

whiria to taura tangata connecting our community

(O)

Issue #6 | E ono rerenga

Your local newspaper published by The Valley Project

SEPTEMBER I HEPETĒMĀ 2025

CHOOSE YOUR CHAMPIONS, SHAPE THE VALLEY

Heads up, Valley readers—you've got decisions to make! The Dunedin and Otago local body elections are fast approaching. Postal voting is now open for the Dunedin City Council election—including the mayor, city councillors, community boards—as well as for the Otago Regional Council, which oversees freshwater, buses, pest control, and more across the region.

Why is reading up on every single candidate your new favourite hobby? Because every voice in this election—from mayor to community board hopeful—is asking for your trust. Each candidate has different ideas about how they'll make life better in North East Valley and beyond. So ask yourself: which of these folks really gets what matters to you? And who will fight for the things that shape our community—Lindsay Creek flood control, better active transport, (Continued page #8...)













Proud to support

The Valley Project

Open 7.30am - 9pm Daily



Gardens

A NEW SEASON FULL OF POSSIBILITIES

Spring is beginning to bloom across North East Valley-blossoms, birdsong, brighter days, and that familiar feeling that the end-of-year whirlwind isn't far off. Valley Fest is now in full swing, with plenty more events to enjoy and chances to connect at a leisurely pace before the year really ramps up. And don't forget, elections are just around the corner another chance to have your say and help shape the future of our community!

VALLEY PROJECT RECEPTION HOURS 262 NORTH ROAD, NORTH EAST VALLEY

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

- **gifts**
- placement of notices
- trap hire
- laminating
- newspaper advertising
- printing & photocopying
- **Y** seed library
- **¶** event hireables: marquees, tables,
- room bookings 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



2025 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #: #7 #8

2026 VV release calendar **CONTENT DUE:** October 8 November 12 in the works! **DISTRIBUTION DATE:** November 1 December 6

VALLEY PROJECT COMMUNITY ROOMS FOR HIRE

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

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

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

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



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

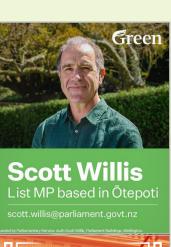
A QUICK NOTE FROM OUR MANAGER

Kia ora koutou! It has been nice to see the daffodils, cherry trees, and rhododendrons signalling the warmer weather of Spring. It gives me a little bit of extra energy and lift.

Here at The Valley Project, staff are expending lots of energy collaborating with other organisations and volunteers, to pull together the inaugural Valley Fest. It's going to be fun, educational, and inspirational, and there really is something for everyone!

Please join us at one or multiple events to connect with your community, to learn something new, to have a play, or to share kai as we celebrate the Valley region being a great place to live and belong.

In other news, The Valley Project is transforming part of our reception area into a community gift shop to showcase the creativity of our local artists! If you create unique products and are looking for a place to share them, pop in for a visit at 262 North Road. -- Kā mihi manaha, Jen Rodgers





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THE PRODUCTION OF THIS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER DEPENDS ON YOU!



Celebrating Our People, Our Place - From creek to peak! A month-long celebration of everything that makes our collective 'Valley' so special.

Valley Fest Facebook Event >



SUN **SEP**

Biochar Workshop & Open VUE **Propogation Nursery Tour**

10am, back of Blacks Road Grocer, 178 North Rd.

Biochar presentation and kontiki kiln and compost demo. Wander around the nursery and learn about native flora in NEV. FREE!

THU SEP

Keep NZ Beautiful Clean-Up

10am, starting point Valley Project, 262 North Rd.

We're rallying residents, visitors, and volunteers to help nurture our Valley's native biodiversity by cleaning up their habitat. All tools provided. No experience necessary. Wear closed-toe shoes.

THU SEP

Emergency Preparedness Hui

6-7.30pm, NEV Bowling Club, 139 North Road

Hear from experts on local risks and hazards in the Valley. Share your local knowledge to help us be more resilient and better prepared as a community. Sausage sizzle - koha welcome.

FRI

Cycle By Gallery Opening

4.30-6.30pm, Valley Community Workshop, 11 Allen St.

Celebrating a new exhibition featuring whimsical creations using bike rims, harakeke, driftwood and random meaningful objects. 'Woven Hope' also open for viewing 27 & 28 Sept. 9am - 2pm.

SUN

SEP

Foraging with Maria Buskin

Noon, starting point Valley Project, 262 North Rd.

Learn about foraging and its amazing health benefits. Join us for a plant identification walk. 1.5-2 hours. Morning tea provided. FREE! Register your interest ASAP: OpenVUE@northeastvalley.org

SUN 28

SEP

Seed Swap

3-4pm, Valley Project, 262 North Rd.

Bring seeds, take seeds, learn about collecting and propagating seeds, when should you plant what in this region, etc. The VP Seed Library will be on display! FREE!

SUN

SEP

3pm, Valley Project, 262 North Rd.

Bring along and trade things you have in abundance from your garden or your kitchen: baking, crops, preserves, herbs, cook

SUN

SEP

NEV Community Garden Tour

2-3pm, back of NEV Normal School, 248 North Rd.

Tour will take place during a working bee so guests can get a fantastic view of what it takes to be a part of this initiative. A showcase of crops, companion planting, and pest control. FREE!

WED

OCT

Kids Movie Matinee

12noon, NEV Normal School, 248 North Rd.

Kids get to vote on the PG movie to be featured. Bring blankets, pillows, and bean bags from home for comfortable viewing. BYO snacks and drinks. Popcorn provided. FREE!

THU

Sport Otago Kids Play Day

11am-1pm, NEV Normal School front lawn, 248 North Rd.

Try a game of gagaball, giant Jenga, Skittles, football, etc. Play with inflatables, parachutes, the Play Trailer, and other play equipment. FREE! Te Waahi Taraka food truck. Rainy day alt: 3 Oct.

SAT

OCT

Local Business Treasure Hunt

Business hours, throughout the Valley floor

Visit participating local businesses and answer unique trivia questions about each one. Submit all completed answers by the end of the day to go into the draw for a prize! FREE!

SAT 4

OCT

OCT

NEV Bowling Club Open Day

2pm, NEV Bowls Club, 139 North Rd.

Have a FREE go at Lawn Bowls! Bowls supplied. Wear flat-soled shoes to wear on the green, or try it barefoot. BBQ and open bar on the day. Bring change for a raffle. Rain or shine event.

13

OCT

Youth Volunteer Week

Various locations: Chingford Park/North Rd./Lindsay Creek

Your chance to make a difference in the neighbourhood! Participate in sycamore removal, native planting, litter clean-up, and other conservation efforts.

SEP

Crop Swap

books, bottling jars, honey, fermentation supplies, etc. FREE!

(03) 473 8614

262 North Road, North East Valley, Dunedin

@valleyproject

www.northeastvalley.org

project@northeastvalley.org

facebook.com/valleyproject

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

givealittle

www.givealittle.co.nz/northeastvalley

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

We'd love to hear from you! Send us your local photos, stories, announcements, etc. Next deadline for newspaper copy is OCTOBER 8, 2025. 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.



FROM WEEDS TO **MEALS: THE RISE** OF FORAGING

What began as casual walks spotting walnuts, mushrooms, and the odd wild fruit, has turned into a lifestyle for local forager and cook, Maria Buskin. A chance meeting

with zoologist Jerome Cunningham, whose deep knowledge of edible plants proved infectious, set the journey in motion. "After just a couple of hours learning scientific plant names and their nutritional value, I was hooked," Maria recalls.

Over the following year, the pair led more than 30 foraging tours, with Maria preparing meals from the day's harvest for participants. Cooking, it turns out, was the perfect way to bring the experience full circle—showing people how these so-called weeds can become delicious and nourishing dishes.

The health benefits were immediate. "I felt more energetic straight away," says Maria. "A nutritionist was stunned by blood test results, remarking they were among the best he had seen—without supplements. The secret? Regularly eating salads with more than 30 plant varieties, most of them weeds."

Foraging has also allowed Maria to live on less than \$5 a day for the past two years. "I still buy quality protein, olive oil, oats, and a few basics, but otherwise I live off what I forage," they explain. "It started as an experiment, but it's become my lifestyle."

For newcomers, the best place to begin is close to home. "Your own backyard is perfect—you know if it's been sprayed, and most gardens have at least 30 edible weeds. They make fresh, free, and highly nutritious salads."

Through tours and garden visits, Maria now teaches others how to identify edible plants and turn compost-bound weeds into colourful, nutrient-packed meals. "When we see them as food, even weeds start to look beautiful."

For details on tours: Instagram @foragingfoodforfree or email foragingfoodforfree@gmail.com.

Nutrition results vary, and foraged foods should be identified with care. Please consult a health professional before making dietary changes.



AUTONOMOUS EDIBLES

Spring brought some terrible rain and fabulous sun, but things are starting to grow well again.

While tidying up some of the ground beds, we kept finding more and more hidden gems: yams.

They are a great crop that we always get a good feed from. We only bought a few bags of yam tuber seeds over the years and we manage to get a good crop by just leaving the small ones in the ground so that they can be cropped the following year. Well worth putting some in a place if you don't mind them coming up for years thereafter.

Strawberries are another plant that keeps on giving, sending out runners that quickly take root and grow into new plants once snipped and replanted. The same goes for currants: cut off a healthy, long branch, stick it in the ground, and you'll have a new bush growing in no time. In fact, even the pile we left over from winter pruning had leaf buds sprouting on it!

We often plant any potatoes that we've found past their best and covered in roots. We haven't found they get diseased, and they may as well be given a chance to grow or compost in the ground.

Our best kale is the self-seeding ones that tend to grow around the apple tree. It's worth letting crops go to seed to see what other gems will come up next season.

Happy gardening, and check out our Gone-to-Seed seed pod library for free packets of seeds you can leave or take. So many gems for the garden! -- Lynn Vare





WEEKEND OF THE MONTH. CHECK OUR ONLINE CALENDAR VALLEY NORMAL SCHOOL **FOR THE NEXT DATE!**

NEV COMMUNITY GARDEN. BEHIND NEV 248 NORTH ROAD



TEL. (03) 473 8614

DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 27 Sep. 10am	Sat. 25 Oct. 10am	Sat. 22 Nov. 10am
Sat. 11 Oct. 10am	Sat. 8 Nov. 10am	Sat. 13 Dec. 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 20 Sep. 9:30am	Sun. 12 Oct. 1pm	Sat. 1 Nov. 9:30am
Sun. 28 Sep. 1pm	Sat. 18 Oct. 9:30am	Sun. 9 Nov. 1pm
Sat. 4 Oct. 9:30am	Sun. 26 Oct. 1pm	Sat. 15 Nov. 9:30am

Crop Swap NEV



LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 3pm

Valley Project, 262 North Rd, North East Valley

Swap your excess garden produce or home goods: baking, dips & relishes, eggs, preserves, flowers, seedlings, bulbs, cuttings, books, honey, jars, etc.

NOTES FROM THE GARDEN

Autumn and Winter have been a time of collaborative teamwork as we pull together to get some of our bigger garden tasks completed. Some of these tasks are regular seasonal occurrences such as 'Bush work', where we methodically tackle invasive pest plant species such as Sycamore trees or lvy growth in areas of native bush throughout the garden. Another such task is mulching. Staff working bees, wheelbarrows at the ready, have been busy carting mulch to the garden beds—spreading about 70 cubic metres over the geographic borders in just a couple of sessions! Many hands make light work.

In Autumn, staff and apprentices worked together to establish a new grove of special ginkgo biloba in our arboretum. These have been growing in propagation since 2017 from seeds of a tree in Hiroshima, Japan which survived the atomic blast of August 6, 1945. Growing these trees was in support of an initiative of Green Legacy Hiroshima and the Rotary Club of Dunedin Central.

Our ever-evolving NZ native plant collection continues to morph towards a more natural style of landscape design. An area reminiscent of Otago high country, including snow tussock and alpine plants, is moving towards softer, more cohesive surroundings. This area has been converted into an extension of red tussock planting which will provide flowing blurred edges, in contrast with the original manicured lawn border.

Our thematic borders which run along our Great King Street boundary have had a pathway update serving two purposes. First, a change from bark

to a harder surface has increased accessibility of these paths, which tended to become quite boggy, particularly over the wintertime. Concurrently, some path areas were narrowed in order to extend a garden border—more room for Autumn themed plants! A work in progress.

The gallery space for artist exhibitions in our Info Centre has been reactivated with our first show of the year installed: *Peaceful Flight in the Botanic Gardens* by Artist Kirstie McKinnon. We invite artists whose work has connection to Dunedin Botanic Garden, to show their work here. With bookings for the next 12 months, we look forward to the upcoming exhibitions in this space.

As we head into warmer days and more sunlight, I've been delighted to see the crocus popping up on the lawn below the office offering a variety of cheerful colours to those that walk by. The daffodils are pushing through, and the magnolias are flowering (some punished by those frosty mornings!). These flourishes of joy have provided some much needed cheer!



CLEAN- UP WEEK 2025



-- Catherine Bradley, Dunedin Botanic Garden Manager

WHACK 'N ROLL WITH LEITH CROQUET

The Leith Croquet Club, formed 1924, is situated down narrow Quentin Avenue off Queen Street, just before the entrance to Woodhaugh Gardens. Access is also available from Duke Street behind Leith Bowling Club. We offer four well-groomed lawns in a tranquil setting surrounded by native trees and birdsong.

What could be more delightful on a fine day than a game of croquet—the satisfying crack of a mallet striking the ball, the thrill of it rolling cleanly through the hoop, and afterward, a well-brewed cup of tea shared in friendly conversation?

The season started 6th of September and will continue Wednesdays and Saturdays until April 2026. 1:15pm start. We would love to see new people of all ages giving it a go. We offer free coaching and equipment. Please wear flat-soled shoes.

For more details, contact Joan *021 136 5463*, or Margaret *021 265 8309*. Also find us on Facebook: *Leith Croquet Club*.

Registrations for Clean-Up Week 2025 are now open! Volunteers and

everyday people like you, from all over Aotearoa, will take to the streets, beaches, neighbourhoods, tracks, and trails to pick up litter. You can either organise a group or join one.

Keep Dunedin Beautiful can help make your clean-up easy. We can loan you some reusable gloves, collection sacks, rubbish pinchers, hi-viz vests, and advice on where to clean-up. We'll also help with rubbish disposal. You just need to get in touch! keepdunedinbeautiful@dcc.govt.nz

Join the Valley Project for a clean-up day around North East Valley on Thursday, 25 September. 10am start at 262 North Road.

JOIN THE SHOP WHĀNAU - IT'S THE CAT'S WHISKERS!

Cat Rescue Dunedin has been rescuing, rehabilitating, spaying/neutering, and rehoming hundreds of cats and kittens since 2015. We promote responsible pet ownership, and prioritise desexing and microchipping. Earlier this year we opened a low-cost clinic in Caversham and so far we have desexed over 750 cats! We employ part time vets and vet nurses, but everyone else is a volunteer.

Anybody can get involved at any level: adopting, fostering, volunteering, donating goods to the shop, or donating food at one of our food collections sites, these including our centre, our shop, or our food collection bins in Mitre 10 Garden Centre and Animal Attraction. Some people donate money through our money boxes in many businesses around Dunedin, or by regular direct credit into our bank account. All funds go towards the care of our cats and kittens. Our Intake Centre is situated in Caversham, as is our desexing clinic. We are always looking for kind cat lovers who are able to foster our cats and kittens until they are ready to go to their forever homes. You can sign up

Cat Rescue Dunedin has been rescuing, for volunteering at *www.catrescuedunedin.org*, **rehabilitating, spaying/neutering, and** or by phoning our Intake Centre *03 487 6789*.

Our charity shop at 33 North Road, North East Valley is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm. Donations are welcome, such as household goods, clean clothing in good condition, bric-a-brac, and small electrical appliances that our helpful electrician can test for us. We are unable to sell furniture as our shop is very small.

Currently we are looking for volunteers to work at the shop. We are hoping for people with a clean police record, who enjoy working with people, can work the till and Eftpos, and who can commit to a 3-hour shift each week. Full training will be given. Shifts are 10am to 1pm, or 1pm to 4pm, Monday to Saturday. Apply through email *raewynalexander@gmail.com* or by coming into the shop on a Friday between 10am and 1pm to have a chat with Raewyn.

We value our customers from the Valley and the support they give us through their patronage and donated goods. Without our supporters, Cat Rescue Dunedin could not operate.





CREATING A SPIRIT OF COMMUNAL WORSHIP

COMMUNITY KARAKIA is an initiative where we all get together and say karakia (prayers) from our own cultures, in our own languages and from our religious backgrounds—together as one unified community. This builds community and strengthens our collective capacity. There are no rituals; no individual has any special role. Meetings consist largely of reading prayers and passages in an informal and respectful atmosphere. A spirit of communal worship is generated by these simple gatherings, and this spirit begins to permeate the community's collective endeavours. Ultimately, these gatherings are intended to inspire individuals to translate their spiritual experiences into practical service to humanity, contributing to the betterment of society.

Proudly hosted by your local Valley Baha'is, we could not be more pleased in creating a sacred space for all whānau to come together as one whānau, and pray together and be united in heart and in soul. Today, thousands upon thousands of such regular devotional meetings are held in localities throughout the world—in urban and suburban neighbourhoods, as well as in hamlets and villages. Our hope is to establish a space here for mums, dads, kids, grandparents, extended family, and others in the neighbourhood—and, eventually, a place for the wider city to gather, perhaps even at the Regent Theatre! Also planned are multicultural celebrations exhibiting traditional food and dress.

Your prayer can be a chant, set to music, performed, etc. Let's make it as diverse as possible! The date for our first monthly instalment of Community Karakia is *Saturday, 27 September from 1–2:30pm* at the Valley Project community rooms. Please bring a plate for wee kai afterwards. Follow our Facebook for updates: *Community Karakia o Otepoti.* Blessings all! Arohanui. -- *Ashkon Ashraf*





The Valley Project is transforming part of our reception area into a community gift shop to showcase the incredible creativity of our local artists! So far, two talented local makers have joined us, offering their handcrafted treasures, and generously donating 20% of their sales back to the Valley Project to support our work in the community.

We'd love to welcome more local artists to be part of this growing space! If you create unique products and are looking for a place to share them, pop in for a visit: 262 North Road.





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PLUS BUS is a shopping service that picks clients up from their homes and takes them to and from the supermarket.

We began the service in Dunedin in 2003 and are a "Not for Profit Charitable" trust which employs a part time coordinator who oversees all administrative duties. We have a wonderful group of volunteers, drivers and assistants. Our driver and assistant are able to help clients to access the van and also help out in the supermarket if needed.

Our service is for people who are living independently in their own home but have difficulty accessing the supermarket. We are unable to carry walkers or wheelchairs due to vehicle space availability. Groceries are carried in the back of the van in numbered boxes with lids which avoids mix-ups.

Currently we have services around South Dunedin, Anderson's Bay, Mornington and the Hill suburbs. We would like to extend our service to other parts of Dunedin and welcome enquiries from North Dunedin.

We can be contacted by phone 03 455 4050 and if the office is unattended, please leave a message. Alternatively, you can email us email at plusbusshops@gmail.com.

Bus fares are changing

29 September

Dunedin bus fares from 29 September

Age group	Registered Bee Card	Cash
Child under 5 years	Free (no Bee Card required)	Free
Child 5–12 years	\$1.50	\$3
Youth 13–18 years	\$1.50	\$3
Adult 19+ years	\$2.50	\$3
Community Connect	\$1.25	\$3
SuperGold 65+ years	Peak: \$2.50	\$3
	Off-Peak: Free	

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orc.govt.nz/fares 0800 672 8736 (...continued from front page.) stronger local food systems, and for our community groups, like Valley Project, that make Valley life hum. The more you explore, the more you'll understand who stands where. So take an hour, grab a cuppa, and dive into candidate profiles (now with videos) on the DCC and ORC websites. And don't stop there! Independent groups are quizzing the candidates too—so follow your interests: perhaps Spokes Dunedin if you're bike-minded, or Our Food Network if you're all about local kai.

Our Valley Voice volunteer reporters, Claire Heap and Karl Bray, also did the legwork for you. They reached out to as many candidates as they could, giving each a chance to share their personal connection to—and vision for—the Valley region, home to over 10,000 of us. Some of their responses are featured below, and you can find more on the Valley Project blog at www.northeastvalley.org/community/valley-blog. That being said—our coverage is by no means exhaustive (after all, the Valley Voice is strictly limited to 16 pages). So take that spark of curiosity and keep going!

···················· INDEPENDENT FOR CITY COUNCIL ······························

MARIAN POOLE: Though I have lived in my current home for 49 years, establishing a permaculture garden after the style of my tupuna, my connection to the Valley started when I chose to enrol my sons in NEV Intermediate and my youngest son in George Street Normal where they formed friendships which have stood the tests of time.

I have admired the efforts made in the Valley and incidentally in the Waitati environs to build community with workshops and gardening opportunities, and passive energy collection. The value of gardening cannot be overstated for our physical and mental health and that of our beautiful country. The Valley and Waitati also fostered my families' life-long interest in the performing arts, punk rock, drum and bass, and classical western sounds. Again, I cannot overstate the importance of music and creativity in maintaining a healthy vibrant community and personal wellbeing.

My tupuna served in local body roles in Invercargill, including the Bluff Harbour Board, Chamber of Commerce, RSA, and Southland Museum Board. They were instrumental in the establishment of the Tuatara breeding program, the building of the Pyramid Southland Museum, and the Historic Places Trust. They also fostered working relationships with local iwi Kati Moemoe and Kai Tahu, and as Mayor, established arts festivals at Andersons Park. It is a tradition I am proud of and wish to live up to.

For these reasons, I stand before you, with my tupuna leading, to serve as Councillor for DCC. I am not interested in grandstanding or personality politics—

such a waste of time. My desire is to establish creative and gardening hubs which might serve the South Dunedin Community as your endeavours have served the Valley.

EVELYN ROBERTSON: I love the Valley Voice! I am Valley born and bred. I grew up on Craigleith Street, went to Ōpoho School, then DNI, and I lived in North East Valley until 2017 when I moved to Ravensbourne, though I still visit people there every week. I have strong connections to the Valley. Much of how I view community, and public spaces and houses, is informed by NEV. Ōwheo is my home.

A big part of my platform is empowering community organisations, such as the Valley Project, to make real changes in their communities. Star Chef Canteen and Takeaway is the best in the city, hands down! I am an ECE Kaiako and have been volunteering for Dunedin Pride since 2018, and I support Dunedin Justice for Palestine as a community marshall.

I want to be on Council to represent and advocate for minoritised and local communities, advocate for better housing and food supply solutions, and ensure that DCC has a council that represents the diverse and progressive values of Dunedin. **SUE TODD:** I lived in Gladstone Road in North East Valley for about twenty years, and my two daughters Amber and Brooke went to George Street Normal and then Dunedin North Intermediate.

I'm standing as an independent candidate which means I am not affiliated with a group or party and therefore don't have to follow the party line. I am a business person and have been self employed for 35 years, surviving some very bad economic times. I am careful with my own money and would be voting to not increase our already bloated debt and hopefully find ways to reduce the city debt.

My biggest concern is the situation in Surry Street South Dunedin, where the residents have sewage waste on their property, I don't think anyone living in Dunedin should have to live with that. It

needs fixed and fixed quickly.

KEY ELECTION DATES

Voting closes: noon, Sat 11 Oct Progress results: Sat 11 Oct Preliminary results: Sun 12 Oct Official results: Thur 16 Oct

LOCAL BALLOT BOXES

New World Gardens: closes noon, Sat 11 Oct

Bookbuses: closes noon, Fri 10 Oct

- Opoho, Thur 3.15 4.30pm
- Pine Hill, Thur 6 7pm
- NEV, Thur 1:30 2:45pm
- Gardens, Fri 11am 12:15pm

NZ Posting Boxes: Quarry Dairy, Gardens New World, Go Hair by 7 Oct PAUL POPE: I was born in Mechanic Steet, and later moved to Ōpoho where I attended Ōpoho school. As a child, the Valley was a busy place of small business and some industry at the time. One lasting memory is getting "short back and sides" at the barbers on North Road, and Robbies Dairy on the corner of Mechanic Street, and going with my mother to the cake shop opposite Blacks Road. I have very happy memories of my childhood there and the sense of freedom we seemed to have roaming the bush and creek.

I've lived with my wife on the Otago Peninsula for thirty years and spent the last twelve years on the Otago Peninsula Community Board—nine as its Chairman.

I put myself forward for the City Council because this city needs experienced community leaders with a passion for community-based grass roots representation. As an ecologist, I also believe its time Council had someone with my skills and insight to champion our biodiversity and restoration challenges. I'm a very grounded person who puts the community first and is totally focussed on the needs of its people.

HEIKE CEBULLA: Whilst I live in Musselburgh, I have a connection to the Valley through my work at Logan Park High School where a lot of our whānau come from. I am also an active member of our local cycle advocacy group. We are working towards safer active transport and there are lots of active transport users in the Valley. I am a huge admirer of the activities organised by the Valley Project and think that many other neighbourhoods could learn a lot from these.

CHRISTINE GAREY: A shoutout to the Valley Project and all place-based groups across Ōtepoti Dunedin! During my time as a councillor and Deputy Mayor, I've attended many community events and visited many community groups throughout the city and schools, including in NEV.

I've come to appreciate and value the amazing work carried out at a local level by these groups, run mostly by volunteers. I have advocated for and voted consistently around the Council table in support of community development projects and know the value of place based groups such as the Valley Project.

During my time on the Grants Subcommittee, I actively supported community groups in their important work and know the difference they make in people's everyday lives. This work connects and strengthens communities, making them more resilient for the future.

As a three-term Dunedin City Councillor standing for re-election, I'm seeking your support for a further term, so that I can continue to support this important grassroots work.

BEX TWEMLOW: Kia ora koutou katoa, Ko Bex Twemlow tōku ingoa, nō Pine Hill Ōtepoti ahau. The Valley shaped me, taught me grit and the power of our hapori, I now live in Glenleith with my rather large whānau: hubby Paul, our two teens (and a boyfriend), my mum-in-law and sister-in-law, plus Beau and Māia the huskies and Fella the cat.

I believe place-based groups like The Valley Project are exactly how communities thrive, and I will always advocate for stronger, better-resourced community boards across Ōtepoti Dunedin. If that empowerment was given, here's what I'd love to see grow here (and have shared elsewhere): a Pasture to Plate generator where people of all ages sow, grow, cook and share (or sell) kai, keeping local providers stocked with fresh food from our own soil; expanding hands-on training like He Toki so our rangatahi learn skills while building homes our community needs, creating pride, skills and shelter; accessible funds and shared tools so community projects can flourish with less friction.

Strong and caring neighbourhoods are what make Ōtepoti Dunedin feel like the home she is. This is my home and I wish for my and your kids to feel the same.

PAUL WILLIAMS: My ambition to help Dunedin reach its full potential is by no means aligned to one specific area of our city. It is directed toward all people who live here and hopefully towards people who want to shift here. As some material below lists, Dunedin has an untapped educational asset and it is more than obvious that your diverse, passionate and important valley is a big part of this.

The top priority we all have is allowing our city to reach its full potential while promoting its assets, people, and places. Our path needs to be also fiscally sustainable while all investment is allocated correctly. We must make better decisions when it comes to spending our resident's precious money. Rates spend needs to be more strategic and accountable if it's to provide the best return on investment and build better trust from our residents.

We need to have a clearer and more confident voice when it comes to promoting the unrivalled assets that make our place unique and special. This means messaging Dunedin as the NZ centre for 'excellence in education' and then shouting about it. We have a vast educational and business landscape that is both untapped and under-promoted. NEV is at the geographical centre of Tertiary education and the correct resources and investment should be promoting this. The council needs less politics, less chat and more accountable action.

I'm born and bred in Dunedin, left for 13 years to follow a career that spanned Wellington, Christchurch and then London. Returned in 2012 to create a successful business (Wine Freedom). As of today, we have a child at high school, a business to run, and a journey still to build upon.

We all need this city to thrive, but it needs help to do this, and this momentum starts at Council. Things need to be done differently and from the start I will do that. That is why if successful my first year's net Council salary will be donated to three Dunedin Charities.

WHICH VOTING SYSTEM?

The Dunedin City Council and Otago Regional Council elections will use the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system.

STV means you rank your preferred candidates, rather than ticking them – as many or as few as you choose.

More information about candidates and voting systems is available at: www.dunedin.govt.nz/elections

Delivery of voting papers starts 9 September and should be received by 22 September. All voting papers will list candidates randomly so that every voting paper is different.

If you have not enrolled or received your voting papers, you may still cast a special vote. To find a location near you see:

www.dunedin.govt.nz/elections

You can also cast special votes or drop off your voting papers at the elections office in the Civic Centre in the Octagon (Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5pm) or before noon on Saturday 11 October.

Remember, you have a right to vote. Don't be left out – vote early.





HILARY CALVERT PART OF 'VISION OTAGO' TEAM

"I'm not usually a joiner - but this was too good an opportunity to miss."

Dunedin Prominent personality former lawyer, MP and councillor—Hilary Calvert was musing about her decision to stand for the regional council election, as part of a new Vision Otago team.

"They are such decent people and with such outstanding governance experience. I'm proud to be associated with them,' Hilary says.

You can see the ODT columnist's handiwork in the Vision Otago policy guidelines too. "The deal was that we had to be aligned on what the issues were for the region, and have a clear plan on how to solve them. It wasn't a difficult process. The issues are pretty obvious."

Top of Hilary Calvert's list is the affordability of rates.

"Councils are monopolies. They seem to exist almost apart from their communities, rather than with them. Their

appetite for ratepayers' monies is just enormous."

Over the past three years, the ORC's rates have increased 47%. ORC's staff numbers have more than doubled over the past six years. A new \$60 million headquarters building is being constructed in Maclaggan Street.

"Despite that, our rivers and lakes are no cleaner, there are no less pests, there are no initiatives to protect and restore our lakes. That's not good enough."

"Reducing rates is critical. Effective policies are critical. You can have both. More money doesn't make for better

solutions as the ORC clearly proves."

Hilary says that "only a team approach around the council table, with experienced leaders and a clear plan and policies" will make a difference.

Vision Otago's website is www.visionotago.nz with detailed policies and a clear direction to improve both Otago's environment and local democracy.

..... MAYORAL CANDIDATES

Dunedin, and his partner has lived in NEV. He believes these areas have some unique properties which warrant more attention in local Government.

Jett would like to set up a Community Board for North Dunedin to be represented more in local government, based on the unique concerns of a largely student and low-income section of Dunedin. It's simple for Council to set up a special interest group, and he'd like to look at eventually separating Dunedin North into its own local ward.

Jett believes the housing stock is definitely a big concern for residents, and that's based on his personal contact with those affected. He'd like to push for an expansion of a community housing model, meaning that local government would take a significant stake in the housing market over time, making them more likely to keep housing in a safe, rentable condition. Jett believes that while the new Healthy Homes legislation will help the housing situation, enforcement is still down to the local council at the time, and the current admin will take a much softer approach to enforcement on landlords than a more progressive admin might.

Dunedin North, including the Valley, will benefit from Jett's personal investment in community initiatives and his background in volunteering. He is a trustee for the Winter Carnival and has volunteered in an agency assisting the homeless. Jett likes to focus on being available for his constituents and being present when they have concerns.

Jett takes a pragmatic approach to infrastructure needs and the inevitable

JETT GROSHINSKI has lived in North effect on rates/rents. He believes that the Mickey is interested in Council engaging vast majority of local spending is already on critical infrastructure, there are very little 'nice to haves' already, and talk from candidates on reducing waste are not really based in reality. The increase in rates upcoming is based on what's absolutely needed to bring Dunedin's infrastructure up to standard.

> With regards to a potential increase in council income streams that's NOT related to rates, Jett wants councils to lobby government for further revenue funding partnerships that may be beneficial, for example partnering with the NZTA.

> MICKEY TREADWELL is the Greensbacked candidate for Mayor in Dunedin. A priority for Mickey as regards NEV, is the improvement of Dunedin's housing stock, and particularly in areas with atrisk tenants. In the long term, he would like to introduce a rental WoF system to ensure rentals are safe and warm. In the near term, like Wellington, Mickey would like to see an anonymous rental inspection system implemented by the Council. Mickey believes that we currently have pretty lax enforcement of current healthy homes legislationfix that, and we may not have to have the conversation about how the cold makes living here quite unbearable.

> Mickey also brought up that the Place-Based Community Grants Fund was improved in the DCC's nine-year plan, but hasn't seen a monetary increase since the last time it was looked at. He'd like to see this re-visited. Mickey's key platform increasing council engagement with, and resources available to, local community groups.

more with community groups like The Valley Project and Aroha Kaikorai Valley, because he strongly believes that the only way to discover what communities need is to listen to them. He also believes that closer coordination and meetings between various community groups is going to be key to building stronger neighbourhoods.

When asked how the Valley stands to benefit directly from Mickey's Mayoralty, he would like to implement tool kits for common community initiatives, looking at what works in other communities and increasing cross-pollination of ideas. Mickey opined that there's currently quite a gap in how community groups are integrated into Council and he'd like to see that redressed.

As for Mickey's personal connection to other MPs and how this could benefit NEV, Mickey advised that he can go into the Greens Party Policy Committee and lobby directly for issues that affect Dunedin, and this might be quite different to the way other parties work. He also wants to encourage individuals to contact their local MPs in general—it's often more effective than people think.

NZ's council funding is backwards compared to the rest of the OECD (10% of government spending compared to 35% OECD average). Mickey also advises that when people talk about 'waste' in the system, 90% of what council spends is on core infrastructure, so arguments about wastage could be seen as a little disingenuous.

Views are those of the contributing party and not necessarily of this publication.



VALLEY PROPERTY INSIGHTS



Buyer Interest Surges

According to One Hub data, online searches for property listings in the Valley suburbs surged by a remarkable 211% in July 2025 compared to July last year, highlighting keen buyer interest. New listings were also up 20%, suggesting that more homeowners feel confident about putting their properties on the market.

Pricing trends hint at resilience and steady growth in the local market. The property price index hovered between \$640,000 and \$641,00 over recent months, remaining higher than last year's average of \$580,000. In practical terms, this means local property values and purchaser price expectations are holding firm, benefiting sellers and giving buyers solid investment potential. This stability, combined with sustained demand and further mortgage interest rate reductions, gives a sense of optimism for those contemplating a move.



Selling Your Home - Choosing the Right Method in Today's Market

Here's a summary of the main sales into a more traditional sale method. Pros: However, buyers must be ready to methods and insights on what works best in the current market.

Private Treaty (Fixed Price): A private treaty sale lists your property at a set price and allows buyers to negotiate. This method is well understood and gives flexibility to both conditional and unconditional buyers. It works best when the property's value is predictable and there isn't expectation for intense buyer competition. Pros: Flexibility, privacy, and ease of negotiation. Cons: Requires a set price up front; if it's too high, you risk no offers; if it's too low, you could miss out. Also, there's usually no urgency, so buyers might delay making offers.

Sale by Negotiation ("Buyer Enquiry Over" etc.) Instead of setting a firm price, you can invite offers above a certain amount or with no price guide at all. This pulls in a wider net of buyers and lets the market decide value, which can work well when you're not sure what your property might fetch. Pros: Broadens pool of buyers, offers scope for negotiation. Cons: It can lack urgency and leave the process open-ended. But it's useful if your property is unique or hard to price.

Expression of Interest (EOI): This is mainly for unusual properties or joint venture opportunities. Buyers submit proposals, which may or may not include price or full conditions. It's open-ended, starts a conversation, and can then be converted Flexible, draws out interested parties who might want special arrangements. Cons: Can drag on and may offer less clarity on buyer motivation.

Deadline Private Treaty (Deadline Sale): A 'deadline sale' provides a set period for buyers to submit their best offers - similar to a tender but more flexible. Offers can be conditional, which is especially important right now as mortgage approvals take longer and buyers need more time for due diligence. **Pros in current market:** Creates a sense of urgency like an auction, but allows buyers to submit conditional offers (e.g., subject to finance or inspections). Vendors can accept early offers or wait for the deadline, maintaining confidentiality and negotiating power. **Cons:** Still requires strong marketing, and buyers must act quickly to complete due diligence.

Tender: Buyers prepare confidential offers by a set deadline. There's no set price but possibly a price guide. Suitable for generating strong competition and achieving premium prices. Often used for higher-value or unique homes. Pros: Creates urgency, ensures vendor privacy, and can encourage competitive offers. Cons: Can be intimidating for some buyers, and typically higher legal costs may deter conditional buyers.

Auction: High-profile, deadline-based, and often get premium results when there's strong demand in a 'hot' market. purchase unconditionally on the day, which is less likely in today's market given the protracted loan approval process and purchaser caution. Current challenge: With banks taking longer on mortgage approvals and needing detailed information before making unconditional loans, fewer buyers can participate. This typically makes auctions less effective except for stand-out properties that will attract cash buyers regardless.

Selecting the Right Approach: With many purchasers unable or reluctant to make unconditional offers, deadline sales and tenders (which allow for conditions) are often more appealing and effective than auctions. These routes create urgency and don't exclude buyers who can't act instantly. A traditional fixed price or negotiation can work for standard properties but might lack the competitive edge needed to achieve a premium result unless buyer demand is strong.

Carefully consider your property's unique features, your urgency to sell, and the likely buyer pool when deciding. In today's market, flexibility and creating realistic deadlines are critical to a successful sale.

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 Opoho resident; and also the agent/licensee and advisor for NZ Property Solutions

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





advertisements ngá pánui hokohoko

art, craft & music

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

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

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 Artis:

- **@** @thinkitart **.** 021 118 9882
- **(7)** @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@sewonperiodcare.org

PIANO LESSONS

PAINT & SIP FUN-DRAISER

Proceeds go to Islington ECC. 6–8pm, 18 October. King Edward Court. Book via email:

■ paintsipdunedin@gmail.com

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, Valley Baptist Community Centre, 280 North Rd. Just turn up or call/text Mary for more info: ☐ 027 929 9813

UNLOCK MUSICAL TALENT

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 □ 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: 2 027 364 1485

COMMUNITY STUDY CIRCLE

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? Now accepting women's membership! NEV bowling club, 10am, 2nd Monday p/month.

Peter: peabee@xtra.co.nz or

455 1256 or Don 473 7544

ENABLING LOVE

Friendship and social connection. 18–65yrs welcome to weekly coffee group. More info:

enablinglove.nz or
enquiries@enablinglove.nz

FERN COLLECTIVE

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

LEGAL ADVICE

Free legal advice at Community Law Otago, available by appnt. Qualified lawyers. Practical solutions. Appointments at the Valley Project on Tuesdays from 11am. ♣ 03 474 1922 or ▼ reception@dclc.org.nz

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

Create safer, more caring communities. For info and local contacts:

contacts:

coordinator@nsotago.nz

4 03 456 0857

LOGAN PARK HIGH SCHOOL 50TH REUNION

Labour Weekend. All past students, teachers, and staff invited for gala dinner, mix & mingle evening, and more.

Volunteers needed for reunion committee.

www.lphs.school.nz/lphs-50th-reunion

■ LPHSReunion@ encoreeventcoordination.co.nz

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. ONorth 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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CREST train at the Botanic Garden. Can you help? Volunteers needed for driving, ticketing, commentary, maintenance.

☐ crestrides.org.nz or ☐ Rodger 027 471 4902

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 2021 206 3593

WRITING GROUP

Seeking new members. Meeting 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. Tues. 7.30–8.30pm (school term). \$10 casual rate. All levels welcome. Fiona: sweetfee77@gmail.com

AWAKENING TO SELF LOVE

Half-day retreat at North East Valley Normal School, 9.30am–12.30pm Sunday, Aug. 17 & Sunday Sept. 14 with Kovido Maddick. More info: mindfulnessdunedin.co.nz/ or contact Kovido **Q** 027 357 2884

BALFOLK DANCE

English Country Dance: Mondays 10.30am–12noon or 6.30-8pm

Balfolk Partner Dances (no partner needed): Wednesdays 6–8pm All classes at NEV Community Centre, 270 North Rd.

Pastel Ball, honouring Jane Austen's 250th anniversary: Sat. 20 Sept. The Sargood Centre. Tix: Eventfinda, \$25

Get ready for the Pastel Ball! **English Country Dance** Workshop: Fri. 19 Sept. at NEV Community Centre - FREE! 5.30-7.00pm: Beyond Basics 7:30–8:30pm: Beginners

Toitū Balfolk Minibals 1st Sunday monthly at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum. 2–3.30pm. FREE! No Minibal in October. Next and last Minibal: Sunday 2 November

Join our mailing list: **■** 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: **465** 1516

CROP SWAP NEV

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

DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

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

'EVERY BODY' HOLISTIC MASSAGE

Now based in Opoho! Swedish relaxation - deep tissue - myofascial release. Queer-friendly, traumainformed & disability support-led by your needs. \$90/hr. Tamsin 022 1240 525 for info or to book.

FOLK DANCING FOR FUN

Valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Road, 10-11.30am, Fridays, \$4. \ 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/allsaints-fruit-and-veges/ Want to volunteer? Email:

■ admin@allsaintsdn.org.nz

Fitness, discipline and self defence. 7-12 years Wed 5-6pm or Sun 3–4pm; teen & adult classes, Wed 6-7.30pm or Sun 4-5.30pm. Sacred Heart School, 63 North Rd. Contact Kenneth 🔲 021 0242 38 dunedin@shaolinkungfu.co.nz

MASSAGE FOR WOMEN

with Uschi Heyd. Book your session online www.kindliving.co.nz 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

NEV BOWLING CLUB

139 North Rd. New members welcome. Come along and have a go. Bruce 🔲 027 432 8649 or Michelle **Q** 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

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

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

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

WEKA WELLNESS

Community mental health sessions, Mondays 6-8pm at WEKA hub, 31 Stafford St. level 2. Follow us on FB to keep updated WEKADUNEDIN

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. \$\scrick\$ 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

Vibrant toy library for children 0–7yrs. Huge range of toys, puzzles, ride-ons, dress-ups, & games. Valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Road, 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 **Q** 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 20 2-5yr-olds, Mon-Fri 8.30am-2.30pm. Well-resourced play space, nature... playground & family community. New enrolments for over-3's get 4 days free in term 3. 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.

NEV PLAYGROUP

0-5yrs, variety of experiences to enhance child development and meet other local families. Free morning tea and lunch provided for adults. Please supply child's morning tea. Valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Rd, 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 **Q** 027 880 2365

OPOHO SCOUTS

Keas 4.30-5.30pm, Wednesdays; Cubs currently full; Scouts 6.30-8.15pm, Wednesdays. 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. School terms at Valley Baptist Community Centre. • 021 150 9165 or

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

WHEELATHON

Jonathan Rhodes invites the community for bike racing, blanket market, sausage sizzle, bake sale, and coffee cart at North East Valley School. 1st Nov. 10am-12noon.

I jonathanrhodes@dk.org.nz

f) Jonathan-Rhodes-Kindergarten

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 **Q** 254783519@qq.com

Classifieds continued next page... &

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

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

INSPIRING MATHS CLASSES

ITALIAN CLASSES

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: \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 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

BABYSITTER

10 years of childcare experience. Full drivers licence. Have worked with twins. **Q** 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

COMPUTER REPAIR

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

DOOR WANTED

Wooden exterior door needed for basement entry. Approximately 1910x810mm. Happy to purchase. Can trim if needed. \$\mathbb{\mathbb{Q}}\$ 473 8180, leave message if no answer.

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

DAVE'S COMPUTER SERVICE

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

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 \$205
a month GST inclusive. Cheapest
in Dunedin. Household items,
old car, etc. 2027 213 2474

GARAGE WANTED

Dry and secure for single car, preferably in Ōpoho or thereabouts. ☐ Douglas 021 1567 667 or ■ dczeadin1@gmail.com

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

For horse and pony close to North Road, NEV. 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 2027 213 2474

PAVER/GARDENER

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

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

VENUS FLY TRAPS

Large caliber plants. 5x bigger than sold by shops and are \$4.00 cheaper. Growing instructions included. \$10. \$\sqrt{9}\$ Pat 473 0159 (PM)

VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR LIGHT MOWING/WEEDING

North Road resident with disability seeking regular volunteer for weeding and mowing of small garden. ~1 hour per session. Paul:

■ paul.arnott@ccsdisabilityaction. org.nz □ 021 237 8040 8.30–5pm

WELDING REPAIRS

Gates, fences, balustrades also. Advanced welding courses. More info: Bob **Q** 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 PRESBYTERIANGeorge St. Normal School Hall, 10am

ŌPOHO PRESBYTERIAN

50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am

SALVATION ARMY

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

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING WITH CLASSIFIEDS?







Add or update listings: voice@northeastvalley.org

\$2 per listing per issue

Project bank account: 03-1726-0005606-000 Reference: VVDonation

VALLEY ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: NATHAN PARKER

Eleven years ago, working at the Orokonui Ecosanctuary as an educator, I bought an e-bike to ride up the big hill. On a weekend ride with a family member, I let them borrow my e-bike, and I was left behind puffing along grumpily on the non-electric (acoustic) bike. The idea of buying another ebike to share seemed necessary.

I recognised how e-bikes made me feel (I was hooked!) and how getting people onto e-bikes had holistic health benefits for the rider and was a win for the environment. This was the inspiration for my business opportunity: Dunedin Electric Bikes.

My team mainly sells new e-bikes, a few secondhand ones and converted acoustics, and we also offer essential accessories. We have a full repair workshop, The Box Cycle Servicing, able to service all species of bikes.

I have created art for many years using recycled and found materials. Now with access to bikes destined for the metal recycler that have been dismantled by the Community Bike Workshop, I began to experiment with how they could be upcycled, beginning the artistic journey of harakeke respoking to create "dream weavers": decorative totems designed to inspire dreams and connection to nature. Harakeke is my favourite material to work with—supple and strong when fresh, stiff and brittle once dry.

Eleven years ago, working at the Orokonui Each strip I use contains different colours and **Ecosanctuary as an educator, I bought an** textures, and they change with age.

My favourite piece uses the native timber frame of an old tabletop, a bike rim, and a piece of rusting steel possibly from a shipwreck I found on the West Coast. Each piece is held together, and apart, by tied and bound harakeke. Bike rims generally have 32 or 36 spoke holes, which create some interesting patterning opportunities and offbeat symmetry.

The official opening of my art gallery, Cycle By Gallery, will take place on Friday, 26 September, from 4:30 to 6:30pm, launching the new exhibition *Woven Hope*—a whimsical collection of creations made with bike rims, harakeke, driftwood, and other meaningful found objects. The exhibition will also be available for full viewing over the weekend of 27–28 September, from 9am to 2pm.

On any other day, Cycle By Gallery, as the name suggests, can be viewed from bike or foot through the shop windows at 11 Allen Street. Guests are welcome to ask to view other pieces arranged within the building.

I am hopeful people will look at bikes, harakeke, and inner tubes differently after viewing my art. We may showcase other artists' work in the future, and already have bike tube earrings available for purchase from fellow artist, Sonja Urban. Watch this space! -- Nathan Parker





OPOHO PACKS IN POLITICS

Interest was as high as ever at the Dunedin City Council candidate meetings at Ōpoho Church on September 7 and 8.

The church and the adjacent lounge, connected via video link, were fully packed by 7pm each evening. Latecomers had to be turned away.

The 43 candidates had the opportunity to state their case before being put on the spot through multiple-choice questions on hot topics: rates, the Smooth Hill landfill, zero-carbon goals, Albany Street cycleway, homelessness and other issues.

The most engagement came later when each candidate was asked who the best two current councillors were, and to rank their top three choices for mayor, briefly explaining why.

A koha was collected for Presbyterian Support's Foodbank, and an impressive \$1037.80 and 113 items were contributed by those present. Ōpoho resident and musician Philip Fleming entertained before the meetings began.

The candidate meetings in the church have been held every three years since the mid-1990s. -- *Philip Somerville*



The Cat in the Hat (aka Philip Somerville) begins the first of the two DCC candidate meetings at Ōpoho Church. Photo: Otago Daily Times









Alan Somerville











03 474 1973 | 544 Great King Street, Dunedin Rachel.BrookingMP@parliament.govt.nz

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