

BETWEEN A ROCK AND A STEEP PLACE

Collections of any kind are fascinating, but a guided tour through millions of years of volcanoes, earthquakes, and prehistoric life is on another level altogether.

Speaking of levels, every flat and vertical surface of Matthew and Vivien's house at 30 Baldwin Street is chock-full of almost every kind of rock, mineral, gemstone, and fossil it's possible to collect from the lower South Island (and beyond).

"We're just amateur rockhounds," says Matthew, but within minutes of talking about the adventures they've had collecting specimens, you're aware their passion for the pastime is all-consuming. From common agates to "rattlestones" and spectacular fossilised crabs, you'll wonder what incredible history you've been walking past (Continued page #6...)



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- 🖨️ printing & photocopying
- 🍽️ food assistance



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2026 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #:	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
CONTENT DUE:	Mar 4	Apr 22	Jun 3	July 29	Sep 2	Oct 7	Nov 11
DISTRIBUTION DATE:	Mar 28	May 16	Jun 27	Aug 22	Sep 26	Oct 31	Dec 5

VALLEY PROJECT COMMUNITY ROOMS FOR HIRE

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

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

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

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



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

A QUICK NOTE FROM OUR MANAGER

Ngā mihi o te tau hou | Happy New Year! I hope you've had a restful summer. I've been thinking about summer as a time to prepare for winter, so I've started a list of jobs to make the colder months easier—like collecting firewood and planting a winter vegetable garden.

If you'd like to grow your winter vegetables with others, join the NEV Community Gardens on alternating weekends (schedule in every issue of Valley Voice). You can also visit the Valley Project seed library during office hours to take home free seeds.

The Ōtepoti Community Fruit Harvest is underway for the 2026 season, hosted by Our Food Network. There will be opportunities to learn how to preserve fruit for winter. For more info or to get involved, contact coordinator Karin Ludwig at harvest@ourfoodnetwork.org.nz.

From time to time, community members offer firewood to pass on, so please let us know if you need help keeping your home warm and we may be able to connect you.

On the note of new beginnings, I'd like to take this chance to say Haere rā to you all. After three years, I'm moving on from my role as Manager and wish to thank all those in the community for the awesome vibe, participation, and support that makes this place so welcoming and vibrant.

-- Kā mihi, Jen



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Arborist

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CALLING VALLEY CHANGEMAKERS

As we kick off 2026, we'd like to hear more from people who are keen to get involved and play a role in dreaming up and creating greater connections across Valley communities. If you have bright ideas, useful skills and experience, or simply heaps of enthusiasm, then we'd love to talk to you!

We're after fresh ideas and people willing to volunteer their time and energy to help create a more inclusive, healthy, and connected community, to protect our environment, and support collective wellbeing.

At last year's NEV Community Dinner, people shared fantastic ideas and inspiring feedback, including:

Events & Activities: Food events, community discos, outdoor concerts, planting days, picnics, multicultural celebrations, street markets, sports days, and litter clean-ups.

Services: Accessible community bus, literacy and maths tuition, more Lilliput libraries, drop-in mental health support, and litter management.

New groups: Cooking, walking, cycling, or social groups.

Information & Awareness: Health and community expert sessions, native plant awareness and promotion, and invasive species management.

If any of these ideas float your boat—or you have your own—get in touch with Claire, Community Development Coordinator: community@northeastvalley.org, call us, or drop by the office. We'd love to chat and work together to bring your idea to life!



VCW COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

The Valley Community Workspace is currently home to three community groups: The Valley Cycle Workshop, Dunedin's LoomRoom weaving studio, and Sew On Period Care. To celebrate their volunteers and community activity, as well as to share their mahi with the public, they would like to invite you to an Open Day, Saturday 7 March, 10am to 2pm.

On the day, regular volunteers at the Cycle Workshop will be repairing bikes as usual, plus there will be demonstrations on how to fix punctures and perform simple bike maintenance. Bikes and bike parts will be available for koha.

Sew On Period Care will showcase sustainable options for managing periods without creating mountains of expensive plastic waste.

At the LoomRoom, visitors can see weavers at work, view beautiful woven goods, and even try weaving for themselves.

As a fundraiser for the maintenance of our building, we'll also be holding a bake sale and BBQ, so why not enjoy lunch with us while testing out a refurbished bike—or even a new electric bicycle from Dunedin Electric Bikes? This is a great chance to get to know the Valley Community Workspace. Grab your friends and whānau and come visit us at 11 Allen Street in North East Valley.

WEATHERING IT TOGETHER

PLANNING FOR WHEN THINGS GET WILD



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

JOIN OUR NEW VALLEY RESILIENCE GROUP

Share your local knowledge, skills and ideas to build on our readiness and resilience here in the Valley!

Email community@northeastvalley.org



NEXT MEETING:
MON. 16 FEBRUARY 2026, 6PM
 The Valley Project, 262 North Rd. NEV

save the dates

Valley Resilience Group	Mon. 16 February
Rōpū Reo Begins	Wed. 18 February
Crop Swap	Sun. 22 February
VCW Open Day	Sat. 7 March
Crop Swap	Sun. 29 March
Winter Warmer	Sat. 6 June
Valley Fest 2026	Month of September

Follow our Facebook for official event info and notices.

 (03) 473 8614

 262 North Road,
North East Valley,
Dunedin

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 www.northeastvalley.org

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

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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 MARCH 4, 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.



KĀKĀ COMMOTION IN THE VALLEY

North East Valley residents have been treated to some extraordinary visitors recently – the unmistakable squawk and flash of olive-brown feathers belonging to the kākā, one of Aotearoa's most charismatic native parrots. Several sightings have been reported around the Valley, delighting community members and sparking excitement among bird lovers, young and old.

Kākā were once common throughout Dunedin's forests, but habitat loss and predators pushed them out of urban areas for many decades. Thanks to conservation efforts, predator control, and thriving populations on the Otago Peninsula and in Orokonui Ecosanctuary, these clever forest parrots are slowly reclaiming parts of the city. A kākā sighting in North East Valley is a wonderful sign that nature is responding to these efforts.

Kākā are curious, intelligent birds known for their loud calls, playful behaviour, and powerful beaks. They feed on nectar, fruit, seeds, sap, and insects, often tearing into bark in search of tasty treats. While this can sometimes cause damage to trees or wooden structures, their presence is a strong indicator of a healthy ecosystem.

What Should You Do If You See a Kākā?

- 👁️ If you're lucky enough to spot one, enjoy the moment, but please admire from a distance.
- 👁️ Do not feed kākā: Human food can harm them and encourages risky or destructive behaviour. It is also lacking in the nutrition they need and can add to the spread of diseases.
- 👁️ Keep dogs and cats under control: Kākā, particularly juveniles, often forage on the ground, making them vulnerable to pet attacks.
- 👁️ Avoid approaching or touching them, even if they seem friendly.
- 👁️ Drive carefully, especially at dawn and dusk, when birds are most active.

How to Report a Sighting

Reporting sightings helps conservationists track kākā movements and better protect them. If you spot a kākā, try to get a photo and then log your sighting on iNaturalist NZ or eBird. If a kākā appears injured, grounded, or in immediate danger, contact the DOC (Department of Conservation) as soon as possible for advice.

Seeing kākā in North East Valley is something truly special – a reminder that with care and collective effort, wildlife can return to our neighbourhoods. Keep your eyes (and ears!) open – you never know when you'll hear that distinctive kākā call overhead. -- *Jennie Wagner-Gordon*



Photographed in North East Valley by resident Eleanor Linscott



WEKA WATCH IN DUNEDIN

This report carries on from and builds upon my report shared with everybody at the end of May 2025. I've continued to compile records as I've received them. Reports have come from many sources, so thanks to everyone for posting sightings and responding to my follow-up questions. I currently have 89 records, starting from 2020, with the most recent on 9 January.

The overall summary is that since May:

- 👁️ There have been a number of one-off reports from around the city and Peninsula. These include Reids Beach, South Okia Reserve (both on the Otago Peninsula), Zingary Rugby grounds, and two sightings at Port Chalmers.
- 👁️ There were two sightings at the uphill part of St Leonards. Based on how close these locations are to Signal Hill it could well be that these sightings are of birds walking across the hill!
- 👁️ The bird at St Clair was seen regularly along the Second Beach track, in backyards along Cliffs Road and near the Long Dog Café until November when presumably this bird was seen along Victoria Road near the tennis courts. Since then, nothing.
- 👁️ The birds in North East Valley continued to be present all through the winter, spring, and now summer. They could have been the records at Forrester Park and up on North Road.

BUT the most important news is there have been three broods of chicks seen at different times around Signal Hill Road. This is pretty amazing, and it will be very interesting to see what happens next as these chicks spread out in the suburb.

This is a fascinating story, and I'm always happy to receive new reports to add to my spreadsheet ([027 389 1477](tel:0273891477) or brucejmckinlay@gmail.com). We now have a full listing that helps us understand future sightings, and additional reports—even of what might be considered common—are appreciated, as they allow me to track patterns over time.

Please feel free to share this and encourage friends to send me an email or text if they see weka. -- *Bruce McKinlay*



DUNEDIN GETS BUSY WITH BACKYARD BOUNTY

The fruit harvest season is well underway across Dunedin, with plum trees now ripening and ready to be picked. Our Food Network has welcomed a number of new volunteers and registered several new fruit trees in recent weeks.

Thanks to Mercy Hospital, the Lotteries, and the DCC Waste Minimisation Grant, new Community Fruit Harvest Coordinator Karin Ludwig is connecting homeowners with volunteers who enjoy an outing with a difference – picking and sharing fruit from private gardens to benefit the wider community. Volunteer harvesters have already collected surplus fruit from Mosgiel, Fairfield, Macandrew Bay, Ōpoho, North East Valley, and as far north as Warrington and Evansdale, ensuring excess fruit is put to good use rather than going to waste.

Once harvested, the fruit is redistributed to pātaka kai (community food pantries) and food banks throughout Dunedin, providing fresh, locally grown produce to people who need it most. A recent outing also highlighted the social side of the programme, with three local families—including kids 6 to 14 years old—enjoying a day outdoors, connecting with one another while picking and sharing plums.

Residents with an abundance of fruit (or any produce from your garden – we are not picky), are encouraged to get in touch. New volunteers are always welcome—but beware, you might get hooked for a fruitful summer! Sign up via the Our Food Network website under community fruit harvest, and follow *Community*



Fruit Harvest Dunedin Ōtepoti on Facebook for updates.

With plenty more fruit to come, Our Food Network hopes the community will continue supporting this simple but impactful way of reducing food waste and strengthening local food resilience. -- Karin Ludwig, CFH Co-ordinator

Ripe Guide

Plums: Look for fruit that's fully coloured, slightly soft to the touch, and comes off the tree easily. A ripe plum should smell sweet and fruity. Most plum varieties that are ready to pick have a chalky glaze. Plums will ripen off the tree, so it's OK to pick them when slightly firm.

Apples: Fruit on the sunny side of the tree ripens first. Cup an apple in your hand and lift it up or sideways. If it's perfectly ready, it'll pop right off the branch. Pulling could break off next season's spurs or create space for disease to brew. And avoid picking too early – apples need to ripen on the tree for full sweetness.

Pears: Pears do not ripen on the tree, and need to be picked when mature. Neither colour or density can tell you when a pear tree is ready for picking. Hold the fruit in your hand and tilt it horizontally. Mature fruit will easily come away from the branch at this angle. If it is not yet ready, it will hold onto the branch. Collected pears can take up to two weeks to ripen off the tree!



FRESH PICKS AND BIG FLAVOURS FROM TINY PLOTS

You don't need a large backyard to enjoy fresh, home-grown food. In Dunedin, where many of us live in flats, townhouses, or homes with limited outdoor space, small-scale gardening is a practical and rewarding way to grow vegetables, herbs, and even fruit. With summer in full swing, now is a great time to make the most of pots, containers, and compact raised garden beds.

Container gardening is one of the easiest ways to start small. Pots can be placed on decks, balconies, steps, or sunny doorways. Tomatoes, lettuces, chillies, beans, herbs, and strawberries all grow well in containers, as long as they get enough sun and regular watering. Choose pots with good drainage and use quality potting mix to keep plants healthy through the warmer months.

Small raised garden beds are another excellent option. Even a bed just one or two metres long can produce a surprising amount of food. Raised beds warm up quickly in summer, drain well during heavy rain, and are easier on your back and knees. They're ideal for fast-growing summer crops like courgettes, silverbeet, salad greens, and herbs. In Dunedin's changeable climate, raised beds also make it easier to manage soil quality and moisture.

A key tip for small gardens is to grow what you actually enjoy eating and to plant little and often. This helps avoid waste and keeps your garden productive throughout the season. Vertical growing, such as beans or peas on trellises, can also maximise limited space.

Here at the Valley Project, we have two small office garden beds grown for both staff and community consumption. They're a great example of how much can be achieved in a modest space. You're very welcome to stop by if you have questions about how the beds work, what's growing, or if you'd simply like a bit of inspiration for your own small garden.

Small gardens can still bring big joy and plenty of fresh food right through summer and beyond.

-- Jennie Wagner-Gorton



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



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



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DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 28 Feb. 10am	Sat. 28 Mar. 10am	Sat. 25 Apr. 10am
Sat. 14 Mar. 10am	Sat. 11 Apr. 10am	Sat. 9 May 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 21 Feb. 9:30am	Sun. 15 Mar. 1pm	Sat. 4 Apr. 9:30am
Sun. 1 Mar. 1pm	Sat. 21 Mar. 9:30am	Sun. 12 Apr. 1pm
Sat. 7 Mar. 9:30am	Sun. 29 Mar. 1pm	Sat. 18 Apr. 9:30am

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

(...continued from front page.) every time you step on the beach or climb a hill on the weekend.

Matthew and Vivien have been collecting rocks for as long as they can remember. Matthew proudly shows off a beautiful specimen, some 10 inches across, that they discovered on their honeymoon. He recounts a story from when they were visiting a site near Ōhau ski field (which used to be an ocean floor) and he went to throw a rock as far as he could. "Vivien said, 'Don't throw that—it has a fish fossil in it.' Sure enough, she was right."

He explains that Baldwin Street is a great place for visitors, and the vast majority of those who venture into their home are tourists, largely from Asia. To make their visit more welcoming, he has been learning Mandarin and can speak a few phrases very well.

While many of the examples are in raw form, the pair also spend considerable time and effort bringing out the best qualities and natural beauty of their collection, using a tumbler and various grades of media to achieve a mirror shine in bowls of gemstones. A "pickup only" Trade Me purchase necessitating a road trip to Nelson, Matthew has modified his tumbler with a variable speed controller for greater precision and a superior mirror finish.

In addition to polishing, some collectors will also slice a large rock to reveal incredibly detailed formations resembling landscapes and familiar works of art. An expert eye is needed to pick good rocks for these "picture stones," a thin slice of which can look eerily like the work of Klimt or van Gogh. If your eye can see a picture—it's a picture stone!

So... how do you get started with a collection of your own? The answer is either quite simple, or a descent into obsession.

Matthew and Vivien have been members of the Otago Rock and Mineral Club for many years, welcoming new members on regular monthly excursions and opening a world of expertise to those looking to own their own piece of history. Many sites are public knowledge (Motunau Beach is particularly good for marine life artefacts), but it takes decades of accumulated knowledge to know where the truly special spots are. They explain that some are on private land, and a complex ritual of permissions is

required to enter and gather respectfully—a custom often (and as old as time) involving the exchange of beer!

Occasionally, natural forces or development can unearth raw gemstones, but any raw pounamu—such as a boulder—discovered outside areas open to public fossicking and/or larger than what one can carry, is the property of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. In particular, any artefact discovered, such as a toki (adze) or hei tiki (stylised pendant), is the property of the Crown and is of particular significance to Ngāi Tahu. It is illegal to remove or interfere in any way with the artefact or the site where it was found.

Whale bones, too, are subject to ancient custom and must not be extracted until the spirit has left the animal—the point at which the skeleton "parts" of its own accord. Best to ask the experts before a leisurely rock-collecting expedition turns into significant legal trouble!

Situated as you are in a volcanic caldera, the variety of treasures available is richer than it might be elsewhere. The club can help you train your eye to spot rocks that might yield beauty no one has ever seen before, and guide you through legislation designed to protect our taonga from exploitation.

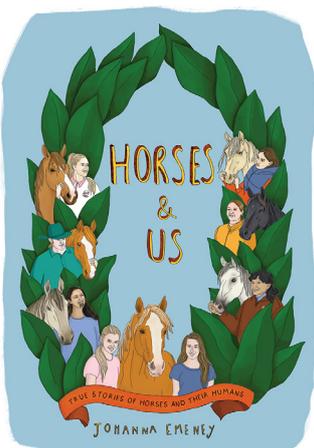
But if the hobby takes hold, beware—there seems to be no limit to the lengths rockhounds will go to in order to secure a rare specimen.

"I nearly drowned extracting this fossilised tree stump from a fast-flowing river," Matthew recounts cheerily, proudly showing us the ancient stump-shaped anchor in his hallway (pictured to the left). "It weighs over 50kg, and at one point I almost had to let go!"

Thankfully, a willow tree was on hand to help a collector who was literally over his head.

The collection doesn't seem to have an end. Every corner holds a dozen stories, every stone a secret to tell if you're patient. Allow yourself time to absorb the wonder, and you'll find that one visit isn't enough.

Matthew and Vivien's geology museum at 30 Baldwin Street is open almost every day during the cruise ship season, from about 10am until 4pm. If the sign is out, come on in! Koha entry—in rock, mineral, or monetary form—is appreciated. -- Karl Bray



HORSES & US: TRUE AOTEAROA STORIES

Horses & Us by Johanna Emenev launches 12 March. This 200-page, full-colour non-fiction book for tweens and teens explores the bond between horses and humans through 23 true stories from across Aotearoa, featuring well-known riders, performers and artists.

Based in Tāmaki Makaurau, Emenev spent two years travelling the country to research and interview people and horses, gathering stories that young readers can connect with, from high-country stations near Queenstown to horse-trekking whānau in Tūrangi.

The final chapter tells the story of Emenev's own pony, Billy, whose recovery from life-threatening illness reflects the resilience and care at the heart of the book.

With poems, stunning photography, and illustrations by six award-winning New Zealand illustrators, Horses & Us is a book to treasure for young equine enthusiasts of all kinds.

Horses & Us by Johanna Emenev (Massey University Press). RRP \$37. www.masseypress.ac.nz

DUNEDIN NORTHPROBUS NEWS

Summer Activities: Our club had a recess over the Christmas period; however, we usually gather later in January for an outing or get-together. Our December 2025 meeting included a very special presentation, followed by a Christmas lunch.

Christmas Lunch: For a change this year, a group of 28 enjoyed lunch at the Alehouse after our December 2025 meeting. The meal was excellent, and the venue proved a good choice, according to members' feedback. There was plenty of time to relax and chat over a drink.

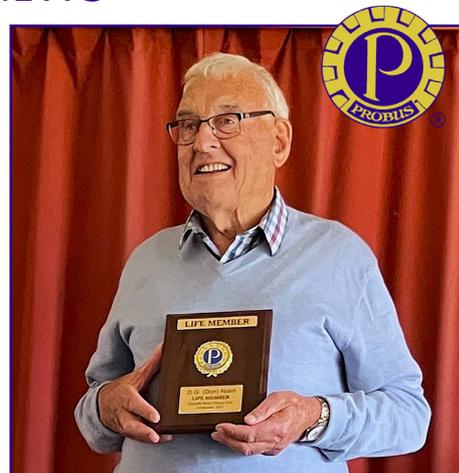
Presentation of Life Membership: Life membership is awarded only occasionally to recognise long and distinctive service to our club and Probus locally. Don Nash received this honour at our December 2025 meeting in recognition of 20 years of service. He was President from 2009–2011, Secretary from 2011–2018, and has since served on the committee organising visits and outings. His determination and uncanny ability to find excellent guest speakers over many years have contributed significantly to the appeal and well-being of our club, a role he continues today.

Guest Speakers: In November, club member Innes McColl, a man with "hidden talents," gave an uplifting talk on his work with young people from 1980 to 2005. Through his involvement with Wide Horizons, many were given opportunities that set them on the right path in life—work whose value is often underestimated.

In December, club member Wayne Jefcoate, recently returned from the UK and parts of Europe, gave a light-hearted account of his travels. Highlights included bacon-flavoured milkshakes, enthusiasm for local club cricket, and the remarkable restoration of the warship Mary Rose.

Day Trip to Waihola and Titri Family Farm Museum: On 26 January, members travelled by car to visit the Titri Family Farm Museum. The day began with tea and coffee, followed by a fascinating look at a farm that has remained in the same family since 1857, with rare early machinery on display. After lunch at the Black Swan Café, a short walk was enjoyed along the lake walk/cycleway. While cloud obscured views of the Maungatua Range, the stroll was refreshing, and social connection was the main aim. -- Peter Begg

If you're retired or nearing retirement, Probus may be a great way for you to meet new people. Our club offers informal monthly meetings focused on enjoyment and fellowship, and is open to both men and women. Costs are minimal for membership. For more info, contact Peter Begg: peabee@xtra.co.nz or 455 1256.



Don Nash, new Dunedin Probus life member.



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INTRODUCING KATE MCANELLY: VALLEY PROJECT CO-CHAIR

Kia ora e te whānau. Ko Kate McAnelly tōku ingoa | my name's Kate McAnelly. While I've served on the Valley Project executive since mid-2024, at the end of 2025 I stepped into the role of co-chair alongside James Sutherland to help drive the VP's kaupapa: an inclusive, connected, and thriving community where values of care, collaboration, wellbeing, and welcoming underpin all that we are and do.

Ko wai au? Who am I? I was born and raised in Waihōpai, Invercargill — which a quick request to utter the words “purple, verb, work, curtain” will confirm! My whānau|family and I moved to Dunedin in early 2017 so I could undertake my PhD on campus at the University of Otago College of Education. Our connection to North East Valley began a year earlier, when Michael Gaffney invited us to visit the community playgroup and SPACE programme at the former Valley Baptist Community Centre. That first visit sparked our sense of belonging here and ultimately led us to put down roots in this part of Ōtepoti over anywhere else in the city.

The sense of welcome and belonging was immediate, and the community vibe of “you're free to be your unapologetic, authentic self here” was (and is!) so refreshing. Honestly, there's nowhere else I'd rather be! For the first 7.5 years we lived in the community, I—an early childhood kaiako | teacher by profession—worked within the SPACE programme while completing my PhD, and then ran my own small not-for-profit education professional learning and development consultancy, Tūranga mō ngā Mokopuna.



I farewelled being part of the Community Centre furniture in mid-2024 when I took up a regional early childhood lecturing position with the Open Polytechnic. This role sees me teaching, researching, and supporting early childhood student kaiako on practicum in Dunedin and surrounds, North Otago, South Canterbury, and the Mackenzie Country. It keeps me busy, but I love it. When not visiting students, I work from home in a peaceful, sunny office overlooking the Valley.

Around the time I took up my current role, James—who I knew through our shared trusteeship of the North East Valley Baptist Community Trust—sensed I was up for stretching and growing in the community development space, and invited me to join the Valley Project executive, drawing on my background in education. I was keen, and so here we are.

Since then, I've not only learned a lot about the Valley Project's vision and priorities, but just as importantly, I've gained a greater appreciation for the impactful work being done with and for our community. There are a range of governance-related responsibilities we undertake as the executive. I'm especially focused on strengthening a lived commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi across the organisation, and amplifying the voices of tamariki, rakatahi | children, and young people in shaping what makes North East Valley a great place to live, learn, and play. We may have a pretty good idea of these things from an adult perspective, but we can—and should—actively listen to them in shaping what we do, how we do it, and why.

Bring on 2026 and beyond! -- *Kā mihi manaaki, Kate*

AROUND THE VALLEY TABLE: PURIM, 2-3 MARCH

Our Valley is shaped by the people who live here, and this new column shines a light on the cultural and religious celebrations observed by members of our local community. From March 2-3, our Jewish neighbours will be gathering for the holiday Purim.

Purim is a joyous festival that marks the deliverance of the Jews from annihilation in the Persian Empire, as described in the Book of Esther. It celebrates how Esther (a hidden Jew) strategically revealed Haman's plot “to destroy, to kill and to annihilate the Jews” (3:13), saving her people from destruction driven by racial hatred.

When Esther discovers that her husband King Ahasuerus' chief advisor, Haman, is planning to kill the Jews, she invites both men to a two-day banquet. There, she reveals not only Haman's plot but also her own Jewish identity. Outraged by Haman's treachery, the King orders the execution of Haman and his sons instead of the Jews.

On Purim, Jews read the Book of Esther, usually in a synagogue, and give gifts of food to friends and family. According to one famous Jewish teacher, however, most money should be spent on helping the poor, homeless, and needy, as the Bible calls to care for the disadvantaged. The day ends with feasting and gladness, as commanded in the Book of Esther, with traditional foods such as challah, chicken soup with kreplach, hummus and pita, pickled vegetables, brisket, wine, and sweet pastries called hamantaschen. These pastries, filled with poppy seed, prune paste, or apricot jam, symbolise Jewish victory and the weakening of evil. -- *Lara Anderson*

HAMANTASCHEN RECIPE



INGREDIENTS (DOUGH)

¾ cup butter, softened
cup sugar
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla
1 tsp grated orange zest
2¼ cups flour
¼ tsp salt
1-5 tsp water (if needed)

POPPY SEED FILLING

Simmer 1 cup ground poppy seeds with 1 cup milk, ½ cup sugar, and 1 tablespoon lemon juice and zest, stirring until thick.

PRUNE FILLING

Simmer prunes with water, sugar, and orange juice and zest, then purée until smooth.

QUICK OPTION

Use apricot jam straight from the jar.

METHOD
Cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, vanilla, and orange zest. Add the flour and salt and mix until a crumbly dough forms. Knead gently into a smooth ball, adding a little water if the dough feels too dry. Chill the dough for about 3 hours. Roll the dough out thinly on a floured surface and cut 3-inch circles (about 35). Place 1-2 teaspoons of filling in the centre of each circle, then pinch the edges to form triangles. Bake at 180°C / 350°F for 10-25 minutes, until lightly golden.



LET'S START 2026 DANCING!

I am a community dance teacher. I teach dance because I believe in what happens when people learn to move together: presence, real encounter, community.

If you're curious about social group and partner dancing, Balfolk might be your new favourite thing. Balfolk is a convivial dance movement based on traditional and regional dances, especially from France, but also from Scandinavia and various European countries. It is multi-generational, friendly, and genuinely welcoming. You don't need a partner, and you don't need experience.

2026 CLASSES - TWO DANCE STYLES

Balfolk (Wednesday evenings): I will run a series of Balfolk classes across the year with a simple, supportive structure: an hour of instruction, a short break, then an hour of informal, relaxed practice with music. Balfolk is group and partner dancing. You can come on your own or with friends, and we rotate partners (always optional).

European Contredanses (Tuesday mornings): I also teach European contredanses. Unlike Balfolk that includes some partner dancing, contredanses are group dances, and they are a different experience altogether. While English Country Dance and Scottish Country Dance are the well-known contredanse traditions, many European countries developed their own repertoire. In this class, we explore some English Country dances alongside some French dances that have been influenced by this style. Even numbers help, so a partner is useful in this class, but not essential.

What is a "Balfolk minibal"? A minibal is a low-pressure Balfolk dance gathering; part guided practice session, part celebration. A minibal includes a few old favorites, and plenty of simple dances so newcomers can enjoy the dance and build confidence. A minibal is ideal if you want to get a taste of what Balfolk is, or if you simply want more dancing in your life. Balfolk minibals are held in the beautiful light-filled Josephine Foyer of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum on the last Sunday of each month from 2pm to 3:30pm. Minibals are open to the public and are free.



SPECIAL EVENTS

In March, we will start our dance year with a pique-nique followed by a special minibal at Toitū.

In May, we are looking forward to our annual Pastel Ball: a Jane Austen style, dress-up-friendly evening with a softer colour theme, and a slightly more "occasion" feel while still staying beginner-welcoming.

This year begins with mixed feelings. Losing our venue of many years (the NEV Valley Baptist Community Centre) has been very sad and what I believe to be a concerning loss for the Valley community. These facilities were more than rooms; they were a gathering point. At the same time, we're deeply grateful to the All Saint's Church for welcoming us into our new space for 2026 (St Thomas Hall in Pine Hill), to Toitū Otago Settlers Museum for hosting our monthly minibals, and to Dance Otepōti (under the leadership of Anna Noonan) for their very practical support of community dance in the area. I also want to acknowledge my dance partner, Michael Parmenter, for our continued collaboration in exploring these repertoires and all dancers—past and present—who make this community real.

For full class details, dates and information, see the notices section at the end of this newsletter and visit www.balfolk.co.nz. Also, get on our mailing list to be kept in the loop: balfolkdunedin@gmail.com.

Come as you are, let's start 2026 dancing! -- Kate Grace



february

- 13 Scapegrace with Rowan. 7pm.
- 14 Canadian James Gray - contemporary folk. 7:30pm.
- 15 Smooth, delicious jazz with Big Jazz Apple. 5pm-ish. Followed by Gerard Dougherty (comedy). Koha entry.
- 17 Open Mic - Come sing, play, read poetry! Whatever your buzz! Performances and sign up from 7pm.
- 18 Weekly Wednesday! A comedy night featuring a hoard of local—and sometimes not—comedians! 7pm. \$5 entry.
- 20 Country vibes with Bronwyn. 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 21 Catgut & Steel, contemporary folk duo. 7:30pm.
- 22 Big Jazz Apple. 5pm-ish. Followed by Gerard Dougherty (comedy). Koha entry.
- 24 Electric Open Jam! House band and byo electric instruments. Music and sign-up from 7pm.
- 25 Weekly Wednesday comedy night! 7pm. \$5 entry.
- 27 Acoustic rock with Paul Allen, Dunedin singer-songwriter. 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 28 Get your folk on with Dolly Possum, Bunchys Big Score (acoustic), and Phaedra Love. 7pm-ish. Koha entry.

march

- 1 Celtic Jam Session from 3:30pm.
- 3 Open Mic! Performances and sign up from 7pm.
- 4 Weekly Wednesday comedy night! 7pm. \$5 entry.
- 5 Original songs, cowboy poetry, tall tales and outright lies with John Egenes from 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 6 Monthly Drag show! Performances by local Kings and Queens and other musicians. 8pm. Koha Entry.
- 7 Tom Jack from 7:30pm-ish. Koha entry.
- 8 Big Jazz Apple. 5pm-ish.
- 10 Open Mic! Performances and sign up from 7pm.
- 11 Weekly Wednesday comedy night! 7pm. \$5 entry.
- 12-14 Henry Yan (Australia), Mum Wants A Girlfriend For Me. A comedy show as part of Dunedin Fringe Festival. Check dunedinfringe.nz for details and tickets.
- 15-16 Matt Lilly, The Death Of Rugby. Then Sandra Pace, You're Not Pretty, But I Love You. Comedy shows as part of Dunedin Fringe Festival. dunedinfringe.nz
- 17 Open Mic! Performances and sign up from 7pm.
- 18-20 Johnathan Larkin & Wouter Moerloose, I'm Not Crying, You're Crying, as part of Dunedin Fringe Festival. Check dunedinfringe.nz for details and tickets.
- 20-21 Stephen Lefebvre, La Fev I A Comedy. Check dunedinfringe.nz for details and tickets.
- 24 Open Mic! Performances and sign up from 7pm.
- 25 Weekly Wednesday comedy night! 7pm. \$5 entry.
- 26 Catherine KS from 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 27 The Pottley Blues and friends. 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 28 AKOBA + Friends. 7:30pm. Koha entry.
- 29 Big Jazz Apple. 5pm-ish. Koha entry.



Podcasters, Community Support Worker David and Ben, making the podcast magic happen.

NEW PODCAST STUDIO AMPLIFIES CLIENT VOICES

The Valley Pod, a new podcast studio where Pact clients can create their own content and share their perspectives on life, launched at our North Dunedin social networking centre, Naphtali, in October. The talents of Naphtali staff have made this possible, with Community Support Workers David Norris and Mariane Tuquib bringing expertise in audio and video production respectively, and clients are enthusiastic to take part. Naphtali Service Manager Matthew Sanson says the aim is to give people a platform and visibility. "It's important their voices are heard," he says.

The Valley Pod provides access to technology that many people take for granted. "Everyone in society is online all the time, making social connections through the online world," Matthew says. "This is another big step towards our community accessing that." The funding enabled the purchase of high-standard audio and video gear. "We're not just using what we can wrangle together; it's actually very high-quality gear."

The studio has four microphones, three cameras, a professional lighting rig and uses a green screen so creators can have their own personal background for their pod. "The sky's the limit with this sort of technology. As well as the podcasts, we are also looking at recreating scenes from our favourite movies using the green screens. It is a lot of fun!" The Valley Pod team will run training sessions in the new year to teach as many staff as they can how to produce a podcast from scratch.

Client Ben Owen was among the first to record an introduction and is eager to use the studio. "I think it should be used for everybody, including me," he says. He wants to talk about his art and share the podcast with his flatmates. The Valley Pod YouTube channel will be the first place you can see the Valley Pod content. Creators will have their own playlists that will be linked through the Valley Pod channel. Ben says he'd like to do "something awesome" for that.

Naphtali has hosted a weekly radio show on Otago Access Radio for several years. So many clients are already comfortable on air. David says the podcast studio means all production can now be done in-house. "So it's sort of democratised it," he says. "It's made it a lot more accessible for the people we support, particularly people who couldn't physically get to the radio station. They can now contribute. There's been a real groundswell of enthusiasm."

Pact Southland is exploring ways to replicate the studio in Invercargill. Regional Manager David Ritchie says it's a great initiative that breaks down barriers and gives clients the sort of creative opportunities they often miss out on. "I think that's quite exciting." He says the Naphtali team have done a great job and should be proud of what they have achieved. Please like and subscribe to our YouTube Channel *The Valley Pod*.

DJ AUTO THINK TANK

Q: I don't want to buy another car for a long while! How do I maintain its future sellability? How often, ideally, should I get my car serviced to optimize the life of the vehicle?

A: If your plan is to keep your car for the next ten years—and avoid an emotional breakdown in your mechanic's waiting room—regular servicing isn't optional; it's preventative healthcare. Cars that get attention early tend to age gracefully; cars that don't tend to complain and leak.

A good rule of thumb is to service before something flashes angrily on the dashboard. Oil changes should happen roughly every 8,000–13,000 kilometres—yes, even if the manual claims you can wait longer. Oil is cheap; engines are not. It also pays to choose a decent-quality oil. Some products can exceed the performance of genuine service products, and even advertise this. Ask questions and explore the market!

Once a year, have a professional cast an eye over the essentials: brakes, suspension, belts, hoses, and anything else that you would prefer not to fail at speed. Less glamorous but vital services, such as fluid changes and spark plugs, usually fall somewhere between 50,000 and 100,000 kilometres. It's also worth asking your mechanic about common faults for your specific make and model, and what can be done to reduce the risk before they appear.

If your driving mostly involves short trips, traffic queues, or extreme climates, shorten those service intervals. Your car may look calm, but it's working overtime.

Between services is where long-term problems often begin—quietly. Checking fluids once a month takes minutes and can save thousands. Driving with low oil is not a personality choice. Be gentle when the engine is cold; hard acceleration straight after start-up is the automotive equivalent of sprinting out of bed. Wash the car occasionally too—dirt, road salt, and bird "gifts" are not protective coatings. Wax twice a year if resale value matters. Keeping it undercover helps, as New Zealand's UV levels are particularly brutal on paint.

If you'd like your car to still be worth something in a decade, keep service records. Buyers trust paperwork. Clean, documented cars say "responsible adult," not "mystery noise included." Inside, skip aggressive cleaners—warm water and mild dish soap will preserve plastics and vinyl far better than 'Mr Muscles Dirt Ripper Caustic Spray'. Treat moving parts gently: no door-slam theatrics, replace wipers before they scratch the glass, and push buttons like you're touching a baby's nose, not the doorbell of a loud party house at 2am!

Anything you touch once, you'll touch thousands of times a year—and it all adds up. For the exterior, ceramic coatings can help protect paint, and contactless car washes are kinder than scrubbing. A little care, consistently applied, goes a long way.

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



NZ's PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CENTRES

DJ AUTOMOTIVE

134 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY, DUNEDIN

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



Property Market Update - Looking Ahead to 2026

The Dunedin property market finished 2025 on a strong note, with the median sale price reaching \$612,000 in December and days on market dropping significantly as buyers competed for well-priced properties. After three years of relatively flat conditions, local agents report healthy buyer interest and multiple-offer situations becoming common, particularly for properties under \$800,000.

Looking ahead to 2026, most economists forecast modest price growth of 3-5% nationally, supported by mortgage rates that have stabilized around historic lows following the Reserve Bank's easing cycle to 2.25%. For prospective vendors in our northern suburbs, current market conditions present a window of opportunity — buyer confidence is rebuilding after several years of hesitation, there's healthy competition for quality properties, and the spring momentum has carried through into the new year. However, the market remains price-sensitive, meaning homes need to be realistically priced to attract serious interest. With a well-balanced supply of listings and active buyers ready to move, sellers who present their properties well and price them appropriately are finding success in what is a relatively stable, predictable market — a welcome change from the volatility of recent years.

Property Ownership Structures: What Sellers Need to Know (Part 1)

If you're thinking about selling your home, there's one thing you should check right now - your property title. How your property is legally owned can significantly impact the sale process, and getting this wrong can cause frustrating delays when you're ready to put your home on the market.

As a real estate agent with over 35 years of experience, I've seen too many sellers discover title issues only when they're ready to sell. A most recent example is a widow who wanted to list her home, but nine months after her husband passed away, the title still showed joint ownership. The executor hadn't transferred ownership to her name. What should have been a straightforward sale turned into significant delays while lawyers sorted out the paperwork. The lesson? Never assume your title is correct — always check it before you decide to sell.

So let's look at the main ownership structures and what they mean for you as a potential seller.

Sole Ownership

This is the simplest option — you own the property entirely in your own name. When you decide to sell, you have complete control and can make decisions quickly without needing anyone else's agreement. The sale process should be straightforward, and settlement is generally smooth.

Tenants in Common

This is where two or more people own the property, but each

person owns a specific share — it might be 50/50, or it could be 60/40, or any other split. Each owner can sell or leave their share to whoever they choose in their will.

Here's where it gets tricky for sellers. If you want to sell the whole property, ALL owners must agree. I've seen sales fall through because co-owners couldn't agree on timing or price. If one owner wants to sell but the others don't, things can get complicated and expensive, potentially requiring legal action.

Joint Tenancy

This is common with married couples and partners. Unlike Tenants in Common, you don't own separate shares — you all own the whole property together. The key feature is that when one owner dies, their interest automatically passes to the surviving owner(s), regardless of what their will says.

This sounds simple, but here's the catch for sellers: just like Tenants in Common, ALL joint tenants must agree to sell. You can't sell your "share" separately. And as my recent example shows, when one owner passes away, the title MUST be updated before the property can be sold. Don't rely on your lawyer or executor to do this automatically - follow up and make sure it's done.

Next Issue: In Part 2, I'll explain Company and Trust ownership, plus the important differences between Cross-Lease and Freehold titles that every seller should understand.

A Final Word

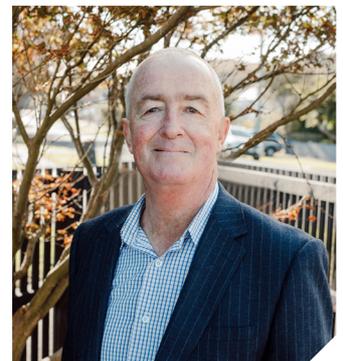
Selling a home is one of the biggest financial decisions most people make. While presentation and marketing get the attention, ownership structure is the quiet foundation that supports everything else. When it's clear, current, and well-planned, sales tend to be smoother, faster, and less stressful. When it's not, even the best-presented home can end up stuck in limbo.

If you're unsure how your property is owned, or whether it could affect a future sale, it's worth having that conversation now - long before the marketing starts.

If you're considering selling in the next 12-24 months and would like a confidential chat about your property, your ownership structure, or where your home sits in the current market, I'm always happy to help. I'll visit your home, research comparable sales and the current market, and provide a clear report on what your home is likely to sell for - along with practical, cost-effective tips to help you get market-ready.

There's no pressure and no obligation - just good advice, early.

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



Let's Chat Before You Start

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

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

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



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ART CLASSES

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

ART CLASSES

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

ART PASTEL GROUP

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

CALLING LOCAL CRAFTERS

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

CELLO LESSONS

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

CURIOUS ABOUT SINGING?

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

DIAL-A-PIPER

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

DUNEDIN FIDDLE CLUB

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

FOLK CLUB OPEN MIC NIGHT

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

GROUP DRUM LESSONS

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

GUITAR LESSONS

Want to learn how to play the guitar in NEV? \$15/hr for your first session and \$25/hr for future...

sessions. ☎ Jeremiah 021 221 1039 or ✉ raganclan0077@gmail.com

KIDS ART CLASS

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

KNIT/CROCHET LESSONS

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

PAD-MAKING WORKING BEE

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

PIANO LESSONS

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

SHE CHOIR DUNEDIN

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

SINGING FOR FUN

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

STAND-UP COMEDY

Open mic at Inch Bar, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. All skill levels. Contact ✉ reuben@dunedincomedy.co.nz

UKULELE SESSIONS

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

UNLOCK MUSICAL TALENT

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

community

ALZHEIMERS OTAGO

Concerned about your memory loss or supporting someone with...

dementia, we are here for you. Free support for individuals, carers and families. ☎ 03 471 6154 ✉ Still.Me@alzheimersotago.org.nz ☎ www.alzheimersotago.org.nz

BIKE WORKSHOP

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

BOOKBUS LIBRARY

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

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

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

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING

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

COMMUNITY PATROL

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

COMMUNITY STUDY CIRCLE

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

DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Join us fortnightly at the garden on Allenby Ave., Pinehill. All welcome. Tools provided. Check Facebook for dates/times or ✉ dalmorecommunitygarden@gmail.com Currently looking for volunteers to take over the management of the garden ASAP!

DUNEDIN CURTAIN BANK

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

DUNEDIN NORTH PROBUS

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

ENABLING LOVE

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

FERN COLLECTIVE

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

LEGAL ADVICE

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

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

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

NEV COMMUNITY GARDEN

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

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

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

NEV JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Upper Junction resident, John Campbell, available for JP services by appointment only. ✉ 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.

OP-SHOP VOLUNTEERS

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

WILD DALMORE RESERVE

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

WRITING GROUP

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

fitness & health

ADULT YOGA CLASSES ŌPOHO SCHOOL

Fiona Johannessen, experienced yoga teacher of all ages & levels... Monday 7.30-8.30pm (school term). \$10 casual rate. All levels welcome. ✉ Fiona: sweetfee77@gmail.com

BALFOLK DANCE

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

BALFOLK

Balfolk partner & group dances
Wed. 6–8pm

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

EVENTS

1 March: Picnic at

Queen's Garden, 12noon &
Special Balfolk minibal, Toitū
Otago Settlers Museum, 2pm.

2 May: Pastel Ball (mark date!)

Last Sunday each month:
Balfolk minibal - FREE!
2–3.30pm

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

BELLEKNOWES GOLF CLUB

Green fees \$15
\$10/player after 4pm

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

CONTRA DANCE

Every Monday 7.30–9pm.
Nga Maara Hall, Gardens
No partner required.
\$3. Info 📞 021 185 4566

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY

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

CROP SWAP NEV

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

DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

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

'EVERY BODY' HOLISTIC MASSAGE

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

FOLK DANCING FOR FUN

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

FRUIT & VEGES NFP

Fresh quality fruit & veges at lower
prices at St Martin's Church, 194
North Road. \$14, \$7 or \$4 prepaid
weekly bags for pick-up. Sign up
online: 🌐 allsaintsdsn.org.nz/all-
saints-fruit-and-veg/

MESSAGE FOR WOMEN

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

MASSAGE THERAPIST

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

MEDITATION FUNDAMENTALS

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

NEV BOWLING CLUB

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

ORTHO-BIONOMY

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

PARKRUN

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

PERSONAL TRAINING

Interested in one-on-one strength
training or boxing sessions in
NEV? Flexible schedule and
\$30/45-minute session(s).
📞 Jeremiah 021 221 1039 or
✉ raganclan0077@gmail.com

STEADY AS YOU GO

(Age Concern) Gentle balance and
strength exercises, Valley Baptist
Community Centre 10.30am
Mondays, Ōpoho Church Hall
1.30pm Tuesdays, and St. Thomas
Hall in Pine Hill 11am Thursdays.

TANNOCK GLEN

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

THREE LEFT FEET

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

WEIGHTLOSS SUPPORT GROUP

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

ZEN MEDITATION

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

families, kids, and teens

AURORA TAMARIKI EARLY YEARS CARE AND KINDY

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

DUNEDIN CITY TOY LIBRARY

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

DUNEDIN RUDOLF STEINER PLAYGROUP

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

GO! YOUTH GROUP

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

INTERGENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP

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

ISLINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

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

MT CARGILL GIRLGUIDES

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

NEV NORMAL SCHOOL PTA

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

NEV PLAYGROUP

0–5yrs, variety of experiences to
enhance child development. Meet
other local families. Free morning
tea and lunch provided for adults.
Please supply child's morning tea.
9.30am–1.30pm Wednesdays.
✉ 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. 📞 021 150 9165

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

further education

BEGINNER ENGLISH FOR CHINESE

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

COM2TECH DIGI DROP-IN

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

Classifieds continued next page... 📄

COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT

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

ITALIAN CLASSES

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

LEARN ENGLISH

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

LEARN GERMAN

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

MATHS MADE EASY

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

REO MĀORI

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

VOCAL TEACHER

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

trading corner

ANGELICA ROOT

Dunedin grown and dried. Used extensively in distilling and perfumery as a flavour/scent fixative. 📞 Pat 03 473 0159 (early evenings).

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

CLEANER REQUIRED

One hour per week for Dunedin Folk Club (at premises shared with Ōpoho Bowling Club) ✉ Info@dunedinfofolkclub.co.nz

COMPUTER REPAIR

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

DAVE'S COMPUTER SERVICE

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

DOG WALKING

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

EXPERIENCED PAINTER

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

EXPERIENCED PART-TIME CLEANER WANTED

Sacred Heart School invites an enthusiastic applicant to fill 12.5 hours per week. Wide variety of duties. Hours are 3-5.30pm, 5 days p/week. Starting Monday 23 Feb. Application letter + CV + referees to principal@sacredheartdn.school.nz

FARELLA ORTHODONTICS

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

GARAGES TO RENT

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

GARDEN SPACE AVAILABLE

Owner of good sized garden wishing to freely share it with someone who can benefit from and utilise the space for gardening. Contact: ✉ caitlin.lester@gmail.com

GARDENER

Very experienced. Light weeding/trimming, winter rose pruning. 📞 03 473 0159 (evenings)

GOLD & SILVER

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

GRAZING NEEDED

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

HAIRDRESSER

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

JESCARGO CARPET REPAIRS

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

LOCAL HANDYMAN & LANDSCAPER

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

NEV LAWNS & GARDENS

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

NORTON BIKE WANTED

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

LAWN MOWING

Ōpoho Lawn Mowing. Servicing the Valley region and beyond. ☎ 021 080 35799

PAVER/GARDENER

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

SCRAP METAL COLLECTION

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

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

SPLIT FIREWOOD FOR SALE

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

STOLEN ORNAMENT

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

VENUS FLY TRAPS

Large caliber plants. 5x bigger than sold by shops and are \$4.00 cheaper. Growing instructions included. \$10. 📞 Pat 473 0159 (PM)

WELDING REPAIRS

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

church services

ANGLICAN: ST MARTIN'S

194 North Rd, 10.30am

GLENAVEN METHODIST

7 Chambers St, 11am

HOPE CHURCH

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

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN

George St. Normal School Hall, 10am

ŌPOHO PRESBYTERIAN

50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am

PACIFIC ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC

89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am

SALVATION ARMY

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

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

THE SUNSET CLOUDS - 1956

Grey, blue, mauve, pink,
They come in the evening
When the sun begins to sink.

I see the pretty pictures
In the clouds of many shades.
They glide above the treetops
And o'er dewy glades.

Sailing 'neath the golden wing,
Lone eagle soaring high,
Dancing above where birds abide
And playing in the sky.

-- Marian Mackay,
Resident of Ross Home

Marian first began writing poetry at primary school in Dunedin. This first poem from her collection spanning over 70 years is just the start. More to come as she goes through life.

CRANKS, CHAINS, AND COMMUNITY GAINS

Missy Gilmore didn't arrive with a grand plan to volunteer. She first wandered into the Valley Cycle Workshop late last year with a simple goal: to learn how to maintain her beloved electric bike. What started as a personal project soon turned into a regular volunteering role. Missy can often be found dismantling neglected bikes down to their bare frames, salvaging usable parts, and learning exactly how each component works.

Customers—especially women—often gravitate toward Missy, some expressing how nice it is to see a female face in what's traditionally been a male-dominated space. By mid-year, Missy hopes she won't have to say, "I'm still learning." She is determined to confidently rebuild a bike from scratch, solo. For Missy, the best moments are watching kids roll away smiling on a 'new' bike all their own.

One such happy customer is local cyclist Francisco Araya, who lives just a few streets up and drops in whenever something isn't quite right with his primary mode of transport. Today, it's squeaky handlebars. "Sometimes I'm here once every few months, sometimes every week," he laughs, praising the workshop's convenient location and its skilful volunteer mechanics. As Francisco heads out for a test ride, volunteer Bahaskar Sengupta calls after him, "Don't go without a helmet!"

Bahaskar first came to the workshop freshly emigrated from India. In gratitude for being a recipient of a free bike, he became a keen two-wheel tinkerer too. Like Missy and the other volunteers, he has made many connections through the shop. He prides himself in being well known as "the bike guy". He's also on a personal mission to ask students, as well as the city's recycling contractors, to avoid breaking glass near cycleways. He half-jokingly admits, "the Council knows me well!"

The workshop, founded in 2015 by prominent cycle advocate Peter McDonald, has been managed by Missy's husband, Mike Gilmore, since Peter's sudden passing two years ago. A squad of seven volunteer bike buffs keeps things smoothly moving. Together, they're working toward a clear goal for 2026: more women, more students, and more people spinning pedals for fun and transport. Kids' bikes up to 20-inch wheels are free, student bikes start from \$20, and plans are brewing for maintenance classes, multi-week courses, and bike giveaway days.

The Valley Cycle Workshop thrives on donated, gently used bikes (please, no rust buckets) and community support. Every dollar donated goes straight back into tools and equipment. The shop at 11 Allen Street is open Tuesdays 3:30-5:30pm and Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm. -- Krysha Brzuza



TAMARIKI ON THE MOVE

It's great to see tamariki and their community choosing active travel to and from school.

This March, the DCC and local schools are running the Move it March campaign to encourage active travel. Move it March runs throughout March, so keep an eye out for extra activities—especially on **Wednesday, 11 March**, for Walk or Wheel to School Day! This year's theme is **Be Bright, Be Seen!**

Tamariki are encouraged to walk or wheel (skate, scoot, cycle, roll) to and from school whenever possible. North East Valley Normal, Ōpoho, Sacred Heart, and Pine Hill Schools are all getting involved. There are lots of prizes to be won, and participants will get a special visit from Scout, the safe and active travel mascot.



USING THE BUS TO GET TO SCHOOL

If you haven't caught a bus before, check out www.orc.govt.nz/bus101 where you can find all the important information about Orbus public transport in Dunedin. It's always a good idea to look at the bus timetables in advance to plan your route.



For a single trip, bus fares in Dunedin are \$1.50 for children and youth aged from 5 to 18 years with a registered Bee Card. Bee Cards can be purchased for \$5 with a minimum \$5 top-up, either at www.beecard.co.nz or at a local Bee Card retailer listed here: www.orc.govt.nz/bee-card

For up-to-the-minute alerts on bus disruptions on specific routes on your mobile, go to www.orc.govt.nz/public-transport/notifications-and-alerts. For real-time tracking of the bus, download the *Transit* app.

Under 5	Free	Free
Child 5-12 years	\$1.50 with Bee Card	\$3
Youth (13-18 years)	\$1.50 with Bee Card	\$3
Adult (19+)	\$2.50 with Bee Card	\$3
Community Connect	\$1.25 with Bee Card	\$3
SuperGold (65+)	Peak: \$2.50 / Off-peak: free w/Bee Card	\$3

BUS ETIQUETTE

- Vaping, alcohol, and eating aren't allowed on the bus
- You can bring your non-alcoholic drink if your container has a lid
- You can carry your skateboard or scooter on the bus
- You can put your bike on the rack on the outside of the bus
- Wave down your bus if you're waiting at the bus stop

BIG BIKE BREAKFAST

Wednesday 18 February

Grab a free coffee and breakfast at the Railway Station between 7-10am. BYO cup and bowl.

Free bike tune-ups and e-bike demos. Check www.spokes.nz for updates.



CRUSH THE CARGILL 2025 RESULTS

As per usual, strange things happened and world records were set at the annual Crush the Cargill endurance race in December, and for the first time in five years, no rain! Around 160 participants vertically lapped all 676 metres of Mount Cargill at least once!

The inaugural 200-Miler started quietly—no one showed up! Meanwhile, Adam Keen was already out on a long run. The unofficial 6-Day Race had begun Monday morning, and after running 200 miles and 22,000m of vertical elevation gain, Adam described himself as “fried”, vowing never to run again but encouraged others to sign up next year.

The 100-Miler tested contenders with sleep deprivation and chafing. Only three of seven participants finished: Rocky Allan set a new world record for fastest under-20 in 31h 15min; Storm Sinclair became the first woman finisher with a new women’s record; Max Taken came from Texas—via Te Anau—to claim third.

The 24-Hour Challenge had Chris Jervis charging early, but went back to bed after 10 laps in 11.5 hours. Theo Atkinson completed 17 laps (144.5 km) to claim the 'Twig' trophy, while Lydia Patillo crushed 15 laps, calling it “quad obliteration.” She earned her place on the Twig, too. At 3am there were 21 people on the hill. Sixteen people ran 85 km+, ten did 100 km+.

Other highlights: Skylar Braselton-Frost competed for the fifth year, first as a six-month foetus in 2018. Haru won the Canine Challenge at 7 laps. Tuis rose at 4:10am. And nearly \$2,500 was raised for the Valley Project! Follow [CrushtheCargill](#) to ready yourself for 2026!

Thanks to sponsors: Grid Coffee Roasters, Strawberry, Tailwind Nutrition, CurraNZ, Aerodaks, AerobicEdge, Emersons, Inch Bar, and Gardens New World.

A heartfelt thanks to all participants and organisers for their donations to The Valley Project!



Rachel Brooking MP for Dunedin

03 474 1973 | 544 Great King Street, Dunedin
Rachel.BrookingMP@parliament.govt.nz
[f/RachelBrookingMP](#)

Authorised by Rachel Brooking MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

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- Gas fitting
- Drainage

☎ (03) 456 3178

369 King Edward St. South D.
dunedin.central@laserplumbing.co.nz

