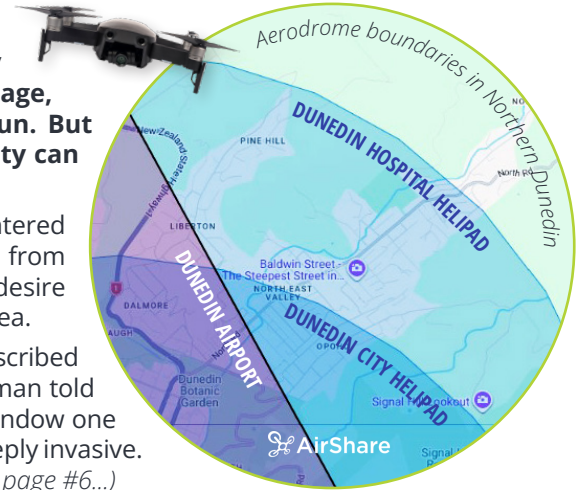


THE BUZZ ABOVE: DRONES IN THE VALLEY

Drones are an increasingly affordable, and therefore an increasingly familiar, part of the New Zealand landscape, capturing aerial footage, documenting events, surveying land or simply providing recreational fun. But when one appears unexpectedly outside your kitchen window, the novelty can wear off pretty quickly. With accessibility comes responsibility.

Residents across Northern Dunedin were asked whether they had encountered drones and how they felt about their presence. The enquiry followed concerns from community members after a wave of drone sightings in recent months and a desire for greater awareness of the rules and regulations governing their use in our area.

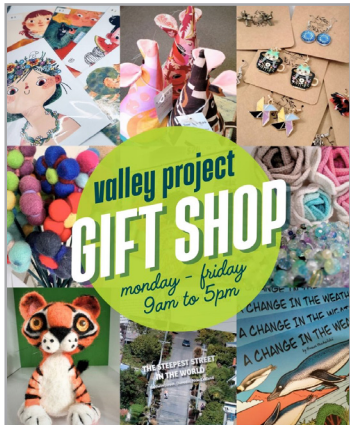
Responses came from people who enjoy or own drones and from those who described unexpected flights over or near their homes as intrusive or unsettling. One woman told us she was awakened by the light and noise of a drone outside her bedroom window one night. Another was visited while in her robe putting out the washing. Both felt deeply invasive. Another community member disclosed that he identified a pest pilot (Continued page #6...)



Rachel Brooking MP for Dunedin

03 474 1973 | 544 Great King Street, Dunedin
Rachel.BrookingMP@parliament.govt.nz
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Authorised by Rachel Brooking MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



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heads
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One seedling, one piece of litter, one donated book, one possum trap, one Lego brick, one dollar, one vote, one hour of volunteering, or a single word of encouragement. Small actions = shared impact.

VALLEY PROJECT RECEPTION HOURS

262 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY

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

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



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



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



2026 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #:	#7	#8
CONTENT DUE:	Oct 7	Nov 11
DISTRIBUTION DATE:	Oct 31	Dec 5

2027 schedule in next issue!

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 NOTE FROM THE VP TEAM

What a way to kick off Valley Fest! Our Community Dinner was an absolutely wonderful night. Nearly 150 people came together to share kai, stories, laughter and good company. Looking around the room, I was reminded of what makes North East Valley such a special place — people genuinely care about each other.

A huge thank you to KiwiHarvest and Gardens New World for sponsoring the kai and helping make the evening possible. And a very special thank you to Julie, owner of Gardens New World, who gave up two whole days to be in the kitchen cooking an incredible amount of food for our community. That is a pretty extraordinary gift of time and energy, and I know everyone who enjoyed the meal appreciated it enormously.

I also want to acknowledge our amazing Valley Project staff and the numerous volunteers who have helped make Valley Fest happen right across North East Valley throughout September. From organising events and workshops, to setting up spaces, spreading the word, welcoming people, preparing kai and doing all the countless jobs that happen behind the scenes — there has been an incredible amount of mahi going on. A huge thank you to everyone who has played a part in making this year's Valley Fest the best one yet. I'm incredibly proud to be part of it.

-- Jennie Wagner-Gorton



Scott Willis

List MP based in Ōtepoti

scott.willis@parliament.govt.nz

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

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The Annual North Dunedin Shed

GARAGE SALE

SAT 3 OCTOBER

9:30AM

= NO EARLY ENTRY =

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NORTH EAST VALLEY

NORTH EAST VALLEY BOWLS

139 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY

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2026/27

THURSDAYS 5:30-7:30PM

OCTOBER 2026 - APRIL 2027

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OPENING DAY!

2026/27 SEASON

Saturday 3 October - 2pm

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Rain or shine everyone welcome - any age or ability!

Darts, Pool & Indoor Bowls if wet...

CRUSH the CARGILL

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★ 24-HOUR CHALLENGE

Complete as many laps of Mount Cargill as possible! Includes the Canine Crusher Challenge.

★ 100-MILER

Complete 19 laps within 36 hours! Participate in either race as a competitor, supporter, or spectator!

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DECEMBER 11 - 13, 2026

GRID COFFEE CART • BBQ BREAKFAST • CAMPING
COSTUMES • SPOT PRIZES • KOHA ENTRY



SEE FACEBOOK EVENT
FOR DETAILS



2026 the VALLEY project AGM

Tuesday, 2 November - 7pm
Valley Project, 262 North Road, North East Valley



everybody
welcome!

Join us for a look back at the year that's been and for a general discussion on collaborations with the community moving forward. Nominations for the new executive followed by light snacks. If you live in NEV surrounds, and are keen to stand for the board, get in touch at project@northeastvalley.org

save the dates

Crop Swap	Sunday 27 September
Sycamore Removal Squad	Sunday 27 September
Cuppa & Connections	Tuesday 6 October
Crop Swap	Sunday 25 October
Sycamore Removal Squad	Sunday 25 October
Valley Project AGM	Monday 2 November
Cuppa & Connections	Tuesday 3 November

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 whānau. If you like what we do, you can donate at:

the
VALLEY
project

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 7 OCTOBER, 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.



ONE TREE. 3 KILOMETRES. A VALLEY-WIDE PROBLEM.

It's easy to look at a sycamore growing in your backyard and think "It's only one tree. How much difference can it really make?"

Quite a lot, as it turns out!

Sycamore seeds can travel on the wind up to three kilometres from the tree they came from. So that tree in your garden could be sending seeds into a neighbour's property, down into a gully, along a stream or into another part of North East Valley. Those seeds can be surprisingly easy to miss. A tiny sycamore seedling might pop up in a garden bed or tucked away along a fence line, and before long it can grow into another mature tree producing thousands more seeds.

That's one of the reasons Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary (Open VUE) is working to tackle sycamores across the Valley. We're removing them from priority areas and working with landowners to prevent them from spreading further. But we can't do it on our own. If mature sycamores are left on private properties, they will keep producing seeds. Those seeds don't know where property boundaries are.

Keep an eye out! The easiest sycamores to deal with are the little ones. Regularly checking your garden, driveway, fence lines and other forgotten corners can make a real difference. Spotting a seedling early means it can often be dealt with before it has the chance to become a much bigger problem.

If you have sycamores on your property, there's no need to panic. And you don't have to work out what to do by yourself. Open VUE can provide free advice to help you identify sycamores and talk through the options for dealing with them. For larger trees, we can also help you understand what sort of removal may be needed and where you might be able to get support.

We're asking residents across North East Valley to have a look around their properties and see what they can find. One tree might not seem like much. But when its seeds can travel kilometres, it becomes a problem that belongs to the whole Valley *and* its neighbours.

If we all keep an eye out and deal with sycamores when we find them, we have a much better chance of stopping them from spreading into places where we don't want them. Found a sycamore? Get in touch with Open VUE at openvue@northeastvalley.org. We're happy to help you work out what you've got and what to do next. -- **Jennie Wagner-Gorton**

Sycamores scattered across Palmer's Quarry, as seen from the Valley Project



OPEN VUE TAKES HOME THE TAYLOR COMMUNITY PRIDE SHIELD

Some awards belong to an individual or organisation. Others belong to an entire community. This one belongs to North East Valley!

Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary is the environmental initiative of Valley Project, bringing people together to restore, protect and enhance the natural environment of North East Valley. This year, Open VUE was thrilled to receive the Keep Dunedin Beautiful Taylor Community Pride Shield, recognising the incredible mahi happening across North East Valley.

Over the past year, our community has been busy planting natives, pulling weeds, trapping pests, removing sycamores, collecting data, running workshops, sharing knowledge and inspiring more neighbours to get involved.

And none of it happens alone. It takes a village – or, in our case, a Valley!

Volunteers have turned up in sunshine and rain, getting their hands dirty at working bees, checking traps, propagating plants, supporting events and sharing their skills. Schools, kindergartens, community groups, residents and local organisations have all brought their own energy and ideas. We are so grateful to our collaborative partners who have contributed expertise, equipment, resources, funding and enthusiasm. A huge thank you goes to everyone who has played a part!

We're especially appreciative to the Open VUE Advisory Group, whose time, knowledge and guidance help steer the project and turn big ideas into action.

The Keep Dunedin Beautiful Awards was a fantastic night of recognition for the wider Valley Project community too, with Valley Project being highly commended for the Taylor Community Pride Shield. The recognition celebrates the huge range of community-led mahi happening across the Valley,

from supporting people and whānau to strengthening our neighbourhood and caring for our environment.

There was also a special nod to Open VUE Coordinator Jennie Wagner-Gorton, who was highly commended for the Keep Dunedin Beautiful Individual POD Award. It was wonderful recognition of the passion, commitment and energy she brings to connecting people with the natural environment and helping turn the Open VUE vision into action.

These recognitions are worth celebrating, but there's plenty more mahi ahead! They may have our names on it, but these awards belong to the whole Valley. Here's to another year of making North East Valley an awesome place – together!



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



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DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 10 Oct. 10am	Sat. 14 Nov. 10am	Sat. 12 Dec. 10am
Sat. 24 Oct. 10am	Sat. 28 Nov. 10am	Sat. 26 Dec. 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 3 Oct. 9:30am	Sun. 25 Oct. 1pm	Sat. 14 Nov. 9:30am
Sun. 11 Oct. 1pm	Sat. 31 Oct. 9:30am	Sun. 22 Nov. 1pm
Sat. 17 Oct. 9:30am	Sun. 8 Nov. 1pm	Sat. 28 Nov. 9:30am

CASTING SHADE ON OUR GARDENS

As the winter lingers, and impatience for the new growing season increases, we gardeners spend a lot of time thinking about the future, and that increasingly means climate change adaptation. In my last column, I wrote about the need to increase our gardens' resilience to both a lack of water, and to high winds. Having spent the past few months in a record high, drought-inducing British summer, I think we also need to rethink our relationship to sunlight and shade too.

Typically, gardeners dream of north-facing, sunlit gardens boasting countless hours of sunshine from dawn to dusk. Yet, in heatwave Britain (six heatwaves this year and counting), houses are heated constantly by a blazing sun, and the combination of heat-absorbing building materials, poor ventilation, and little to no air conditioning, ensures countless sleepless nights. A house or garden in full sun might not be the nirvana we once thought it was.

The opposite is not ideal either. Houses hidden from the winter sun by hills or high trees can be cold, frosty, and damp for many months. Mature trees can provide other challenges too. Roots can damage foundations, pipelines, and pathways. Branches can fall in storms, or interfere with powerlines.

However, placing small to medium deciduous trees in between large suntrap windows and the sun itself might present a horticultural solution to a building design problem. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in winter ensuring that the tree provides shade only in the summer, and lets the winter sunlight through.

But, which species to choose? Oftentimes, native plants are our first port of call. But very few native species are deciduous. One of the only options commonly available in nurseries is kōtukutuku, or tree fuchsia (*Fuchsia excorticata*). While in the right conditions this tree can grow to 12 metres tall, this tree is a great option for a medium sized garden, and can be pruned to size quite easily. Alongside providing shade in summer, the tree is loved for its copper-coloured, shedding bark, with crimson flowers providing nectar for native birds.

Looking outside our borders, you might find inspiration in growing a food forest between your windows and the sun. Mature fruit and nut trees would provide delicious shady areas in any garden. And the world is full of plentiful ornamental deciduous tree options. Numerous flowering cherry cultivars are sold, or why not go for the Ginkgo biloba, a tree so hardy, many specimens survived the Hiroshima atomic bombing.

In the years to come, shade will be an increasingly valuable commodity, both in urban planning and domestic gardens. Trees take a long time to mature. We could do worse than planting a few more trees in our gardens this spring.

-- Kieran Ford

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

GOOD FRIENDS GROW TOGETHER

The Friends of the Dunedin Botanic Garden was established in 1986 with the aim of fostering interest in the Garden, preserving its integrity, promoting its development and raising funds.

As well as advocating for the Garden, the Friends have contributed towards numerous projects including the building of the Information Centre, the South African and Mediterranean gardens and the Duck Pond pier, and more recently, a substantial contribution was made towards the new children's playground. Our next project, celebrating our 40th anniversary, is a new statue/fountain in the herb garden. Expressions of interest have been sought, and we are excited to see the proposed designs.

The plant sales held in May and October are major fundraisers for the Friends. Profits go towards projects in the Garden as well as funding Tannock Scholarships which assist Botanic Garden staff to undertake further study, attend conferences, etc. that benefit both themselves and the Garden. Other major sources of funds are from sales at the Information Centre Shop and donations or bequests, for which we are very grateful.



In the past, the Plant Sale was an event in the multi-day Dunedin Rhododendron Festival which ran for over 30 years and featured tours, garden visits and talks. While there is no longer a Rhododendron festival, the Plant Sale is still going strong, and will be on **Sunday 18th October** this year. The Friends will have a large stall of plants grown by the Propagation volunteer team, which will include 300 rhododendrons. In addition, more than a dozen other growers will have stalls selling native trees and plants, bedding plants, perennials and more. You can also check out Jonathan Leichter's woodturning products and grab a coffee from Total Recaffeination.

This year, the Plant sale will be one of the opening events in the new Garden Otepōti (GO) Four Seasons of the South Garden Festival. This will start with the Spring festival this year and promises to be very exciting with several events hosted by the Botanic Garden including walks, talks, workshops and a family picnic day. Find more details at go-dunedin.nz/

Join the Friends before 1st November this year at friendsdbg.co.nz or at the Information centre and be in the draw to win one of three \$100 vouchers generously provided by Blueskin Nurseries. Thanks to the nursery for their support!

(...from front page) gallivanting across Normanby, and promptly filed reports with both police and Civil Aviation Authority.

Sky's the Limit? Not Quite. In New Zealand, drones—defined as remotely piloted aircraft and other unmanned aircraft—are governed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) rules under *Civil Aviation Rule Part 101*, which sets requirements for where and how they may be flown. The rules apply to recreational as well as commercial operators. (aviation.govt.nz)

Among the key requirements, operators must take practicable steps to minimise hazards to people, property and other aircraft; give way to manned aircraft; generally fly no higher than 120 metres; and keep the drone within visual line of sight. Daylight flying is the standard requirement, although specific provisions allow some night operations.

One rule particularly relevant to residential neighbourhoods is consent: operators must obtain consent before flying over people or property. This includes private houses and land, even if the operator owns the property from which the drone takes off. *Part 101* does not, however, require an operator to notify every neighbouring property owner simply because a drone is being flown from their own or permitted land. A little neighbourly warning, of course, goes a long way towards keeping peace.

Northern Dunedin has another complication: proximity to aerodromes and other aviation activity. The aerodrome associated with Dunedin Hospital's helipad covers much of the region, extending to Uxbridge and Bonnington Streets in Normanby, curving westward to Upper Pine Hill Road and continuing through to Nicols Creek in Leith Valley.

Drones generally cannot be flown within 4km of an aerodrome unless specific requirements are met. To put the scale into perspective, from the aerodrome's edge near the far corner of Chingford Park, the 4km radius reaches Mount Cargill summit.

Controlled airspace can extend beyond the 4km radius. Wherever an operator plans to fly, it's best to simply check the free AirShare service (airshare.co.nz) before take-off to identify any restrictions and obtain required authorisations. Dunedin City Council requires permission for drone use in its parks and reserves through its online RPAS permission application.

What should you do if a drone concerns you? Don't confront an operator or attempt to interfere with the drone—and certainly don't shoot at it, as many suggest they would. You could end up as the one in legal trouble. Instead, note the date, time, location, direction of travel, approximate height and anything distinctive about the drone or its behaviour. If you can identify the operator without putting yourself at risk, that information may also be useful.

The CAA accepts reports about drones flying over people or property without permission, outside the operator's sight, above 120 metres, in restricted airspace or in a hazardous manner. The more information available, the more useful a report can be.

For a non-urgent aviation-safety concern, report the incident to the CAA through its Report a Drone Safety Concern service. Contact Police on 105 if you believe the drone is connected with suspected criminal activity, such as harassment, trespass, threats or property damage. Call 111 if there is an immediate threat to life or safety, or a drone is creating an urgent danger to aircraft or people.

Drones can be useful tools for capturing stunning photography, surveying, conservation, emergency response and plenty of other positive purposes. For responsible operators, following the rules is part of sharing the sky—and the neighbourhood—with everyone else. The aim isn't to silence the buzz, but to make sure it stays on the right side of the fence.

-- Krysha Brzuza

OUR STREETS: SHARED SPACES, SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

For someone with reduced mobility, broken glass and blocked footpaths are not a minor inconvenience—they're a real hazard. A wheelchair user can't always redirect around glass, and a footpath narrowed by an abandoned couch can force them onto the road. Elderly residents, vision-impaired people and guide dogs face similar hazards at ground level.

This is one of the less visible consequences of a long-running litter problem on Castle and Leith Streets and the motorway between the Botanic Garden and the University of Otago. For many North East Valley residents, these are everyday routes out of the Valley on foot, by bike or by car. Broken glass, rubbish and abandoned furniture can pile up after big nights, and clean-up efforts struggle to keep pace.

But the problem isn't just parties. The annual end-of-year student move-out brings a huge wave of unwanted furniture, household goods and rubbish, with November often seeing the greatest volume. What is unwanted to one person can quickly become an obstacle or someone else's clean-up job.

The scale of the problem can be considerable. Five 30m³ hook bins were

collected in a single Diversion Day, taking over five tonnes of rubbish off just one street. The University has called the amount of waste left in North Dunedin "very disappointing", while a community petition has asked Dunedin City Council for a permanent, regular clean-up solution.

Litter isn't simply unsightly. It can create genuine hazards, affect visitors to the Botanic Gardens and contribute to wider impressions of Dunedin.

The issue was also part of a wider conversation during Dunedin City Council's recent public consultation on its proposed Local Alcohol Policy. Among the proposed changes was a discretionary condition that could restrict the sale of specified glass alcohol containers in areas where there is evidence of alcohol-related harm involving broken glass. The consultation has now closed, and we hope the concerns raised by communities will be carefully considered.

We're not perfect about our own litter; it's human nature to want to have fun after study or work, and that's not the issue. It is fun versus glass left on the ground, or an unwanted couch left on the footpath for someone else to deal with. We need to be gracious, reasonable and

understanding, while recognising that we can all do better.

It's worth commending those already doing the right thing. The University has supported the community with extra bins near the Marsh Study Centre and a dedicated recycling hub. Diversion Days give students a responsible way to offload rubbish, while grassroots groups such as All Saints' Anglican Church have turned up to clean Castle Street and the Leith River along Leith Street.

None of this work is glamorous, but it makes a real difference and deserves recognition, not just criticism.

There is no single solution to the Castle Street area and wider Dunedin litter problem. Students can take responsibility for their rubbish and use available collection and diversion services. Residents, the University, Council and community organisations all have a role to play in creating a cleaner, safer community that everyone can feel proud of.

Have fun, move house, make mistakes—but do it with consideration for yourself and others. Please don't leave the mess for someone else to navigate the next morning. -- Tom McAlpine

DJ AUTO THINK TANK

Q: Why are my brakes suddenly squeaking?

A: Squeaky brakes are one of those annoying noises most drivers have heard at some point. Sometimes it's simply brake dust, moisture, or a brake pad nearing the end of its life. Other times, your vehicle is politely telling you something needs attention. Ignoring it because "it's only a noise" can turn a simple brake job into a much more expensive repair.

If your brakes have suddenly started squeaking, grinding, or making unusual noises, get them checked. Some brake noise is normal, particularly first thing in the morning or after sitting in damp conditions. New Zealand's wet weather certainly doesn't help. However, noise that continues once the brakes are warm or gets progressively worse shouldn't be ignored.

Brake pads are a common culprit. Some have wear indicators designed to make a noticeable squealing sound when the pad material is getting low. Think of it as your car's slightly less expensive version of a warning light. Replacing worn pads before they damage the rotors can save money and keep your braking system working properly.

Sometimes the problem is simply brake dust, dirt, or corrosion. Vehicles that spend a lot of time parked can develop a light layer of surface rust on the brake rotors, particularly after rain or moisture. This can create noise for the first few stops before cleaning itself up. If the noise disappears quickly, there may not be a major problem. Persistent noise, however, deserves an inspection.

Brake components can also become glazed or contaminated, particularly after excessive heat or contact with oil or grease. Your brakes have one job, and "probably stopping" isn't a particularly good standard.

Squeaking isn't the only warning sign. If the vehicle pulls to one side, the brake pedal feels unusually soft or hard, the steering wheel shakes, or you hear grinding or scraping, get it checked promptly. Grinding can mean the brake pad material has worn away and metal components are making contact, potentially damaging the rotors.

Good brake maintenance is just as important as reacting to noises. Brake pads, rotors, calipers, brake fluid, hoses, and other components should be inspected regularly, particularly if you frequently brake heavily, tow, carry heavy loads, or drive through hilly areas.

Before a long road trip, caravan holiday, or summer adventure, a quick inspection can identify worn pads, damaged rotors, leaks, or other issues before they become a roadside problem. It's much nicer to discover a brake problem in the workshop than halfway down a hill with a boat behind you — especially as W.O.F. inspection frequency decrease.

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



DJ AUTOMOTIVE

134 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY, DUNEDIN

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



BRICKS, BOTS & BIG DREAMS: BUILDING ROADS TO NATIONALS

LEGO is getting serious in the Valley. This year, four local teams—two from North East Valley Normal School and two from Dunedin North Intermediate—are preparing to take on FIRST LEGO League, with their sights set on the national championship in Auckland this December.

FIRST LEGO League is much more than building things out of plastic bricks. It is a global STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) programme for young people, running in more than 100 countries, which combines robotics, coding, research, problem-solving and teamwork. The level of complexity these kids achieve is seriously impressive: they're designing, building and programming autonomous robots to perform a sequence of precise tasks, often involving multiple moving mechanisms and split-second decisions. One task involves deploying a drone and then flipping a LiDAR map with their robot so a scan marker lands in exactly the right place. The students have to think carefully about engineering, programming, strategy and precision.

The Valley has already shown it can punch above its weight. Last year, both NEVN and DNI teams qualified for the Auckland championship, with one winning the Dunedin regional competition overall, and another taking out the Robot Design award. One of those teams went on to impress at Nationals and was invited to represent New Zealand at the international finals in Australia. This year, all four local teams are hoping to earn their own place at Nationals, where they could once again find themselves competing alongside—and potentially against—much older students and eventually other countries!

Getting to Auckland alone isn't cheap. The schools and parents of Lego League competitors are looking for sponsorships and donations to help cover costs if the teams qualify, which are predicted to be around \$1000 per student.

Local businesses and individuals who would like to support the students can contact Lisa, who is overseeing the NEVN teams (lisa@nevn.school.nz), or Drew, overseeing the DNI teams (drew@dni.school.nz).

There's also an opportunity to help by having a good old-fashioned rummage sale. **A giant rummage will be held at the DNI school hall on Sunday 18 October, 11am–2pm**, with heaps of second-hand goods to shop from, plus a coffee cart and bake sale. All proceeds will help send the DNI and NEVN LEGO League tamariki to Nationals.

Have good-quality household items you no longer need? An excess of craft supplies? Clothing you're ready to pass on? Tools collecting dust? Donations for the rummage are welcome until 16 October. Text **022 308 6899** to arrange pick-up or drop-off.

Or simply come along, find yourself a bargain, grab some scrumptious cupcakes and a quality flat white, and help these young, extraordinarily hard-working engineers, coders and problem-solvers get one step closer to glory and the chance to fly the New Zealand flag overseas.

**FERN COLLECTIVE
YOUTH FUNDRAISER!**
Saturday 31st October 2026

**\$5 Per Person
Cash Only**



HALLOWEEN DISCO
Littles 5-6pm Teens 7-9pm
DRESS UP REQUIRED!
North East Valley School Hall
Snacks, drinks, lollies & glow sticks for sale!

AROUND THE VALLEY TABLE: ALLHALLOWTIDE, 31 OCT - 2 NOV

The Día de los Muertos festival in Mexico, which falls during the Christian period of Allhallowtide, honours the dead with altars, parades and gifts. The celebration is testament to the enduring connection between the living and the dead in Mexican culture. A number of Mexico's museums and public spaces have been central to developing and promoting traditions around this festival, such as the Frida Kahlo Museum and the Museum of Popular Cultures.

Considered part of national culture, it is taught and celebrated in the nation's school system and was recognised internationally in 2008 when UNESCO listed it in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Traditions to honour the dead include building altars and installations in houses, public spaces, churches and graveyards, where family members and friends leave gifts, flowers and favourite food and drink for their loved ones. It is believed that spirits of the deceased return to visit the living during this time.

The festival is known not only for its vibrant colours and beautiful displays, but also for its mouthwatering aromas. Many traditional Day of the Dead dishes date back thousands of years to pre-Hispanic cultures like the Aztecs and Maya. Tamales are a year-round staple but are especially important on holidays like Día de los Muertos. They are made with corn dough and a filling wrapped inside a corn husk.

Calabaza en tacha, or candied pumpkin, is also served, especially on the Yucatan Peninsula, where pumpkin was an essential part of the Mesoamerican diet for thousands of years. It is a mix of pumpkin, Mexican cane sugar and Mexican cinnamon. Sugar skulls are put

everywhere, including on the altars, and you can see pan de muerto, or bread of the dead, at grocery stores and bakeries leading up to the festival. It is light, fluffy bread flavoured with star anise, orange zest and orange blossom.

Pozole, taking its name from the Aztec word for corn, is a hearty stew served since pre-Hispanic times. It is a celebratory Day of the Dead dish, and in regions like Michoacan, families consume hot bowls of pozole during cemetery vigils. -- *Lara Anderson*

POZOLE RECIPE

120 g dried chillies, such as guajillo or ancho
1 white onion, chopped
8 cloves garlic
2 tsp oregano
1.4 kg pork shoulder, cubed

1 can white or yellow hominy, drained & rinsed (mexifoods.co.nz or aycaramba.co.nz)
5 bay leaves
1 tsp cumin
Salt to taste

1 small cabbage, shredded
1 bunch coriander, chopped
1 radish, sliced
½ white onion, chopped
4 limes, quartered
2 bags tortilla chips

METHOD: Remove stems and seeds from chillies. Boil until softened, then blend with ½ onion, 4 garlic cloves and 1 Tbsp oregano until smooth. In a large pot, combine pork, hominy, bay leaves, cumin, garlic, oregano, and most of the remaining onion. Add enough water to cover the ingredients. Bring to boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 2 hours, until the pork is tender enough to shred. Strain the chilli sauce and add to pot. Simmer for a further 45 minutes, then season with salt to taste. Ladle into bowls and top with cabbage, coriander, radish, and the last of the chopped onion. Add a squeeze of lime and serve with tortilla chips.



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- sept.**
- 26 Sam Charlesworth & Friends #3. 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 27 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
 - 29 Electric Open Jam. Sign-up and music from 7pm.
 - 30 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, \$5 entry.
-
- october**
- 1 RK, heartfelt vocals & acoustic guitar. 7pm, koha entry.
 - 2 Bottoms Up Drag w/Austin Power Bottom + Count Fagula + introducing Lou Bottom-Me with music from Gryn. 8pm, koha entry.
 - 3 The Something Quartet. 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 4 Celtic Jam Session from 3.30pm.
 - 5 Poker Night - friendly competition. Entry by 7:30pm.
 - 6 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
 - 7 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, \$5 entry.
 - 8 Honey, local kiwi-pop band, from 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 9 Flipper Fest! A fundraiser for the Hoiho with local musos from 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 10 Martinette singer-songwriter from 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 11 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
 - 13 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
 - 14 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, \$5 entry.
 - 15 Out Of Luck album release party! 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 16 Catgut & Steel, contemporary folk. 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 17 Fun & Games! A variety event feat. local drag, comedy and music. 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 18 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
 - 19 Poker Night - friendly competition. Entry by 7:30pm.
 - 20 Open Mic Night: Sign-up from 7pm. FREE entry.
 - 21 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, \$5 entry.
 - 22 Poetry Open Mic from 6pm.
 - 23 Living Clipboards alternative post-punk band + their pals from 7.30pm-ish. Koha entry.
 - 24 Sam Charlesworth & Friends #4. 7.30pm, koha entry.
 - 25 Big Jazz Apple: 4.30pm, koha entry.
 - 27 Electric Open Jam. Sign-up and music from 7pm.
 - 28 Wednesday Weekly Open Mic Comedy: 7pm, \$5 entry.

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

RUBY BURKE'S 'SLOWLY' AT KNOX

Knox College is delighted to present 'Slowly', an exhibition of paintings by Ruby Burke, the College's inaugural Artist in Residence. The exhibition opens at Knox College, 9 Arden St, Dunedin, on Friday, 9 October, from 5:30-7:30pm, with an opening speech at 6:15pm. Food and drinks will be provided, and the exhibition continues on Saturday, 10 October, from 11am-2pm.

'Slowly' explores the quiet beauty of the natural world and the moments we notice when we take time to pause. Through her oil paintings, Burke invites viewers to slow down, look closely, and appreciate the beauty in the everyday.

The exhibition marks the culmination of Burke's year as Artist in Residence. During her residency, she has brought art into college life through art lessons for residents and an open studio, giving students an insight into her work and creative process.

Burke began her career as a portrait painter in Wānaka before moving to Dunedin in 2024 to study Digital Media and Design at Otago Polytechnic. She lived at Knox College during her studies and quickly developed a strong connection with both the College and the city.

"Falling in love with Dunedin and Knox College, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to stay and contribute to the College through the Artist in Residence position," Burke says.

Now in her second year in the role, Burke has continued developing her practice under the guidance of renowned New Zealand artist Sir Grahame Sydney. This has seen her transition from acrylic to oil painting, opening up new possibilities and a fresh direction in her work.

This development is reflected throughout 'Slowly', bringing together paintings inspired by the natural world and the beauty of taking time to truly observe it. The exhibition will feature paintings, prints and cards, with Burke's studio also open to visitors. Entry is free.

Knox College welcomes the public to experience Burke's work in a place that has played an important role in her artistic journey.



rrburke.art/ | [@ r.r.burke.art](https://www.instagram.com/r.r.burke.art) | [ruby.burke.571227](https://www.facebook.com/ruby.burke.571227)

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porteous.a.b@gmail.com



Dunedin MP Rachel Brooking, Labour, in flight at the candidates' meeting at Ōpoho Church at the last general election in 2023. Waiting their turn are representatives from the Greens, National, the Opportunity Party and New Zealand First, while the Cat in the Hat presides. Photo: Otago Daily Times

OH, THE CANDIDATES YOU'LL MEET!

We welcome Valley Voice readers to what we reckon is, by far, the liveliest and most informative election meeting in Dunedin.

It's certainly one of the largest, with the church consistently brim-full. At the last general election, both the church and the adjacent lounge were packed.

The political forum is on **Sunday, November 1, at 7pm at Ōpoho Church**. Save the date!

This is our Opportunity to hear the local candidates as they Labour to seek National office to Act on our behalf. Some are experienced, and some are Green. No doubt, however, their First priority will be to win your party vote. Bring it on!

Candidates qualify to take part only if their party has hit 1% or more in the two national polls before nominations closed.

I'll be moderating, as usual, in my Dr Seuss hat and tossing out a smattering of awful jokes. As I routinely tell the candidates, I know they'll make fools of themselves, and I don't want them to feel lonely. They seldom let me down.

The meeting starts sharp at 7pm. The interval is just seven minutes, and we finish at exactly 9pm.

We'll be collecting a low-key koha for anyone who would like to contribute. Cash and non-perishable goods will go to the Presbyterian Support foodbank. Three years ago, we collected \$638 and about 100 cans. Our Dunedin City Council candidate meetings last year raised \$1308 and collected another 113 items.

Ōpoho resident and musician extraordinaire John Dodd will be entertaining us from about 6.30pm. Then we'll all belt out the national anthem to begin the evening proper.

-- Philip Somerville (aka The Cat in the Hat)

DUNEDIN NORTH PROBUS NEWS

Probus has steadily added to its membership, welcoming six new members to our ranks, all of whom have quickly got involved in club activities. Coffee mornings at Mitre10 have become a social gathering point in winter months, where the world is put right and convivial fellowship is enjoyed. There have been some great speakers, and very good attendance at meetings... a good effort, especially in the colder months.

The Annual mid-winter lunch was held at Concord Tavern on 13 July. This is always popular, and recent renovations giving more dining space, and also great food add to the occasion. This outing is held annually and never loses appeal.

The retirement of long-time Club member Arthur Brown marked the end of a long association with Probus. Arthur joined the Club in April 2005. He has always helped others around him in the community, and continued in this way through his many years with us. He has always been held in the highest regard by members, his kindly manner and dedication making him a great friend to the Club. President Lorraine Young and several committee members went to his home and presented him with a Certificate of Service on his retirement.

The Dunedin Probus Clubs Annual Bowls Challenge on 13 July saw the much sought after Lawn Bowls Shield

played for by four teams; Dunedin South, Green Island-Fairfield, and Dunedin North Probus Clubs. There was no shortage of advice and good-natured banter from the sidelines. Dunedin North finished 2nd behind Green Island-Fairfield Probus. The day



Arthur Brown receives a Certificate of Service for his Probus membership of 21 years.

wound up with afternoon tea, some laughs, and one or two 'more unusual' shots of the day recounted.

Guest speakers throughout the winter included Russel Lund in May, from Dunedin City Council's Policy Planning Committee and Finance & Performance Committee. He has an avid interest in the city's heritage and making it an affordable, liveable city. He spoke on the working complexities of Council, projects at present under consideration, Forsyth Barr Stadium, and aspects of keeping rates in check.

In June, **Tony Cummings**, also known as Barbecue Bill, spoke about his passionate interest in tall ships and told tales of his time on tall ships around the world, and the spirit of adventure. He has met some big challenges but overcome these to lead a very fulfilling life. He also has an international Volunteer of the Year Award from the Sail Training International Awards held in Hallstatt, Sweden.

In July, **Peter Donaldson**, well-travelled and recently retired News Editor, ODT, related many great stories of his time in TT motorcycle racing, working for Formula 1 while in Europe, and his early days as a journalist, all of which captured everyone's attention. On returning to Dunedin, he became junior reporter for the ODT, working his way to the senior editing team, and then Chief News Editor.

In August, **Peter Hart**, Senior Trustee at Public Trust, spoke about his many years associated with the organisation. He has special skills in many areas of their activities, and also a wealth of knowledge on matters of estate planning, wills, enduring POA, probate, and the courts' role when matters of estate are absent or incomplete, outlining important wording, and what to do when changes are needed.

Near to retirement, or retired and wanting some social contact? You may well enjoy the fellowship of the Probus Club environment. Contact Secretary Peter Begg: peabee@xtra.co.nz or 455 1256.



What's selling fast this spring, and what isn't

If you're weighing up whether to list this spring, the calendar matters less than you might think. What actually determines how quickly your home sells, and for how much, is getting the right strategy for what you're selling. A recent market report has Dunedin's median sale price and sales activity both lifting, with a solid run of properties selling above a million dollars last month. QV has the city's average property value at around \$650,000, easing back slightly over the past three months after a steady climb earlier in the year.

You may also have noticed some hesitancy in the market lately. With the general election set for 7 November, a number of buyers and sellers are choosing to wait until the result is known before committing to anything big. This happens before every election, uncertainty makes people cautious no matter which way they lean, and it lifts the moment the result is in, regardless of who forms the next government. In the meantime, well presented, desirable homes in good locations are still attracting strong interest. Buyers get pickier when they're cautious, so it's the ordinary and/or overpriced homes that sit, not the well-presented ones in good spots.

Closer to home, North East Valley sales have run from the high \$400,000s, past \$700,000, widening further once you add Ōpoho, Pine Hill, Normanby, and everything up towards Mount Cargill and Mount Mera. A city-wide average won't tell you much. What matters is where your own home sits inside that spread.

What kind of home are you selling?

The core market here is still warm, well-maintained homes that buyers can move into and enjoy straight away, and in Dunedin, good sun counts for as much as anything. Well-kept three and four-bedroom homes with off-street parking and a sunny, easy section are the standout performers right now, while character homes with original features intact still get plenty of interest, provided the basics like heating and insulation have been sorted. But that's not the whole picture. There's also a genuine market for a project, provided it's packaged and marketed the right way. The key isn't assuming an older or unrenovated home is worth less. It comes down to matching your home to the right buyer, with the right information and disclosures in place so they can move with confidence. If your place needs work, that's not a reason to hold off selling, it's a reason to talk through the right strategy before you list.

Buyers do their homework now, so should you

Today's buyers are more informed than they used to be, comparing properties online and arriving with harder questions, so giving them good information upfront isn't optional. At an absolute minimum, that means a current LIM ready before you list. If your home is more than about twenty years old, I strongly encourage going further with a vendor building inspection

before you market it; an independent inspection on your terms, so you know your home's condition before anyone else does. Many buyers now arrange their own inspection anyway, often quite late in the process, turning whatever it finds into a surprise you manage under pressure. Get your own report first and there are no surprises, you decide what to fix, what to disclose, and what to leave as is.

I saw this happen recently with an older, run-down villa. Before listing, I encouraged the owner to get a vendor inspection done. It turned up several issues, none of which surprised the owner, but it helped set realistic price expectations. Rather than fix anything, the owner disclosed everything upfront and included the full report in the information pack. The home sold after just one open home to a couple looking for exactly that kind of project, and because the report was already available, they didn't need to commission their own. Their lawyer said it made things so much easier.

It costs something upfront, but it can pay off in a higher price too. Buyers who know exactly what they're dealing with feel comfortable making an offer, and when everyone has the same information, you're more likely to see multiple offers.

Getting the pricing and timing right too

Getting the price right from day one matters most. The first fortnight brings out the buyers already looking. Price too high and you miss them, then everyone assumes something's wrong. This matters more when similar homes list at the same time, since buyers can compare. Get a comprehensive, well researched appraisal based on a physical inspection of your home before you list, and price it right.

Thinking about listing this spring?

If you're weighing up whether now's the time, I'd love to have a chat. I'll come and take a look at your place, give you an honest read on what it could sell for, and what's worth doing beforehand. No pressure, just a chat. Give me a call or drop me a line anytime.

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.

Coffee with Pete

CASUAL PROPERTY CHAT

Thinking about downsizing or your next move? No presentations. No sales pitch -- just a relaxed chat over coffee.

peter@nzps.co.nz



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

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ART CLASSES

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

ART CLASSES

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

ART PASTEL GROUP

All levels welcome. Meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 12.15–3.15pm, Valley Project. Text Anneloes ☎ 027 3077 034 or Adrienne ☎ 027 387 4529

CALLING LOCAL CRAFTERS

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

CURIOUS ABOUT SINGING?

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

DIAL-A-PIPER

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

DUNEDIN BRAIN SING

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

DUNEDIN FIDDLE CLUB

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

FOLK CLUB OPEN MIC NIGHT

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

GIG: PAPER MOON

Pull up a glass of bubbles at the gorgeous swing and jazz chords of the band Paper Moon at Blueskin Gallery, Waitati, Wednesday 30th September, 7pm.

GROUP DRUM LESSONS

Learn to play djembe, cajon, percussion with a focus on enjoyment, finding your sound...

and jamming. Jamie: ☎ 027 550 2858 ✉ drumwithjamie@gmail.com

GUITAR LESSONS

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

KIDS ART CLASS

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

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

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

PIANO LESSONS

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

SHE CHOIR DUNEDIN

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

SINGING FOR FUN

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

SINGING LESSONS

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

UKULELE SESSIONS

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

community

BIKE WORKSHOP

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

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

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.

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COMMUNITY PATROL

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

COMMUNITY STUDY CIRCLE

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

CUPPA & CONNECTIONS

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

DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

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

DUNEDIN CURTAIN BANK

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

DUNEDIN NORTH PROBUS

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

ENABLING LOVE

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

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GARDENING TOOLS

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

GOT BAGS/EGG CARTONS?

38 paper bags are used weekly for the Valley Project's Kai Share programme. Sometimes we need egg cartons, too. We would appreciate any donations of these. Drop at reception at 262 North Rd.

LEGAL ADVICE

Free legal advice at Community Law Otago, available by appt. Qualified lawyers. Practical solutions. ✉ reception@ddcl.org.nz ☎ 03 474 1922

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

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

NEV COMMUNITY GARDEN

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

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Pine Hill resident, Colin Lind, available for JP services. Flexible days and hours. ☎ 03 473 7174 ✉ colinlind@hotmail.com

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Upper Junction resident, John Campbell, available for JP services by appointment only. ✉ johnandmaryjanecampbell@gmail.com ☎ 021 646 266

NORTH DUNEDIN SHED

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

NORWOOD STREET NEIGHBOURS

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

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

BALFOLK DANCE

Classes are now paused until mid-september.

Minibals continue:

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

✉ balfolkdunedin@gmail.com
🌐 www.balfolk.co.nz

BELLEKNOWES GOLF CLUB

Green fees \$15

\$10/player after 4pm

Come & enjoy our fantastic 9-hole golf course on Lawson St. Spectacular views over the city. Call Secretary, Lorraine Lobb: ☎ 027 465 1516

BRAIN INJURY SURVIVORS

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

CONTRA DANCE

Every Monday 7.30-9pm. Ōpoho Presbyterian Church, Signal Hill Rd. No partner required. \$3. Info ☎ 021 185 4566

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY

Suffering from stress, anxiety, migraines, chronic pain or digestive problems? Quiet your mind, relax your body, settle your nervous system with craniosacral therapy. Local student offering low-cost sessions in the Valley to gain practical experience. To book: ✉ summeroak@proton.me

CRISIS RECOVERY CAFÉ

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

CROP SWAP NEV

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

DIVINE MESSAGE

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

DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

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

'EVERY BODY' HOLISTIC MASSAGE

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

FOLK DANCING FOR FUN

North East Valley Bowling Club, 139 North Road, 10-11.30am, Fridays, \$5. ☎ Yvonne 455 2406 ✉ stureid1@yahoo.co.nz

FRUIT & VEGES NFP

Fresh quality fruit & veges at lower prices at St Martin's Church, 194 North Road. \$14, \$7 or \$4 prepaid weekly bags for pick-up. Sign up online: 🌐 allsaintsdn.org.nz/all-saints-fruit-and-veges/ Want to volunteer? Email: ✉ admin@allsaintsdn.org.nz

MASSAGE FOR WOMEN

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

MASSAGE THERAPIST

On-site chair massage (place of work, minimum 3 people) and private studio sessions. Hohohono, Reiki. Mere kara ☎ 021 171 8094 📍 massage serenity and healing

MEDITATION FUNDAMENTALS

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

NEV BOWLING CLUB

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

ORTHO-BIONOMY

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

PARKRUN

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

PERSONAL TRAINING AND BOXING

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

RAJA YOGA MEDITATION

Stressed? Mind too busy? Free 4-lesson course over 4 weeks. Next course commences Tues. 13 Oct. 7-8.15pm. Leave a message on ☎ 03 473 7137, we will call back with details. Brahma Kumaris Meditation Centre, 88 Watts Road.

STEADY AS YOU GO

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

TANNOCK GLEN

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

THREE LEFT FEET

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

ZEN MEDITATION

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

families, kids, and teens

AURORA TAMARIKI EARLY YEARS CARE AND KINDY

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

DUNEDIN CITY TOY LIBRARY

St Thomas' Hall in Pine Hill, corner 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 & 10-11.30am Saturdays.

DUNEDIN RUDOLF STEINER PLAYGROUP

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

GO! YOUTH GROUP

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

INTERGENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP

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

MT CARGILL GIRLGUIDES

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

NEV NORMAL SCHOOL PTA

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

NEV PLAYGROUP

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

ŌPOHO PLAYCENTRE

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

ŌPOHO SCOUTS

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

SPACE FOR YOU AND YOUR BABY

Programs run by registered ECE teachers supporting families through their 1st year with new baby. New location: 194 North Road ✉ space@nevbctrust.org ☎ 021 150 9165

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

further education

BEGINNER ENGLISH FOR CHINESE

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

Classifieds continued next page... 📄

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

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

COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT

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

ITALIAN CLASSES

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

LEARN ENGLISH

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

LEARN GERMAN

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

MATHS MADE EASY

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

REO MĀORI

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

VOCAL TEACHER

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

trading corner

529 PLANTS

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

ALL-ROUNDER

Available for odd jobs, cleaning, gardening. Good references available. Chris 📞 022 374 5970

BABYSITTER

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

BALDWIN STREET BOOK

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

BIN CLEANING

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

CHIMNEY SWEEPS

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

COFFEE WITH PETE

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

COMPUTER & MOBILE SUPPORT

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

COMPUTER REPAIR

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

CROP SWAP

Everything is free! No money exchanges. Bring along things you have in abundance from your garden or kitchen. Last Sunday of every month, 262 North Rd. Doors open 2.45pm. Swapping starts 3pm.

DAVE'S COMPUTER SERVICE

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

DISCOUNTED RAT TRAPS

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

DOG WALKING

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

EXPERIENCED PAINTER

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

FARELLA ORTHODONTICS

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

FREE SCRAP METAL & BATTERY PICKUP

Clearing out the shed or garage? Free local pickup service for small to medium loads in NEV, Pine Hill, and Ōpoho. Station wagon pickup—perfect for steel, aluminium, copper, brass, and old car, truck, or marine batteries. Friendly, fast, and right down the road. Call or text 📞 JT: 027 206 1725

GARAGES TO RENT

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

HAIRDRESSER

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

JESCARGO CARPET REPAIRS

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

LAWNS ELITE

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

LAWN MOWING

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

LOCAL HANDYMAN & LANDSCAPER

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

MEGA RUMMAGE SALE

HEAPS of second-hand goods for sale, plus coffee cart & bake sale! DNI hall, Sunday 18 October 11am–2pm. A fundraiser to send DNI and NEVN Lego League tamariki to Auckland Nationals. Accepting donated goods for rummage until 16 October. Text 📞 022 308 6899

NEV LAWNS & GARDENS

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

NORTON BIKE WANTED

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

RELIABLE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

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

SPLIT FIREWOOD FOR SALE

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

STORAGE UNITS

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

VENUS FLY TRAPS

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

WANTED TO BUY

Vintage jewellery, gold and silver, any condition considered. Contact 📞 Jonelle 021 255 1465

WANTED: TO LAY ON A WATER BED

It is an unfulfilled childhood dream. Call or text with any leads. Constance, 027 5 88 99 88

WELDING REPAIRS

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

church services

ANGLICAN: ST MARTIN'S

194 North Rd, 10.30am

GLENAVEN METHODIST

7 Chambers St, 11am

HOPE CHURCH

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

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN

George St. Normal School Hall, 10am

ŌPOHO PRESBYTERIAN

50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am

PACIFIC ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC

89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am

SALVATION ARMY

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

TWO TICKS GREEN

for all of us.

- For strengthening the Healthy Homes Standards and enforcing an independent certified Rental Warrant of Fitness.
- For fixing our broken power system so that people, not profits, come first.
- For ensuring public health services are accessible for all, with a focus on prevention.



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Dunedin



**DR LISA
TE MORENGA**

Te Tai Tonga



Authorised by Miriam Ross, greens.org.nz

Green

ARCHERY CLUB AIMING FOR ACCESSIBILITY

A new concrete path could make the Dunedin Archery Club and its Chingford Park grounds more accessible to the whole community—but first, the club needs to raise the funds to make it happen.

The idea was sparked by para archer Paul Wallace, who uses a wheelchair and has found it difficult to reach the club's shooting line. The route involves a steep bank and stairs, with the ground becoming slippery and muddy in winter. The club wants to turn this challenge into a lasting improvement for everyone, with a concrete path connecting the existing walkway to the shooting line.

The path would improve access for wheelchair users and people with mobility difficulties, as well as families with prams. The estimated cost for its construction is around \$8,800. The club already has a wee bit of funding, but needs to raise the remaining amount. The good news is that the Dunedin City Council has indicated it can carry out the work if the community can raise the required funds.

Based at Chingford Park in North East Valley, the Dunedin Archery Club was founded in 1938 and is one of New Zealand's longest-established archery clubs. The volunteer-run club offers regular coaching, Have-a-Go opportunities and tournaments, with members shooting throughout the year. Improving access would help make the club and its facilities available to more people.

Help pave the way! Donations of any size are welcome! givealittle.co.nz/cause/a-path-for-paul



The Electoral Commission team will be at **Kids' Day Out!**

We can help you enrol, check and update your details, and answer any questions you have about enrolling and voting.



vote.nz 0800 36 76 56

Saturday 26 September

10.30am to 2pm

North East Valley Normal School
262 North Rd, Dunedin

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