience and a passion for what grows in our region. Email voice@northeastvalley.org



10-19 APRIL 2026

dunedin

www.wilddunedin.nz

Dunedin, New Zealand's Wildlife Capital, is home to the New Zealand Festival of Nature. Running from 10-19 April, the festival features hundreds of events for everyone to enjoy. Most are free or low-cost for families during the autumn school holidays, alongside special deals on wildlife tourism experiences, art, dining, performances, and nature-themed concerts at Forsyth Barr Stadium. A true celebration of our community and natural world.

WHAT'S ON IN THE VALLEY REGION

JIM DUNCKLEY HERITAGE APPLE ORCHARD OPEN DAY
Saturday 11 April, 10.30am - 4pm
524 Mount Cargill Rd
Stroll through the orchard, learn about heritage collections and current projects using advanced genetics.

SUSTAINABILITY IN ART SUPPLIES
Sunday 12 April, 2 - 4pm
Among the Sparrows, 201 North Rd
Learn how to make your creative process more planet friendly.
Botanical pen craft to follow talk.

GERRY'S ROCK WALK
11/12/18/19 April, 1 - 4pm
Burns Park Scenic Reserve
Meet at bend near 240 Signal Hill Rd
Walk to Gerry's Rock for spectacular views. See native orchids in flower and old rock inscriptions.

PROPAGATION WORKSHOP
Tuesday 14 April, 10.30 - 11.30am
Dunedin Botanic Nursery
82 Lovelock Avenue
Make your own eco-friendly seed pots and clay seed balls.

NATURE JOURNALING
Friday 17 April, 1 - 3pm,
Dunedin Botanic Garden Rotunda
Learn to document your natural finds in words and sketches with Botanical artist Lesley Alexander.

CYCLE BY GALLERY
Mon - Fri 10am - 5pm,
Sat/Sun 8am - 1pm
11 Allen Street
See whimsical weaving of bicycle rims, harakeke and inner tubes by local artist/e-bike specialist Nathan Parker.

LOST PAWS IN NORTH DUNEDIN? HERE'S WHAT TO DO!

The Dunedin City Council Animal Services impounds hundreds of dogs per year, of which nearly three-quarters are reclaimed by their original owners. What saves many pet owners an anxious wait to reclaim their dog are microchips, registrations of pets, and contacting the council early. This outcome is much better for dogs and owners alike.

Similarly, SPCA Otago rescues hundreds of cats each year. Unfortunately, the reclaim rates for cats are a lot lower, at under 15%, because many owners do not get their cats microchipped, or do not contact SPCA quickly. Many cat owners have found that Facebook groups can be more effective for reclaiming lost cats than formal routes.

So here's what to do if you have lost an animal in the North East Valley region. Your first port of call is Dunedin City Council Animal Services. You can call their number, or check their online lost/found pet listings. Make sure to let them

know if your pet is microchipped, as this may speed up the process.

It's also very important to call local vets, in case a member of the community has handed your pet into one of them. We all know that Dunedin in general, and the North East Valley in particular, have a great community spirit, and neighbours are almost always happy to help out. This is what makes community Facebook posts so effective for reclaiming lost animals in Dunedin.

There is a *Dunedin Lost and Found Pets* Facebook page, as well as the *North East Valley Community News*, and *Dunedin NZ Community* pages. Make sure to include a clear photo of your pet, as well as exact area and date/time they were last seen, and your contact number. Sometimes lost animals, especially cats, are handed into SPCA Otago, so give them a ring and check their online listings. Thanks to the close-knit NEV community, physical posters still work well, just remember to add a clear image of your pet, where they

were last seen, and your contact number.

If you've found a pet in NEV, the options are simpler. If it's a dog, call Dunedin City Council Animal Control as soon as possible so they can collect the animal and scan for a microchip.

A piece of little-known knowledge is that you can take a lost cat to a local vet to scan for a microchip for free. Posting in local Facebook pages about lost cats can also be effective. With cats it is especially important to check if it looks well-fed and looked after before assuming it is lost, as many NEV cats roam free!

Importantly, if you find an injured animal, take it to the nearest vet, where they can treat the animal and contact the owner for you. -- Keira Spilling

Dunedin City Council: 03 477 4000
(ask for Animal Services)

SPCA Otago (Dunedin Centre):
03 473 8252



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DUNEDIN

Community Funding Hui

WEDNESDAY
22 APRIL

4:00 PM

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH
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NORTH DUNEDIN

Need funding for a community project?

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learn more about the funding available
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Sometimes the body
holds trauma and
stress more than the
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- Anxiety
- Migraines
- Chronic pain
- Digestive problems
and more?

Craniosacral therapy may help.

Don't suffer in silence. Reconnect with your body to feel the joy and goodness within that you deserve, whatever you've been through.

Craniosacral therapy (CST) is rooted in osteopathy and uses gentle touch to promote deep relaxation, helping the body shift from 'fight or flight' to 'rest and repair'. CST quiets the mind, relaxes the body, settles the nervous system and opens the heart. This approach supports self-healing and integrates modern medical insights with traditional healing wisdom.



My name is Laura and I am a student member of the Pacific Association of Craniosacral Therapists. I am offering low-cost sessions to gain practical experience.



To book a session, contact me at summeroak@proton.me

LOOKING FOR MISS BRAID

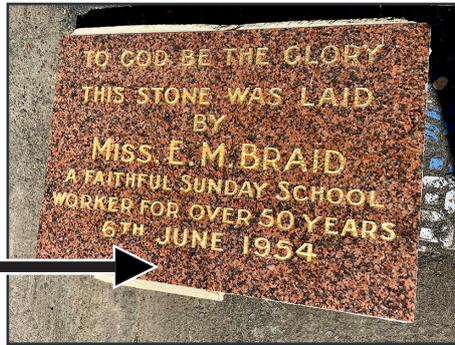
Today was a gorgeous day. Coming back from my dance class, I stopped when I realised the demolition of the Baptist Community Centre was happening that very day. As I watched the dexterity of the bulldozer driver, I couldn't help but see it as a kind of dance. There was a surprising lightness in the jaws of that several-ton monster. It was strangely mesmerising and beautiful to watch.

Chatting with one of the workers, I learned that they had carefully set aside the marble plaque embedded in the wall at the building's entrance. Because of the work they do, I believe demolition workers hold a quiet respect for history. They asked me if I knew about Miss

Braid, the remarkable woman honoured on that plaque. I don't. It got me thinking about names, about anonymity and about the bonds we build within a community. Unlike dance, where connection is established directly, names often come second. But when the distance between us is bridged by language alone, learning someone's name makes a meaningful difference. It can be the first step towards connection. Getting to know someone often starts by simply remembering their name, so the next time we meet we can greet them personally. Remembering a name is a quiet signal that someone matters. It says the encounter was meaningful enough for us to make the gentle effort.

I began to wonder how many faces I see each day that I can actually name. The checkout person at New World? The business owner nearby? The neighbour waving from next door? We order online, we live through screens. We memorise distant social media handles but have blanks for people we see every day. It's easy, almost automatic, to pass others without really acknowledging them. Who was Miss E.M. Braid? I have no idea. Yet, her name is still there, on that plaque carefully set aside from the rubble. If you know who Miss E.M. Braid was, please get in touch so the plaque can find its way to someone who remembers.

-- *Kate Grace, Dance Teacher*
balfolkdunedin@gmail.com



AROUND THE VALLEY TABLE: HANUMAN JAYANTI, 1-2 APRIL

Hanuman Jayanti (ha-noo-mahn juh-yun-tee) is one of the most revered festivals in Hinduism celebrated by millions of people. It honours the birth of the mighty, righteous and wise Bhagwan Hanuman, as well as his unparalleled devotion to Lord Rama.

It is believed that as soon as Bhagwan Hanuman was born at sunrise, flowers rained from the heavens. Celebrations start at dawn with prayers and scripture readings in temples, and finish after sunrise with shared meals and food offerings in homes and temples.

Devotees chant of Bhagwan Hanuman's glories, participate in processions, recite mantra, wash feet, and offer fresh flowers. They also make food offerings, such as a creamy rice pudding cooked with milk, sugar, cardamom, saffron, and nuts — one of his favourite dishes, symbolic of his purity and auspiciousness.

India's national cuisine is made up of diverse regional culinary traditions that share many commonalities. In the same way, regional interpretations of Hanuman Jayanti are celebrated across the country. The customs and rituals vary, but the core essence remains the same.

In each region of India regional specialties are served: sweet golden balls of fried gram flour dipped in cardamom sugar syrup (Boondi Ladoo) in the north of India, the chickpea dish Sundal in the South of India, and even a colonial era addition, Fletcher's custard, an eggless frozen vanilla custard.

The Indian food served at the Hanuman Jayanti festival is traditional, nutritious vegetarian cuisine linked to Bhagwan Hanuman's spiritual purity, vigor and health. -- *Lara Anderson*

SUNDAL RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

1 cup of dried chickpeas
2 tbsp oil
1 tsp mustard seeds
1 tsp urad dal (white)
2 dried red chillies
2 green chillies
16-20 curry leaves
Salt to taste
6 tbsp of coconut (fresh, frozen, or grated)
2 tbsp of raw mango

What is urad dal?

A popular, nutrient-dense South Asian lentil with an earthy flavour. Commonly used in festival meals and temple offerings. High in protein, fiber, iron, and magnesium, and is known to aid digestion. Stocked at Dunedin's Indian and Asian grocers.



METHOD

Wash chickpeas in cold water; soak overnight, or at least 6 hours. Cook the chickpeas 15 to 20 minutes in plenty of fresh water. Drain and set aside. Heat oil in a pan on medium heat. Once hot, add mustard seeds until cooked, then curry leaves and urad dal, stirring constantly until lentils are golden brown in colour. Add chopped green chillies and dried red chillies; cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Add chickpeas followed by coconut; turn heat off once well mixed. Eat hot or cold. Serve with fresh mango and a cup of chai.

2026 BALFOLK MiniBals
 Toitu Otago Settlers Museum
 Last Sunday of each month, 2pm. FREE!

Autumn

Sunday 29 March
 Sunday 26 April

Winter

Sunday 31 May
 Sunday 28 June
 Sunday 26 July

Spring

Sunday 30 Aug.
 Sunday 27 Sept.
 Sunday 25 Oct.

Summer

Sunday 29 Nov.
 Keep dancing!
 in your kitchen,
 in your backyard
 or on the beach

www.balfolk.co.nz

(...continued from front page.) operates shops in Alexandra, Oamaru, Balclutha and Milton, and every purchase helps support the work of the hospice.

Volunteers from the Valley region also make a significant contribution to daily life at the hospice. Local residents help in the kitchen, at reception, and with weekend cleaning, among many other roles. Community groups have also lent their skills over the years. The North Dunedin Shed Society has helped with construction projects, including building a playground and mailbox.

The community's creativity has also left its mark. Recently, local weaver Christine Keller, who works out of the Valley Community Workspace, created a special blanket for hospice patients as they are transferred to hearses.

For anyone who would like to support the hospice, new volunteers are always welcome. Roles include gardening, kitchen help, after-hours reception, and assisting in the hospice shops.

Otago Community Hospice held its annual Street Appeal back in early March. Community donations are vital, as the hospice is only partially funded by Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand.

This year also marks a special milestone, as Otago Community Hospice celebrates its 40th birthday. While its first building was on George Street, much of its history has been spent in the Valley community it continues to serve today. otagohospice.co.nz/40-years-of-caring



MUSIC VIDEO

MENTALIST COLLECTIVE NEW SINGLE "E RERE"

Ōtepoti ensemble The Mentalist Collective released their new single 'E Rere' on 25 March.

Written by Danie Urquhart with support from Lorraine Johnston and Hana Mereraiha, the waiata explores identity, cultural reconnection, and belonging after generations of lost language and culture.

Recorded in spring 2025 at the Otago Uni's Te Korokoro o te Tūi recording suite by Hugh Harlow, the music video directed by Stephen Hillman was filmed across South Island locations including Waihao River, Kelceys Bush, Kurow, and Chingford Park.

The project was made possible by NZ On Air and Te Māngai Pāho.

RELEASE SHOW:
 25 April, 7pm at Moons
 Tickets: \$20 (door/Under the Radar)
 Please feel free to request names on the doorlist.

youtube.com/@MentalistCollective
facebook.com/TheMentalistCollective
thementalistcollective.bandcamp.com/



JOIN HISTORIC NORTHERN AFC

Looking for a welcoming football club for your child, or keen to get back into the game yourself? Together, Northern Juniors and Northern Association Football Club (AFC) offer community football opportunities for players of all ages in the north end of Dunedin. Founded in 1888, Northern AFC is recognised as the oldest continuously operating football club in the Southern Hemisphere, and remains a proud part of Dunedin's sporting culture.

Northern's earliest matches were played in Brown's Paddock in North East Valley, likely near today's Dunedin North Intermediate and the Botanic Garden. It was a simple grazed field, where players cleared space among the grass and stock to mark out a pitch and kick a ball. Many of Northern's earliest players were likely Scottish or English migrants, bringing the game with them at a time when football competed with rugby for popularity in Dunedin.

From those simple beginnings, and early matches against Southern AFC, the club helped establish organised football competition in Otago. More than 135 years later, Northern is still going strong and continuing to provide opportunities to play. Our Junior club welcomes children and youth aged 5-17 of all abilities. As players get older there are opportunities to join U15 and U17 development teams for boys who want to train more and play at a higher level. We also offer girls-only teams at 9/10th, 11/12th, and 13/14th grades.

Northern's main grounds are Chingford Park and The Gardens, with matches also played at Forrester Park and Logan Park Turf. Junior games are usually on Saturday mornings, with training typically held Tuesday or Thursday evenings, depending on the team.

The club is proud of its strong football culture at all levels. This season marks an exciting milestone, with Northern's men's senior team qualifying for the South Island League for the first time!

Come and be part of the next chapter in Northern's remarkable story! Registration is through the club website njafc.org.nz, or feel free to call Tony Galloway on 027 693 1747.



GOT BAGS?

THE VALLEY PROJECT WILL TAKE THEM OFF YOUR HANDS

We need 38 paper bags each week for our Kai Share programme. Consider donating your spare to us! Drop at reception Monday through Thursday 9am - 2pm.

I-DRIVE DUNEDIN IS BACK!

ARE YOU A DISABLED PERSON LIVING IN DUNEDIN WHO WANTS TO GET YOUR LEARNER'S LICENSE?

9th of April at Your Way | Kia Roha:
Ground Floor, Burns House, 10 George Street, Central Dunedin

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL.
NO WALK-INS ALLOWED.

INTERESTED? Register now at:
<https://www.ilead.org.nz/i-drive-2025-registration-form/>

FREE ACCOUNTING ADVICE FOR NONPROFITS

Dunedin Community Accounting can provide answers and the practical help you need. You will meet with senior accounting students supervised by Chartered Accountants.

First time being a treasurer?

- Preparing funding applications
- Reporting
- End of year accounts

- Budgeting
- Record keeping
- Accountability reports
- Ask us anything!

Need help tracking your money?

SESSIONS AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY 9 MARCH 2026 SIGN UP NOW!

www.dca.org.nz/book

0800-113-160 kiaora@dca.org.nz dca.org.nz

D J AUTO THINK TANK

Q: What are the most rewarding and the most annoying things about being a mechanic?

A: I've had my fair share of ups and downs as a vehicle repairer. Some days I wonder why I do this job at all. Balancing customer expectations with repair realities — in an era where many things are designed to be replaced rather than fixed — can be a challenge.

My journey began as a petroleum transfer technician (I pumped gas and sold drinks at a service station — I'm just trying to jazz it up a bit, bear with me!). One day the adjoining garage needed an apprentice mechanic after theirs quit unexpectedly. Seeing no upward — or even sideways — moves in my job, I put my hand up.

After agreeing to work the first few weeks for free, my mechanical journey began.

It was a small country garage run by two older mechanics, and I didn't just fix cars — I fixed everything. From lawnmowers to Lamborghinis, we would repair anything that came through the door. That experience taught me something important: if you take your time and think about how something is supposed to work, you have a good chance of fixing it.

Eventually I found myself managing the workshop I now operate — learning customer service, managing staff, and trying to keep the bills paid. One thing led to another, and I ended up taking the leap and buying the business myself. The challenges have been profound and rewarding (and somehow they've even included becoming a writer!).

The most rewarding parts of the job include the moment you finally figure out the problem. It never gets old — especially when others have struggled to find the answer. Seeing apprentices have that same "lightbulb moment" is another highlight, as is helping people who are genuinely stuck. And good reviews are always rewarding — especially when they're aimed at my staff.

The less glamorous parts include the public perception of mechanics. Often we meet customers on what might be their worst day of the year. There are also scraped knuckles (which still hurt), trying to reunite people with their cars on time when the car has other ideas, and negotiating parts prices to keep repairs affordable. And then there are certain vehicle manufacturers... you know who you are.

Writing this article has reminded me why I do this. I was made to fix things. I was made to solve problems. And I was made to make people happy.

That's more than enough for me. -- *Thomas Laue*

Email or text us with any questions and we will do our best to provide answers via this publication: dud.dj.automotive@gmail.com or 021 331 528. -- *The DJ Auto Family*

NZ's PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CENTRES

D J AUTOMOTIVE

134 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY, DUNEDIN

Holiday Closures: 30 Mar-7 Apr, 1-8 June, 26 Oct-1 Nov, 24 Dec-10 Jan



Property Market Update - Goodbye Summer...Hello Autumn...

If you've been wondering how our local property market is tracking, the latest Trade Me data for our northern suburbs makes for interesting reading.

In January 2026, there were 87,000 searches for properties in Ōpoho, NEV, Gardens, Normanby, Pine Hill and Mount Cargill. That's a remarkable 72% increase on the same time last year. It seems that increasing numbers of people want to live in our wonderful Valley community. My own experience selling homes in our area certainly reflects this strong demand.

At the same time, only 10 new listings came to market in January - just 11% more than last year. We have a situation where buyer demand is surging, but the supply of available homes is modest. That's good news if you're considering selling.

The median time to sell has dropped 10% compared to last year, down to 65 days. The most in-demand properties are three-bedroom homes with two bathrooms, with the busiest price range sitting between \$600,000 and \$800,000.

This combination—high search activity, limited listings, and faster sales—points to a market that genuinely favours well-prepared vendors heading into autumn.

Property Ownership Structures: What Sellers Need to Know (Part 2)

Last issue, I covered Sole Ownership, Tenants in Common, and Joint Tenancy - and how title surprises can derail even a straightforward sale. This month, let's consider Company and Trust ownership, plus an important distinction that affects a surprising number of Dunedin homes: Cross Lease vs Freehold title.

Company Ownership

Some properties are owned by a company rather than by individuals. While this can offer advantages around tax and liability, selling can involve extra steps: company resolutions, director approvals, and possibly shareholder agreements. If this applies to you, start early. There's often more paperwork than a standard residential sale.

Trust Ownership

Property held in a family trust is very common, particularly among established homeowners and those who have owned their property for many years. Many people set trusts up for asset protection or estate planning. This was a smart move at the time but it can complicate a sale in ways people simply don't anticipate.

Here's a recent real-world example. A family wanted to sell the family home, which had been held in a trust for many years. The trustees—originally Mum, Dad, and their adult children—were now scattered. One had emigrated and was living in rural India with limited reliable communication. Another trustee had sadly

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.

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

passed away, but the trust deed had never been updated to reflect this. And one remaining trustee, while legally required to agree to the sale, had a deep emotional attachment to the family home and simply wasn't ready to let it go. The result? Things stalled. Months passed. Getting signatures, legal confirmations, and unanimous agreement across multiple trustees in different circumstances—and different countries—is far harder than most people imagine.

If your property is in a trust, check that your trust deed is current, that all trustees are contactable and legally able to act, and obtain legal advice before you decide to sell. Don't leave it until you're ready to list! By then, the clock is already ticking.

Cross Lease vs Freehold Title

Many Dunedin properties, particularly older homes that were subdivided, sit on Cross Lease titles. This differs from Freehold, and the distinction matters when selling.

With a Cross Lease, you own your building but lease the land collectively with the other owners. You share common areas and typically need their consent for significant changes. When selling, your lawyer must confirm the Cross Lease documents are fully up to date. Any unauthorised alterations can cause real problems at settlement.

Freehold is simpler; you own the land and buildings outright. Buyers generally prefer it, banks find it easier to finance, and sales tend to be smoother and faster.

A Bottom Line

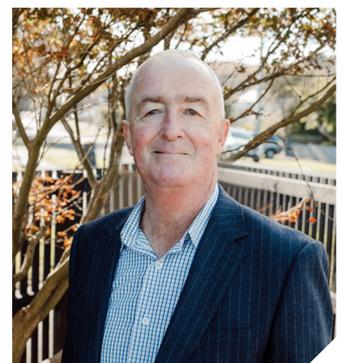
Ownership structure issues discovered late can delay settlement, cost money, and sometimes cause sales to stall and/or collapse. The solution? Check your title early, well before you're ready to list.

I'm happy to cast an experienced eye over your title at no cost and no obligation. If everything looks straightforward, that's great - you'll have peace of mind. If I spot any potential red flags, then the sensible next step is a conversation with your lawyer, well before the marketing begins. It's a much easier and less stressful fix at that stage than when you're already committed to a sale.

Find Out Your Property's Value...for Free!

I offer free, no-obligation property reviews, including checking your title for potential issues. Whether you're selling soon or simply thinking ahead, let's make sure everything is in order before the marketing starts.

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.



NZ PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

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art, craft & music

ART CLASSES

For all levels. Casual attendance welcome, tutor Rose Shepard, community rooms, 10am–noon, Thur. ☎ 027 406 4154 or ✉ email: roseshepard.artclasses@gmail.com

ART CLASSES

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

ART PASTEL GROUP

All levels welcome. We meet every second Tuesday of the month, 12.15–3.15pm, Valley Project. More info: txt ☎ Anneloes 027 3077 034 or ☎ Marijke 021 101 4333

CALLING LOCAL CRAFTERS

The Valley Project is developing a community gift shop in reception to showcase incredible creativity of local artists. Be part of this growing space! Pop into 262 North Road, Mon–Thu 9am–2pm.

CELLO LESSONS

All welcome. What works for you is best! Some instrument hire options available. NEV based. 4 years cello teaching experience & a performance degree. Also open to performance opportunities. ☎ Ellen 027 430 7739 ✉ ellen.walters@gmail.com

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 including 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 FIDDLE CLUB

Mostly Celtic tunes, mostly fiddles. New players always welcome! Wednesdays 7.30pm at The Valley Project community 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 after school term art classes for 7–15 year-olds. Focused on enriching creativity & exploring who you are as an artist. Book now! Kiri Scott Artist: ☎ @thinkitart ☎ 021 118 9882 ✉ @thinkitartfeuerstein.art ✉ Thinkit.fie@yahoo.com

KNIT/CROCHET LESSONS

Beginner to intermediate levels. One-on-one or small groups, 8yrs and above. First 30min free! Tutor Aurora, at a public place or at your home. Flexible time and day. Rates TBA. ☎ 020 4031 4040 ✉ aurlyn.knits@gmail.com

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Tuesdays at the Inch Bar from 7pm. Stand-up comedy open mic, Wednesdays from 7pm (\$5 entry). 8 Bank Street. ☎ Inch-Bar

PAD-MAKING WORKING BEE

Interested in plastic-free period products? Like to sew? Learn to make sustainable period products for you and whānau. Contact ✉ christine@sewonderperiodcare.org

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

UKULELE SESSIONS

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

UNLOCK MUSICAL TALENT

Whether child or adult, it's never too late to learn an instrument! Personalised music lessons by pro musician teaching 10yrs+: guitar, drums, vocals, & ukulele for students 7yrs+. \$30/30min or \$45/1hr. Bevan ☎ 027 363 1376

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 Workshop, 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.

BURNS RESERVE WORKING BEES

Volunteers needed for weed removal around Gerry's rock. Meet at bend on Signal Hill Rd just past stone-walled farm buildings. Saturdays, 4 April 9am–12.30pm, 25 April 9.30am–1pm, 16 May 9.30am–1pm. ☎ 027 305 9546 ✉ burnsreserve@gmail.com ☎ burnsreserve.nz

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Free, confidential, independent info & advice. Know your rights, how to take action, how to 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

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 Currently looking for volunteers to take over the management of the garden ASAP!

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? Now accepting women's membership! 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

LEGAL ADVICE

Free legal advice at Community Law Otago, available by appt. Qualified lawyers. Practical solutions. ✉ reception@dcl.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. ✉ johndandmaryjanecampbell@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.

OP-SHOP VOLUNTEERS

To work at Cat Rescue Op Shop. Clean police record required. Ideally people person with till and Eftpos experience. Full training. 3-hr shift p/week. 10am–1pm, or 1–4pm, Mon–Sat. Apply via ✉ raewynalexander@gmail.com or come into shop Friday 10am–1pm

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

ADULT YOGA CLASSES

Fiona Johannessen, experienced yoga teacher of all ages & levels Monday 7.30–8.30pm (school term). Ōpoho School. \$10 casual rate. All levels welcome.

✉ Fiona: sweetfee77@gmail.com

BALFOLK DANCE

BALFOLK & CONTREDANSES

English Country dance and Balfolk group dances
Tues. 10.30am–12noon

BALFOLK

Balfolk partner & group dances
Wed. 6–8pm

Both classes at St Thomas Hall, corner Pine Hill Rd. & Raleigh St. Block of 5 consecutive classes are \$40. Casual attendance \$10

EVENTS

Sat. 2 May: Pastel Ball at Sargood Centre for International Dance Day. Tix thru Eventfinda. Prep workshop Sat 25 April.

Minibals, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, 2pm last Sunday each month, 2–3.30pm. FREE!

Next minibals, April 26 & May 31

✉ 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

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. Local student offering low-cost sessions in the Valley to gain practical experience. To book: ✉ summeroak@proton.me

CROP SWAP NEV

FREE! Last Sunday of every month at Valley Project, 262 North Road. Swapping begins 3pm sharp. Trade garden produce, preserves, baking, flowers, seedlings, bulbs, cook books, jars, garden supplies, etc.

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. \$14, \$7 or \$4 prepaid weekly bags for pick-up. Sign up online: 🌐 allsaintsdn.org.nz/all-saints-fruit-and-vegес/ Want to volunteer? Email: ✉ admin@allsaintsdn.org.nz

MESSAGE 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 & 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

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

WEIGHTLOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Mondays 5.15–6.15pm in the Valley. Learn nutrition, healthy strategies, emotional regulation techniques. Karyn Chalk has qualifications in nutrition and brain health. ✉ karyn@changingways.co.nz

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

Moved to St Thomas' Hall in Pine Hill, corner of 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 Wednesdays and 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 in 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 Rd.

ISLINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

Small, not-for-profit centre providing care & creative play for up to x20 2–5year olds. Well-resourced play space, nature playground & family community. Mon–Fri 8.30am–2.30pm, including school holidays. Visits welcome. 🌐 islington.org.nz 📞 03 473 7490 ✉ islington.ecc@gmail.com

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

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. 📞 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

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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

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

DAVE'S COMPUTER SERVICE

Troubleshooting and tuition. FREE optimisation software. Lowest charges in the Valley. Phone Dave: ☎ 022 635 9414

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/external, 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

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

GOLD & SILVER

Buying gold and silver. Unwanted or broken jewellery, chains and watches, coins and bars, etc. Local buyer, fair prices. ☎ Alexander 027 367 8863

GRAZING NEEDED

Gentle, kind gelding needing grazing close to North Road, NEV. Call Meg ☎ 027 482 1012

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@lawnelite.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 sidcar. Also motorcycle books, pictures or photos, etc. from those years. Please phone ☎ 027 213 2474

PAVER/GARDENER

New paving. Relift & fix of old paving. Walkways, patios, and driveways. Gardening and lawnmowing services. Free quote! 🌐 shecan.co.nz ☎ 027 363 0058 ✉ eve@shecan.co.nz

SCRAP METAL COLLECTION

Seeking your scrap metal you have rusting away or cluttering up the shed, etc. Can do small to medium size loads. ☎ JT: 027 206 1725

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

STOLEN ORNAMENT

Elephant garden ornament with solar-powered eyes was taken from my garden in December. I bought this elephant in memory of my mother. If anyone has any information please phone me (Patti) on ☎ 027 413 6379, or just return it to my garden.

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. \$10. ☎ Pat 473 0159 (PM)

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

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?



Add or update listings:
voice@northeastvalley.org

\$2 per listing per issue

Project bank account:
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Reference: **VVDonation**



DINING ROOM HIRE
Daytime: \$25 per hour
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LOUNGE AND BAR HIRE
Let us know what your event looks like and we'll let you know a price.

COMMUNITY MARKET
Sunday 22 April, 11 - 2pm
Stall-holders wanted!

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BOWLSNEV.CO.NZ
03 473 9704

ALFIE AND ELFIE (1956)

Alfie found an elfie.
Said Alfie, "Who are you?"
"I'm an elfie," said the elfie,
Laughed Alfie "I'm one too!
"Pleased to meet you Alfie,
Do come and dine with me!"
"Thank you kindly elfie
For asking me to tea."

Alfie went with elfie
Towards the treehouse door,
They stepped into the darkness
And tumbled on the floor.

Said elfie "Take your coat off and
help me set the tea,"
I'll fetch the game of checkers
And the happy family."

All at once there came a bang
Upon the treehouse door,
And in came fat old Tommy Toad
With his wife and children four.

In came homely elfie's wife,
A plump old soul was she.
She waddled in with a tray
Of goodie-goods for tea.

Percy, Paul and Porky
Simply yelled for glee,
But Podgy stood and rubbed his tum
and said "That's all for me."

-- *Marian Mackay,*
Resident of Ross Home

*Marian first began writing poetry
at primary school in Dunedin.
This poem is from her collection
spanning over 70 years.*



FRIENDS OF THE BURNS RESERVE

The Burns Reserve is an area of around 87 hectares stretching from Signal Hill | Te Pahure o te Rangipohika across to St Leonards. This bush-clad hillside reserve contains remnants of coastal podocarp forest and is an important bird corridor aiding the return of the South Island robin | taruwai to the city. There is also a wonderful native orchid grove in the reserve.

From the summit of Gerry's Rock in the reserve you get a magnificent view from the city all the way out to Pukekura at Taiaroa Head. While this scenic reserve was established for the enjoyment of local people, it is almost unknown to the public!

The Friends of the Burns Reserve is a charity that was established a couple of years back to look after the reserve and to promote access to it. We hold regular work parties on Saturday mornings to go in and clear noxious weeds from Gerry's Rock. We welcome new volunteers.

The work parties meet at the bend on Signal Hill Road just past the stone-walled farm buildings on the right. From there we carpool up to Bryan's Stile. The walk into Gerry's Rock takes up to 30 minutes. The group is back at their cars by the advertised finish time. Please note that the reserve around Gerry's Rock is steep and you will need a good level of fitness for this work.

People can contribute to work parties at whatever level they are happy with, and work at their own pace. Next work party dates:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Saturday 4 April | 9am to 12.30pm (daylight saving Sunday 5 April) |
| Saturday 25 April | 9.30am to 1pm |
| Saturday 16 May | 9.30am to 1pm |

More info is on the "How to Help" page on our website www.burnsreserve.nz or contact the Gerry's Group coordinator Spen Walker on **027 305 9546**.

The Friends of the Burns Reserve runs a regular newsletter, please email burnsreserve@gmail.com to get on the list or via our contact page on the website. We can always use other help in the Trust, and financial contributions are also welcome for general running costs.



A FAMILY APPROACH TO LAWNS

Based in Dalmore, Dunedin, two families turned a common problem into a shared dream. Michael and Kyle, local fathers, had watched lawns in their backyards struggle—not for lack of care, but because life

got in the way. What began as personal projects grew into a business that helps lawns recover while reflecting the values they hold dear: family, patience, and pride in a job well done.

Lawns Elite is the result. Established by local families, it's a lawn renovation company with a simple philosophy: most lawns don't need replacing, they need understanding. Michael and Kyle bring years of experience across Dunedin, from small residential lawns to larger properties, guiding a careful approach that restores struggling lawns to health.

The process is never rushed. Each lawn is assessed, reduced gradually when necessary and nurtured back to life over time. There's a rhythm to the work, a quiet satisfaction in seeing

green return, bare patches fill in and grass grow stronger rather than thinner. For Kyle and Michael, it's the small, steady transformations that make the long hours worthwhile.

Community is central to their approach. Lawns Elite works with homeowners and renters alike, and proudly accepts Work and Income (WINZ) quotes, keeping lawn care accessible.

For the team behind Lawns Elite, the work is about more than grass. It's about reliability, care and giving outdoor spaces the attention they deserve. Every lawn has a story and with patience and persistence, each one can be brought back to life.

It's work done quietly, carefully and with respect for the place people call home.

022 690 568 | dunedin@lawnselite.co.nz

NORTHERN AFC WOMEN'S TEAM
PRE - SEASON
 TRAINING IS BACK! - WEDNESDAYS 6PM AT PROSPECT PARK



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 Supportive and inclusive club team culture




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Interested in playing Football this season?
 Check out Northern Junior AFC
 All-Girls and Mixed teams
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 All Welcome!
 njafc.org.nz





inchBar 8 BANK STREET BOTANIC GARDEN CORNER
 @ INCH BAR

WEEKLY EVENTS
 Open Mic - Tuesdays from 7pm
 Wednesday Weekly - Stand-up comedy, from 7pm (\$5)
 Big Jazz Apple - Sundays from 4:30pm-ish
 Celtic Jam Session - First Sunday of every month
 CLOSED: Good Friday & Easter Sunday
 Apr 4 - Otepoti Hip Hop Show, 8pm (koha)
 Apr 10 - Flammable Friday: Keira Scene + Emmanuelle Douche + Tessa Motion + musical guest Mads Harrop, 8pm (koha)
 Apr 17 - Soft Boi Noise + Drone Shambles
 Apr 18 - Comedy, Drag, Music & More, 8pm (koha)
 Apr 20 - Dibs + Te Kahui, 7:30pm (koha)
 Apr 24 - Bunchy's Big Score (acoustic), 7:30pm (koha)
 May - NZ Music Month: Special events including NZ music-themed drag, genre nights, quizzes and more.
 Follow our socials for details.

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NW Gardens



Join the Valley Rōpū Reo

WEEKLY TE REO MĀORI STUDY GROUP

Everyone welcome. FREE!
 Wednesdays 5.15 - 6pm
 Starting 18 February

Fred Hollows Room
 Valley Project, 262 North Rd
 Tel (03) 473 8614



THANKS to Valley Project FUNDERS











