

## 'Paltry sum' upsets pensioner



Jenny Findlater stands in front of the massive slip which still threatens her home. Photo: Julie Howard

A NORTH East Valley pensioner whose home is threatened by a massive slip is worried about having to face a massive clean-up bill. Jenny Findlater (76) believes the settlement offered by the Earthquake Commission (EQC) will not come close to covering the clean-up and repairs.

Her property was badly affected during the July floods when earth, rocks and trees slid down her hillside section to one side of her house. She was evacuated for weeks from her Montague St home, where debris still blocks her front entrance.

Mrs Findlater says correspondence arrived in October from EQC who "offered a paltry sum of \$35,000" for repairs and the clean-up. "Can you imagine it. It would hardly build a retaining wall here, let alone clean up the mess."

A chap who came up with his chainsaw suggested 35 truckloads would need to go out of here, she says.

Her home was insured, but her insurer, Tower, advised her it was an EQC claim.

EQC told her they would send her the engineers' reports after settlement, she said. "Well it reeks

that they have got something to hide, doesn't it?"

A spokesman from EQC says the commission's approach is to cash settle claims and not undertake a managed repair which has been explained to Mrs Findlater. "Our staff have been in contact with Mrs Findlater and her family on several occasions to discuss her claim and settlement, which is the maximum entitlement under the EQC Act." EQC has provided Mrs Findlater with the engineering report for her property, the spokesman says. EQC typically sends customers the valuation report and scope of works when their settlement payment has been made or if the information is requested.

Mrs Findlater still manages to laugh as she says she just has to "keep going", but she is still on edge knowing it could take months for her situation to be rectified.

"It makes you really think twice about having insurance. When it first happened everybody said 'well this is what you have insurance for' and I thought 'great', but if this is the way you are treated why have insurance."—Julie Howard, Valley Voice reporter

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**YOU CAN'T** get much more local than supporting your own community when buying Christmas presents this year. The Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary (Open VUE) project has bird feeders and tracking tunnels for sale in the Valley Project office.

Gift the Valley Card to local family and friends. At just \$20, it gives the card-holder lots of awesome specials and discounts with local businesses and services.

Bird feeder for sugar water, \$20; feeding cage for fat and seeds, \$20; feeder, cage and waratah, \$50; tracker tunnel to find out what predators are in your garden, \$20. All proceeds go to Open VUE. *Pictured: Valley Project receptionist Rorie White with a garden bird-feeding station.*



## Join the social enterprise revolution

**WE HAVE** been getting some great ideas for social enterprise within the valley with the aim of generating an ongoing source of funds for our community activities and events. For these to happen we need help. If any of these ideas interest you, contact the lead person to see how you can support the project.

The **Valley Card** has been launched and now we need to promote it, get more businesses and services to take part, and encourage people who live and work in the valley to purchase one. Contact Rob Thomson: robthomson@northeastvalley.org

The **Stitch Kitchen** will be a hub to share skills and inspiration to transform the everyday things we wear and use into treasures that delight and inspire us. Contact Fiona Jenkin: justatelier@gmail.com.

Jenny is looking for marketing and distribution assistance for a **Valley Poetry souvenir booklet** featuring neighbourhood points of interest with photography and poetry. Contact Jenny Longstaff: j.a.longstaff@gmail.com or 021 132 6053.

Noelle would love to see a **Valley Bakery** that not only sells affordable locally baked bread, pastries, pies and muffins but provides employment and training for younger members of the community. Contact Noelle Tangonan: noelletangonan2009@yahoo.com.

Be part of the **Quarry Project** ideas team, which

wants to buy the quarry on North Rd and turn it into something for our community. Contact Belinda Cridge: belindacridge@outlook.com

The **Tinkering Artisan** sees the Tinker School and Grid Coffee teaming up to offer barista training for young people over the age of 16 alongside a repair café to engage people who love to fix, mend and repair things. Contact Andrew Bowen: andrew.kidzink@gmail.com or 021 982 216.

**Imagine a Labyrinth** is a project that would add to the valley's vibrancy by providing a community asset as well as an artistic and practical tourist attraction. Contact Scott Muir: scottmuir@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page 'A Labyrinth for North East Valley'.

Meg has a fledgling idea to **Care for Carers** by providing support for relatives and friends of the residents of Ross Home and the Otago Community Hospice. Contact Meg Davidson: megdavidson@actrix.co.nz

Calvin floated the idea of a **Gondola Service** from Bethunes Gully up to the top of Mt Cargill where there could be a lookout and restaurant. Contact Calvin Oaten: calvino10@xtra.co.nz.

Locally produced **souvenirs** could cater to the huge numbers of tourists who visit Baldwin St. Contact Rob Thomson: robthomson@northeastvalley.org.

—Rob Thomson, Valley Project board member

**Valley Project office hours:** Tuesday–Friday, 9am–4pm, closed Mondays and school holidays



The Valley Project is a registered charitable organisation  
If you like what we do you can donate at [www.givealittle.co.nz/northeastvalley](http://www.givealittle.co.nz/northeastvalley)

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Opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors and not necessarily shared by the editor, or any member of the Valley Project team. Submitted articles may be edited at editor's discretion.

# Can & gift donations for Kai Share

THIS CHRISTMAS the community is being asked to support recipients of the North East Valley Kai Share food-box service through its annual can drive or its new gift: donations for children.

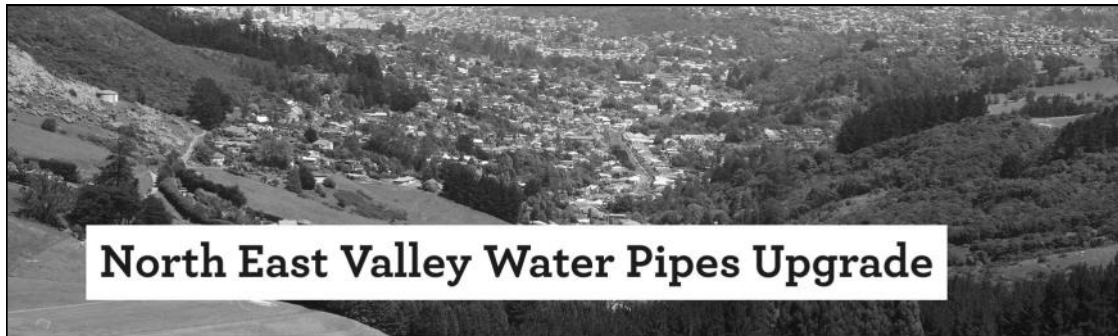
Kai Share co-ordinator Tamsin Greer says as they get to the end of the year they are aware some families might go without food when their food supplier Kiwi Harvest closes down for three weeks in December and January. "So, similar to last year, we decided we would do a can-drive again."

Kai Share has helped over 80 families already this year. Each week as long as they have enough

vegetables and fruit going out to families, Kai Share tries to build up a supply of canned food. "We just retain the cans so we can build up a wee supply to give to families to help over those three weeks of nothing," says Tamsin.

Donations of canned goods, long-life foods such as cereals, baking ingredients and even toiletries, or a new or used gift in excellent condition suitable for children aged between 3 and 15 years can be dropped off to the Valley Project community rooms on North Rd until 4pm on 8 December, she said. —Julie Howard, Valley Voice reporter

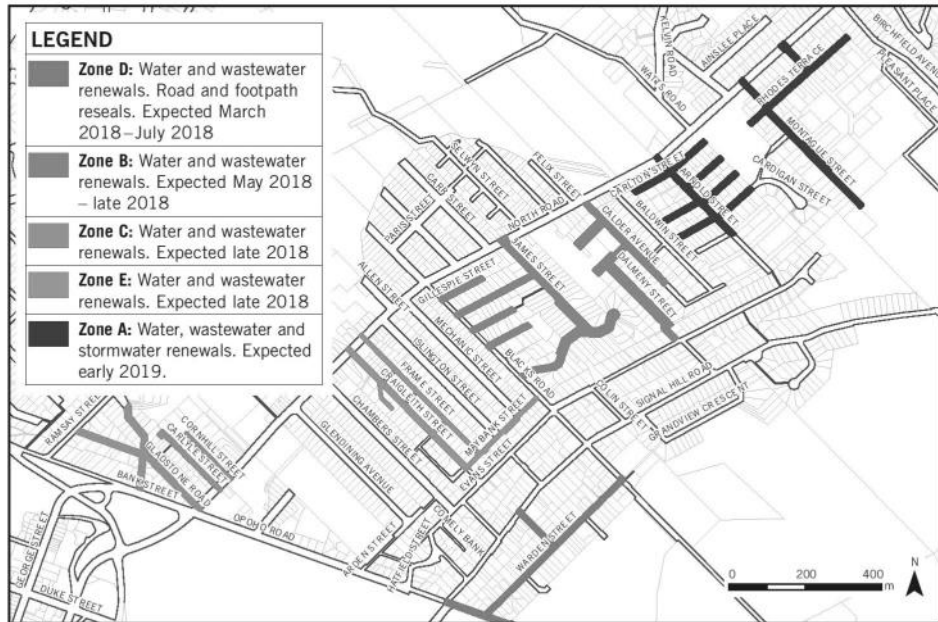
\*Kai Share is closed from 18 December and



## North East Valley Water Pipes Upgrade

The Dunedin City Council is renewing water, wastewater and stormwater pipes throughout North East Valley and Opoho. The work will improve flows for firefighting and water pressure. The network will have fewer burst pipes, unplanned shutdowns and overflows.

Five zones are included in the first phase of this renewals programme. Construction is expected to begin on the first zone in February 2018, with the final zone expected to be completed in early 2020. The zones and expected timing are shown on the map below.



We will hold a **DROP-IN SESSION** for residents to find out more and ask questions about the work.

**WHERE:** Valley Project - Fred Hollows Room, 248 North Road

**WHEN:** Tuesday 12 December | 2.30pm – 6.15pm

The DCC and contractors will work to keep you informed of upcoming work and minimise disruptions in your neighbourhood.

For more information, visit [www.dunedin.govt.nz/nevrenewals](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/nevrenewals)

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# Childhood connection to plants

WATERING THE plants and eating fresh raspberries off raspberry bushes are fond childhood memories which have inspired a North East Valley woman to open 'Residence', a small destination indoor-plant shop on Blacks Rd.

Sara Jackson-Falconer has a creative background and is a mother to two young children. Sara says she restored an old, unused garage offered by Christopher Wilson of Blacks Road Green Grocer to use as her space to sell indoor plants, palms, ceramics and vegetable seedlings.

"My parents are avid gardeners. We grew up with a big vegetable garden and indoor plants."

The regular theme as a child at home from her parents was "you clean the silver, you water the plants, you do the dishes and you water the plants". Plants are "good for the air, good for the mind, good for your health". —Julie Howard, Valley Voice reporter



Sara Jackson-Falconer stands outside her new shop "Residence" on Blacks Road. Photo: Julie Howard

## Some disruption as pipes replaced

ALMOST 13KM of old and poorly performing water, wastewater and stormwater pipes in North East Valley and Opoho will be replaced in a two-year project due to start next year.

Construction is likely to begin in February 2018 and run until early 2020.

The Dunedin City Council's capital delivery team leader, Dominika Biziak-Kochan, says the work will improve the area's water so it has better fire flows. It will also reduce the wastewater overflows that can occur during heavy rain.

"The main aim of the work is to improve flows for firefighting, but residents will also benefit from fewer burst pipes and unplanned shut-downs."

North East Valley has been identified as one of three areas in the city where stormwater and groundwater enter the wastewater network particularly in heavy rain. Wastewater can also get into the surrounding soils.

"When we replace the wastewater pipes, we should see fewer of the overflows that cause manholes to pop up in heavy rain. The overflows to Lindsay Creek in heavy rain should also reduce, but the problem won't be completely solved at this stage," says Mrs Biziak-Kochan.

The DCC will work with the contractor to minimise disruption to residents. "Traffic manage-



Manholes on James St pop up as water overflows from the stormwater pipes during flooding this July.

ment will be used for streets where work is being done. Some water shutdowns will also be needed at times," she says.

The DCC will hold a public drop-in session at the Valley Project community rooms on Tuesday 12 December from 2.30pm to 6.15pm to provide information about the project and address any concerns.

More information about the project is available at [www.dunedin.govt.nz/nevrenovels](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/nevrenovels).

# Open VUE Hui celebrates school pupils' research

THE OPEN Valley Urban Ecosanctuary (Open VUE) project was launched at a hui last month. The aim of Open VUE is to enhance the valley's natural environment.

Pupils from Pine Hill School, Dunedin North Intermediate, Opoho School and North East Valley Normal School presented their research findings on birds in the valley.

The pupils' power-point slides, research posters and artwork demonstrated the distribution of birds in their gardens, that feeding options that attracted different species of birds, and predators caught on camera. This project was funded by Curious Minds.

Open VUE will be running a series of workshops in 2018 that will build on the pupils' research in the areas of biodiversity enhancement, eco-sourcing and propagating native seeds, and safe predator control options.—Robyn Zink



Members of the community enjoy a presentation from school pupils about their research into predators and birds in the North East Valley area.

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Melissa Ward and I am the new principal at Pine Hill School in Dunedin. I have been in education for 13 years and have moved from a previous principal position in South Otago.

I am loving my new role. Pine Hill is a wonderful school with fabulous pupils and staff.

We have a very supportive Board of Trustees and the school is well supported by its own school community of parents and caregivers as well as the wider community.

I have a real passion for education and I am excited and privileged to be the principal of such a fantastic school.—Melissa Ward, Pine Hill School principal



*Pine Hill School principal Melissa Ward settling into her new office.*

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## School donates to local NEV services

A local school's Christmas can drive has a new recipient.

The North East Valley Normal School Parent Teacher Association's can drive is to support the Valley Project's Kai Share food-box service alongside its original recipient, the Otago Community Hospice.

The PTA ran a sausage sizzle for school pupils during the last week of school where pupils were encouraged to bring a can of food in exchange for a sausage.

North East Valley Normal School PTA treasurer Tamsin Greer said if people in the community wanted to support the school PTA's can drive and give a little something for the hospice, they are welcome too.

Tamsin's work in the community extends to also being the Kai Share coordinator. "It's cool to see the school's PTA doing that [free sausage sizzle] and then supporting the Kai Share initiative and the local hospice. That's nice."

*\*Donations can be left at North East Valley Normal school  
—Julie Howard, Valley Voice volunteer reporter*

## Give a gift of toys this Xmas

THINKING OF a fun and sustainable gift for kids this Christmas? The Dunedin City Toy Library now has gift vouchers.

New membership options have recently been introduced, including a temporary membership of \$10 for three months – great for visitors! Standard membership options start at \$25 per year and all options can be viewed on our website: [dctl.mibase.com.au](http://dctl.mibase.com.au). Purchase vouchers by dropping in to see us on Wednesdays or Saturdays, 10–11am, at 9 Northumberland St or email [dunedincitytoylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:dunedincitytoylibrary@gmail.com).

We've made some positive changes this year thanks to a successful year of fundraising and a generous grant from the Department of Internal Affairs. We have a revamped website, an online toy catalogue and some fantastic new toys.

A huge thank you to all our members who helped out at sausage sizzles and other activities. We raised over \$1000 for the toy library and we couldn't have done it without you! The latest purchases can be viewed on our website and Facebook page and include a great wooden play kitchen, Magformers robots and sand and water toys.

We welcome new members – it is a great way to get to know other families. Join online or pop in to see us!  
—Meagan Stephenson



*Lois Vendeol (2) enjoys playing with toys at the Dunedin City Toy Library.*

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# Pensioner worried about her home

A NORTH East Valley pensioner is worried about her home and believes the Earthquake Commission (EQC) has not investigated land movement at her property since the floods in July.

Anna Milliken (65), who lives on Montague St, says she has been fighting for months to get an accurate report from EQC on her nearly 1ha hilly property, where a massive slip still remains untouched since the July floods and September rains.

Anna says she called EQC last month to advise them that posts in a retaining wall by her house had pulled away from their original position and that the area was damp and wet, which suggested an underground waterway.

"I am worried about the house. I am worried they have not investigated land movement. They need to be measuring to see if it's moving."

A new report from EQC in October acknowledged there were five different slips and that future loss or damage to the land and buildings was certain or very likely if no remedial work was undertaken in the next year.

However, some things in the new report did not appear to be specific and she was unhappy with the language used, Ms Milliken says. For example, she felt EQC was not acknowledging her retaining wall, which they referred to as "some railway irons" in their report.

A settlement of \$21,000 was offered to fix one of the landslips but this "might just cover the cost of designing the support structure and Dunedin City Council consent, but will do little to cover the costs of remedial work", she says.

In October the *Otago Daily Times* reported Anna had been told the total clean-up bill could reach \$200,000.

In the meantime, the main house on the property is still under a dangerous-building notice issued by the Dunedin City Council.



*Pensioner Anna Milliken stands in front of the massive slip which still remains untouched in Montague St. Photo: Julie Howard*

An EQC spokesman says the commission appreciates the impact the storm had on Ms Milliken and are sympathetic to her situation. "We are doing everything we can to settle Ms Milliken's claim and are assisting her through the process."

Ms Milliken is still in discussions with EQC about her settlement. For landslip damage houses are generally insured by EQC up to a maximum of \$100,000 +GST and are covered on a replacement value basis. Cover is limited to land under, and within 8m of, homes and outbuildings and land under or supporting main access ways. There is some cover for bridges, culverts and retaining walls that are necessary to support or protect the home, outbuildings or insured land.—Julie Howard, Valley Voice reporter

## News from the Valley Workspace

DO YOU need to do some work on your car to get it ready for a WoF or to keep it running efficiently?

The Valley Community Workspace has a hoist and space to do basic car repairs and maintenance. Talk to Ian about using the hoist on [ian@dspace.org.nz](mailto:ian@dspace.org.nz) or 022 649 8123.

Coming up to Christmas and the holiday season the last day for the bike workshop this year will be Saturday 23 December and will reopen on Saturday 6 January.

Normal hours for the bike workshop are Tuesdays 3.30pm to 6pm and Saturdays 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Please do not leave donated bikes outside Allen St. Contact Peter on 027 379 4388 if you have a bike to donate.

## Give the Lindsay some more love

A SMALL Love the Lindsay group has been meeting to look at ways to protect and promote our lovely Lindsay Creek. Projects and ideas the group have been working on include stormwater education, clean-up days, and an app and brochure for the Lindsay Creek discovery walk.

If you would like to be involved in this wonderful-and-worthy team, please **do** get in touch with Anna Parker at the Valley Project via [anna@northeastvalley.org](mailto:anna@northeastvalley.org) or message through the Valley Project Facebook page to register your interest.

—Kaitrin McMullan

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WITH SUMMER

almost here, and the kiddies wanting to splash around in the creek, I thought that as a special end-year-challenge I would attempt to demystify recreational water quality (the quality of the water you play in, not that you drink – at least not on purpose). As usual, this ended up being more difficult than expected.

The bacteria *Escherichia coli*, or *E. coli* as it is more commonly known, is one measure of water quality, and Otago Regional Council (ORC) measures the amount of the *E. coli* in Lindsay Creek once a month. *E. coli* is a mostly harmless group of bacteria that live quite happily in intestines (ours and other animals') most of the time without causing any trouble. If there are high levels of *E. coli* in the water it is not the *E. coli* itself that we need to worry so much about but rather what it indicates: poo. And there are other bugs in poo that *can* make us sick, like parasites such as giardia and cryptosporidium, or bacteria like campylobacter and salmonella. The reason levels of these other bugs aren't measured is simply that it is much more difficult, and less reliable, than measuring *E. coli*.

ORC has sometimes measured high levels of *E. coli* in Lindsay Creek in the past – so where does it come from and should we be worried? This is where it gets tricky. Firstly, no one knows exactly what is causing the occasionally high *E. coli* levels, or in other words where the poo is coming from. The farms at the top of the valley are hardly intensive dairy farms; some people have suggested it is the old sewerage network leaking into the stormwater pipes. (One could almost imagine it coming from the ridiculous amount of dog poo on our footpaths that ends up in our stormwater.) Secondly, rivers and streams are usually tested at or near their lower end to give a picture of the whole catchment. ORC tests the Lindsay at the North Road bridge where the creek has a full load of North East Valley soup from our collective stormwater pipes. If the problem is leaky sewerage pipes then we can assume that the water quality improves the further upstream you go. In fact, an ORC study a few years back showed that water quality was much better at Bethunes Gully than North Road bridge. Thirdly, the bugs that can make people sick can be contracted from many places including contaminated food and people. For most bugs it



Children enjoy playing in the creek during a CreekFest event.

can take up to 12 days to start feeling sick after ingesting them (and up to 25 days for giardia). Most people who get sick have been in contact with many different potential sources over that time so it is almost impossible to pin an illness on recreational water contact.

Fourthly, even if nasty bugs are around, whether a person gets sick or not is dependent on their individual susceptibility. People whose immune systems aren't so flash, including pregnant women, need to be a little more careful than most.

We'll certainly be splashing around in the creek this summer, so what can we do to minimise the (already relatively low) risk of catching a nasty bug from a Chingford Park or Bethune's Gully creek exploring session? I asked the Southern DHB and ORC and it really comes down to taking notice of the environment around you. This applies to any river or stream:

- Stay out of the water for at least 48 hours after heavy rain, since rain brings all sorts of undesirable stuff into the stream through our stormwater drains. Wait until the stream is back to a normal flow.
- Swim or splash around in clear water – give it a wide berth if the water looks murky or smells funny.
- Keep an eye out for toxic algae *Phormidium*, which looks like dark brown velvet covering the rocks in the streambed. This has never been reported in Lindsay Creek, but you might spot it elsewhere, and it's best to stay out if you do. More importantly, keep your dog out – this algae is *really* toxic to dogs.

So, armed with that knowledge, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season! I'll be back next year with more Nev-ology stories looking into science-related topics about our local area. —Helen Jack, North East Valley scientist

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- 03 474 1973
- 32 Albany Street, Dunedin
- david.clark@parliament.govt.nz
- fb.com/DavidClarkMP



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# Coffin Club proposed

AN IDEA to start up a Coffin Club in Dunedin is not morbid, but a celebration of life and a chance for people to save money for their families.

Christine Edwards says a TV show about a Coffin Club in the North Island inspired her. "I just thought it was the best idea in the world and that Dunedin should have its own Coffin Club."

"It's about celebrating life rather than a morbid thing about death. Hopefully it becomes a social thing where people get together and share life stories."

Christine says she approached North Dunedin Shed members about the idea and they were keen to help people build their own coffins.

The hope is to make the coffins as cheaply as possible with the main cost being in purchasing the wood to construct it. The North Island club had been spending about \$250 per coffin for materials as opposed to \$2500 for a bought coffin "at the cheaper end of the scale" she says.

An enthusiastic quilt- and dressmaker, Christine says she is keen to help people line their coffins as well as decorate them in any way they want.

She is calling for people interested in either making their own coffin or helping others to make a coffin to get in touch with her via email on [keepcalmandsew2014@gmail.com](mailto:keepcalmandsew2014@gmail.com).

# Campervans discouraged

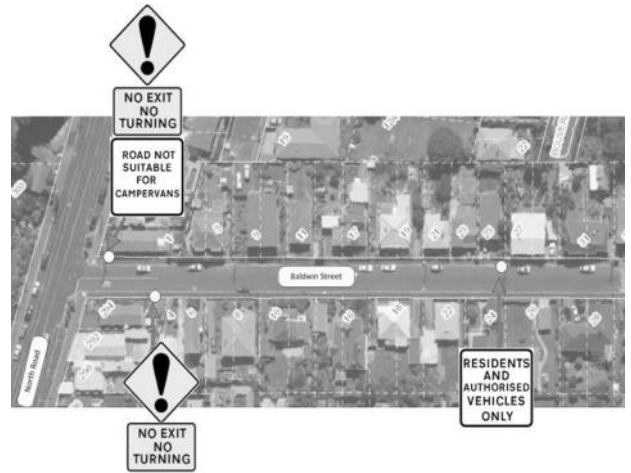
## NEW SIGNAGE

at Baldwin St has been installed as part of work to increase safety at the tourist hotspot. Dunedin City Council transportation engineer Blair McKeever says the previous signage had been in place for several years and was in poor condition.

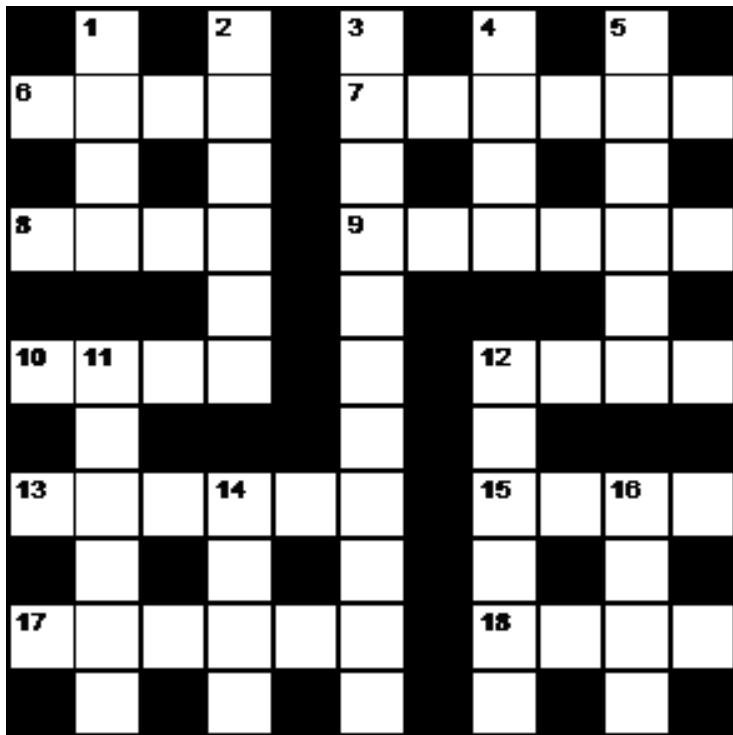
The new signs discourage people, especially those in campervans, from driving up the 'steepest street in the world'. As well, new signage along North Rd is making it easier for visitors to find the street.

The council is aware of concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety on Baldwin St. The work forms part of improvements the council is undertaking to make the street safer for both residents and visitors.

"The main concern is about tourists driving up Baldwin Street, particularly in campervans. We're working through design options for safety improvements to the street and will be consulting the community on these options next year."



# Holiday crossword with North East Valley clue



## CRYPTIC CLUES

### Across

- 6 Frankenstein's got them by the neck! Run quickly! (4)  
 7 Unending gloom is contained for Inuit's houses. (6)  
 8 Initially, foreign islands join in for south Pacific island nation. (4)  
 9 Detain by police stop. (6)  
 10 Requests topless masks. (4)

- 12 Bread, we hear, multiplied. (4)  
 13 A rotten 24 hours? (3,3)  
 15 Found inside dwindling gusts. (4)  
 17 Unusually, pool lap went to the moon and back (6)  
 18 Hears with no head or corn units. (4)

### Down

- 1 "Yo! Gimme a holder of Indian mystical wisdom." (4)  
 2 Messy saints ground in dirt. (6)  
 3 So, I fled Alif, running backwards to North East Valley's pizzeria. (11)  
 4 A short blurb is hard to see. (4)  
 5 Mouse eats beginning of snake's dessert. (6)  
 11 Swam, and extremely promptly, to local Dunedin summit (6)  
 12 Owl climbs inside half-empty beer to become ball thrower. (6)  
 14 Damaged silo moistens. (4)  
 16 Within one rd. a bookworm is found. (4)

## QUICK CLUES

### Across

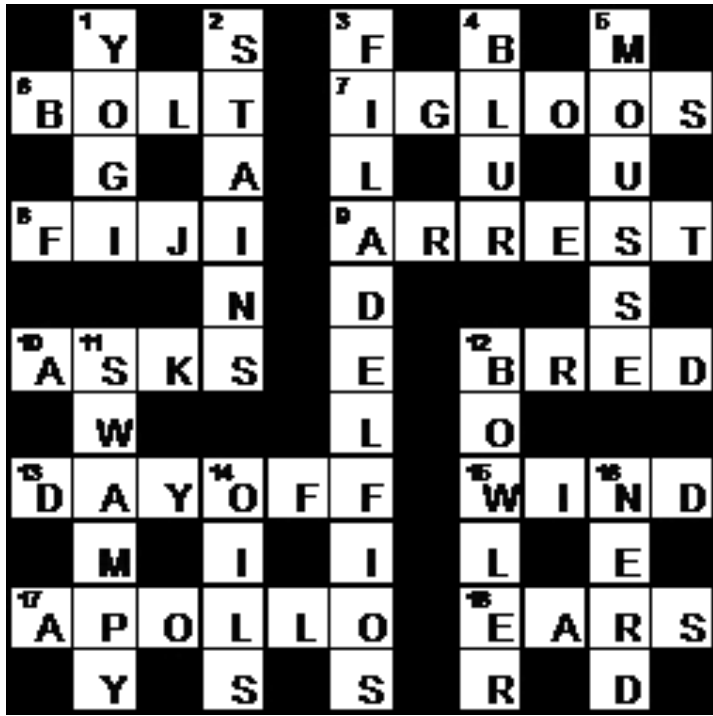
- 6 Run quickly (4)  
 7 Arctic houses (6)  
 8 Pacific island nation (4)  
 9 Apprehend (6)  
 10 Requests (4)  
 12 Propogated (4)  
 13 Holiday (3,3)  
 15 Flatulence (4)  
 17 Greek god (6)  
 18 Aural organs (4)

### Down

- 1 Practitioner of Indian spirituality (4)  
 2 Discolourations (6)  
 3 North East Valley's popular pizzeria. (11)  
 4 Indistinct (4)  
 5 Dessert, often chocolate flavoured (6)  
 11 Dunedin summit (6)  
 12 Batsman's nemesis (6)

\*Answers on page 10

# Crossword answers



Crossword supplied by North East Valley aspiring puzzler Tiddy Smith. Tiddy maintains website crypticclues.com

## church services

- Salvation Army**, 43 North Rd, community worker only, Mark O'Donnell
- Sacred Heart Catholic**, 89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am
- Glenaven Methodist**, 7 Chambers St, 11am
- Pacific Island Presbyterian**, 160 North Rd, English 11am on 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays; Cook Island 9.30am; Samoan 11am, 4th and 5th Sundays
- Anglican: St Martin's**, 194 North Rd, 10.45am
- St Thomas'**, Raleigh St and Pine Hill Rd, children & family service, 4.30pm, 3rd Sunday
- Opoho Presbyterian**, 50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am
- NEV Presbyterian**, 224 North Rd, 9.30am cafe service
- St Mark's Presbyterian**, 304 Pine Hill Rd, 10am
- NEV Baptist**, 270 North Road, 10.30am.

**Dalmore Reserve community garden**  
Every Saturday 1pm-2pm  
At the reserve entrance on Allenby Ave

**NEV community garden working bees**  
top paddock behind North East Valley Normal School

- Sunday 10 December 1pm-4pm
- Saturday 16 December 9am-noon
- Sunday 24 December 1pm-4pm
- Saturday 30 December 9am-noon
- Sunday 7 January 1pm-4pm

## for families, kids & teens

### ATHLETICS & HARRIERS

Children 3-6yrs and 7+yrs, Chingford Park Clubrooms, 5.30-6.45pm, Mon, and Caledonian grounds, Sat morn. [www.leithharriers.co.nz](http://www.leithharriers.co.nz)

### CHINESE FOR KIWIS

Bear Cats Club and Chinese ABC playgroups for children to learn Chinese. Tues, 3.30-4.30pm, Pine Hill School, 11 Hislop St. Ph 021 589 075 or [www.chineseforkiwis.co.nz](http://www.chineseforkiwis.co.nz)

### DUNEDIN TOY LIBRARY

A vibrant toy library for children from birth to 7 years. Huge range of toys, ride-ons, dress ups, puzzles, games. St Martin's Hall, Northumberland St, 10-11am Wed, and 10-11.30am Sat

### GIRLS BRIGADE

Dunedin Girls Brigade Company, all girls, from age 5 up welcome. 6-7.30pm, Wed, St Marks Presbyterian Church Hall, 304 Pine Hill Rd.

### MINI MUSIC GROUP

Preschool music and movement session, 9.15-9.45am, Mon, Nga Maara Hall, Sacred Heart School, school terms, gold coin. All welcome.

### MT CARGILL GIRLGUIDES

Pippins, brownies, guides and ranger groups in the valley. Ph. 0800 222 292 or [info@girlguiding.org.nz](mailto:info@girlguiding.org.nz)

### OPOHO PLAYCENTRE

Sessions for 0-6 year olds, 9am-noon, Mon-Fri, school terms, 28A Signal Hill Rd. Visitors welcome. For more info ph. 473 0819 or email [opoho.playcentre@yahoo.com](mailto:opoho.playcentre@yahoo.com)

### OPOHO SCOUTS

Keas, 5.30pm-6.30pm, Tues; Cubs, 6pm-7.30pm, Thur; Scouts, 7pm-8.30pm, Wed. Opoho Scout Den, Ph. Kevin 0800 SCOUTS.

### PLAYGROUP

Leith Valley Church, Malvern St, 10am-noon, school terms. Ph. Julia 027 635 8181.

### PRESCHOOL MUSIC

At Opoho School, 9am-9.30am, Fri, during school term, Room 3, gold coin, drop in, Ph. 473 8019.

### SPACE PROGRAMME

Programme to support new parents through first year of child's development (Supporting Parents Alongside Children's Education). Valley Baptist Church. Contact Amy on 473 0014 or [space.valleybaptist@gmail.com](mailto:space.valleybaptist@gmail.com)

### NEV PLAYGROUP

Come along with your children 0-4 years, Baptist Hall, 270 North Rd, 9am-3pm, Tue, Wed. Ph Michael 473 0572.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Variety of classes with stories, crafts, songs and more. Ages 4-18, 9.30am Sun mornings (term time only), DNI (tech area). All welcome, no charge. Ph. 020 4079 5727 or [www.dunedinchristadelphians.org](http://www.dunedinchristadelphians.org)

## RUDOLF STEINER

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner playgroups, Te Whare Ako Marie, Pinehill and Maia. A sanctuary of creative play for children from birth to kindergarten and a place of peace and friendship for parents. Groups meet weekly, term time. For more info contact 471 2163 or [dunedin-steinerplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:dunedin-steinerplaygroup@gmail.com)

## YOUNG PARENTS

Young Parents Group Te Roopuu Maatua Maahuri, where young parents come together to share and support each other. For parents who had their first child before 26 years. Children welcome. 1-2.30pm, Thurs, community rooms. Ph. Susan 021 550 737.

## TINKER SCHOOL

Afterschool courses, Mon-Fri, 3-5.30pm, 347 North Rd. Ph Andrew 021 982 216.

## fitness & health

### CONTRA DANCE

7.30pm, Mon, \$3, 52 Dundas St. Ph. 473 8640 for more information.

### DUNEDIN ACROYOGA

Combining acrobatics and yoga, no partner needed. Beginners classes available. 6-9pm, Tue, Opoho Presbyterian Church, 50 Signal Hill Rd. Facebook or email [jooske@gmail.com](mailto:jooske@gmail.com)

### DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

Race night, Forrester Park BMX track, 6pm, Thur.

### FOLK DANCING FOR FUN

Baptist Church, 270 North Rd, 10am-11.30am, Fri, \$3. Ph Yvonne 455 2406, [stured1@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:stured1@yahoo.co.nz)

### LEARN TAEKWONDO

Korean martial art, supportive environment. Training Mon, Thur, Pine Hill School hall, 6pm-7.30pm. Beginners' class 5.30-6.15pm; seniors' class 6.30pm onwards. For more details and to register email [dunedinolympictkd@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:dunedinolympictkd@hotmail.co.nz)

### MEDITATION

Meditation and mindfulness afternoon workshop every two weeks, ph 021 035 2392, [www.meditatenz.com](http://www.meditatenz.com)

### NAKAJIMA JUDO CLUB.

Weekly evening class for all levels and ages. Ph. Keri 021 027 93683.



# Classifieds and community notices (for non-profits)

## DUNEDIN ELECTRIC BIKES

for sale  
at the

Valley Community Workspace  
11 Allen St, Fri and Sat mornings

Ph Nathan Parker 027 214 8294 or

### QIGONG

Classes in Yuan Gong, Ans 027 756 8383, [yuangongdunedin@gmail.com](mailto:yuangongdunedin@gmail.com) Jay 027 584 4537, [www.bodymindqi.com](http://www.bodymindqi.com)

### PARKRUN

A free, weekly timed 5km run/walk, Sat, Botanic Gardens. Meet at café, 8am summer, 9am winter. Go to [parkrun.co.nz](http://parkrun.co.nz) for more info and to register & get your personal barcode.

### SPAN NEV

Stretch n'flex, low-impact exercise, fun and friendship, community rooms, 262 North Rd, 10am-11am, Tue, over-65s, \$4. Ph 473 9311. Last class end Nov, restart in Feb.

### SPORTS AEROBICS

Competitive aerobics and casual fitness classes. No previous experience required. Training held at DNI Fri and Sun. Working towards NZCAF regionals next August. Contact Rebecca [rebeccafishernz@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:rebeccafishernz@yahoo.co.nz)

### STEADY AS YOU GO

(Age Concern) Gentle balance and strength exercises, NEV Baptist Church, 10.30am-11.30am, Mon, and Pine Hill School Library, 11am, Thur.

### TANNOCK GLEN

The 3.5acre garden of the Dunedin Rhododendron Group is situated in Torridon St, Opoho. Members of the public are invited to visit at any time. Dogs permitted on a lead.

### THREE LEFT FEET

Social dance group, no experience or partners necessary. European dance-folk and traditional, \$5 or \$7.50/couple, Nga Maara hall, 6pm-7pm, Thu. Ph. Marilyn 473 7829.

### YOGA IN THE VALLEY

Instructor Adair Bruce, 6-7pm, Mon-Fri, DNI designspace; 9.15-10.15am, Mon, Wed, community rooms. \$10 waged, \$8 unwaged, for more info contact [adairbruce@hotmail.com](mailto:adairbruce@hotmail.com)

## further education

### COMPUTER CLASS

A free class to learn how to use computers, 10am-noon, Weds, community rooms.

### VALLEY VOICE

Next issue is February 2018. Copy deadline 15 January 2018.

## Want health, wellbeing and relaxation?

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### FREE LITERACY COURSE

For more information contact Ana & Marg at Literacy Aotearoa, 477 2055.

### LEARN ITALIAN

Planning a trip to Italy this year? Fun, communicative lessons Ph. Samantha 021 0831 8408.

### INDOOR BOWLS

Play indoor bowls at the NEV Bowling Club, 139 North Rd, Thurs, 1.30pm start. Ph. Jack for more info 473 9565.

### ITALIAN CLASSES

Exp teacher, native speaker of Italian ph Antonella 027 341 8312, [antonella.vecchiato@gmail.com](mailto:antonella.vecchiato@gmail.com),

### LEARN ENGLISH

English for daily life and work. Free and low cost courses. Contact Tamara or Felicity at English Language Partners 455 5266, [dunedin@englishlanguage.org.nz](mailto:dunedin@englishlanguage.org.nz)

### SEA OF FAITH

St Johns Church Hall (cnr Wright St and Highgate), 6-7.30pm, fourth Thur each month. Enquiries ph. 473 0031.

## art, craft & music

### ART TARDIS @ THE GRID

Coffeehouse featuring 'Mud Diamond' by Elise Johnston

### ART CLASSES

For all levels, casual attendance welcome, tutor Anneloes Douglas, community rooms, 10am-noon, Thur and 6pm-8pm, Fri. Ph 027 307 7034, 467 9993, [anneloes.douglas@xtra.co.nz](mailto:anneloes.douglas@xtra.co.nz)

### 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. Ph Friederike 482 2025.

### KNITTING SQUAD

BYO knitting or crocheting, or come & learn, community rooms, 1pm-3pm, Wed. Ph Marjory 473 7751.

### ART FIBRE DUNEDIN

Bring lunch and requirements, 10am-3pm, second Sun each month, community rooms, Ph Viv 473 0343, [www.artfibredunedin.blogspot.com](http://www.artfibredunedin.blogspot.com).

### DUNEDIN FIDDLE CLUB

Community rooms, 7.30pm, Wed.

### SOUNDS NOR'EASTERLY

Do you enjoy singing with a group? Why not join your local community choir? All ages and abilities welcome. DNI design lobby every Tues, 7.30-8.45pm. Email Clare for more info [clare-n-don@clear.net.nz](mailto:clare-n-don@clear.net.nz)

### VALLEY BLUEGRASS JAM

Monthly jam session at the Normanby Bistro. No sessions during December and January.

## community groups

### BIBLE HOUR

Friendly small group Bible learning over morning tea, Sun, 9.30am, DNI (tech area) during school terms. All welcome, free, ph 020 4079 5727 or [www.dunedinchristadelphians.org](http://www.dunedinchristadelphians.org)

### BIKE WORKSHOP

Get help, use our workshop, bikes available for koha. 3.30-7pm, Tues, and 9am-12.30pm, Sat, Valley Community Workspace, 11 Allen St. Contact Peter on [peterd0n@yahoo.com](mailto:peterd0n@yahoo.com)

### DUNEDIN MAKERSPACE

Work on project, watch others and chat, 1pm-5pm, Sat; organised talks, 7pm, Thur, Valley Community Workspace, 11 Allen St.

### ENLIVEN DAY CLUB

Ross Home, drivers and help with activities needed, light food preparation. Tues, Wed & Fri. Ph Maybank 473 0890.

### LADIES' PROBUS CLUB

Meets 10am, first Mon each month, NEV Bowling Clubrooms. New members welcome. For more info ph 455 6683.

### MEN'S PROBUS

NEV bowling club, 10am, 2nd Mon each month, new members welcome. Ph Don 473 7544.

### MEN'S SHED

The North Dunedin Men's Shed welcomes new members. Open Wed and Sat mornings Bonnington St over bridge. Ph Paul 474 0060 or find us on Facebook.

### MULTICULTURAL GROUP

Women's multicultural group, make new friends, speakers, cooking, outings. Community rooms, 10am-noon, Fri, ph Afife 473 8944.

### NEIGHBOUR SUPPORT

Create safer, more caring communities. For more information and local Neighbourhood Support contact details contact Lois on 456 0857 or [neighbourhoodsupport@gmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodsupport@gmail.com).

### PINEHILL COFFEE & CAKE

Morning tea outing to Dunedin café, last Wed of each month. Ph Carolyn 477 7115 for more info.

### REFUGEE & MIGRANT CENTRE

Mon, 9-11am, Dunedin Community House, 301 Moray Pl. Coordinator Afife, ph 027 419 3125 or email [afife.harris@gmail.com](mailto:afife.harris@gmail.com) To volunteer at centre please get in touch.

### TWILIGHT TINKERING CLASSES

Mon & Thurs, 7-9pm, 347 North Rd, Ph Andrew 021 982 216

## trading corner

### BABYSITTER AVAILABLE

Experienced 22 year old, have worked with children of all ages. Ph. Kelly 027 697 9194 .

### BABYSITTER AVAILABLE

17 year old with extensive first aid training and experience with children of all ages. References available. Kyra Ph. 0221507349

### COMPUTER SERVICES

Trouble-shooting, tuition, low rates. Ph Dave 473 9542, 022 635 9414 or email [davemaxz@actrix.co.nz](mailto:davemaxz@actrix.co.nz)

### KNIFE SHARPENING

Mobile knife sharpening service for house knives, \$15/knife. Ph. 022 416 5446.

### HANDYWOMAN

Handywoman available. What do you need help with? Create, fix, install, maintain, revamp it - in garden or house. Ph Ren 027 465 1867.

### HOUSE-SITTER

Quiet 54-year-old male, non-drinker, non-smoker, part-time research assistant at Uni. Looks after pets, mows lawns etc. Ph. 027 4467 915 or email [jeffreyhobinson@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:jeffreyhobinson@yahoo.co.nz)

### HOUSE-SITTER AVAILABLE

Pets/lawns/mail/cleaning. No charge either way. Responsible mature female. Txt 021 038 4058.

### HOUSE WANTED TO RENT

For young mum, baby and old cat. Long term preferred, references available. Contact Karyn 021 0275 4881 or [karynchalk@gmail.com](mailto:karynchalk@gmail.com)

### LOG SPLITTER FOR HIRE

Commercial power Briggs & Stratton Model 12000 Vanguard. Local pick up & delive with full tank, \$50/day. User responsibility, ph 473 0393.

### SENIORS HAIRDRESSING

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 Dinner: 5-8pm, 5-9pm Fri & Sat  
 Ph: 473 0373  
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# 'Best kids party ever'



*Amadeo Enriquez-Ballestero delights children with exciting science of explosions at this year's community Halloween Party. What an amazing event organised this year by Eliza McMullan and Adam Johnson along with their many wonderful volunteers, who helped out with everything from face painting to sausage sizzles, candy floss, archery tag, a science show, ice cream, coffee and, of course, all the lovely costumes that came out to dance and play. It was "the best kids' party I've ever seen," Angus Matheson said on Facebook, and I'm sure everybody would agree with him. Thanks to: Signal Hill Studios, Megazone, Unity Sound, Deep Creek Deli, North East Valley Normal School, Grid Coffee and Blacks Road Green Grocers.*

## Chipping in at playcentre holiday hours



*Opoho Playcentre families chip in at one of three working bees to improve the outdoor play areas for children at the centre.*

THE TAMARIKI at Opoho Playcentre love to jump off boxes, hang upside down on the monkey bars and swing high until their toes touch the sky.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Bendigo Valley Sports and Charity Foundation our outdoor play areas have been made safer for these great physical pursuits with 30 cubic metres of new bark chips.

It took three working bees to dig out the tired old compacted bark chips and spread the fresh ones. As is the Playcentre way, everyone chipped in, tamariki working alongside their parents and other family members to get the job done.

Many a local Dunedin garden has benefitted from the spent bark chips, ensuring nothing went to waste.

Opoho Playcentre provides a supportive play-based early childhood experience for children aged up to 6 years, where parents and children play and learn alongside each other. For more information contact opoho@playcentre.org.nz or call 473 0819.—Ondine Godtschalk

## Valley Project

Our office is closed during the school holidays. The office will be manned until 21 December and will reopen in February next year.

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



from the **Valley Project staff and board**

A special thank you to all our volunteers for their hard work and involvement this year