



LOGAN PARK GOLDEN BIRTHDAY APPROACHES

No matter where you are, whether still in the Valley or clear across the planet, Logan Park High School (LPHS) is calling upon all of its students and staff, past and present! Get ready to turn back the clock and celebrate half a century of learning, leading, and legacy. Logan Park's 50th Jubilee, planned for Labour Day weekend this year, will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reconnect with old friends, mentors, colleagues, and their families.

The Jubilee Committee is currently pouring energy into preparations for a three-day celebration which will include a mix-'n-mingle, guided tours, a dinner gala, a possible picnic, photo sharing and a comprehensive look into the school's history. It is hoped another commemorative stone will be erected in time to mark the school's golden birthday.

You don't have to be associated with the school to appreciate its journey. Let's take a moment to reflect on some of the events and details that shaped Logan Park early on.

As well as the Otago Uni and the Polytechnic, the land the high school rests on is Taunuunu Kapuaiteaki, "the place where fountains of knowledge form." As once told by kaumatua Huata Holmes, here the Waitaha people learnt cooking, hunting, and navigation along the banks of Ōpoho Creek some 600 years ago.


History teacher, Paul Fielding, tells us the present school site and *(Continued pg #6...)*

Logan Park looking Southeast, 1999

WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP TO STRENGTHEN THE VALLEY PROJECT'S IMPORTANT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MAHI!

Your support, however modest or grand, will assist us in our continual efforts towards a thriving community, thriving environment, and thriving organisation. Sustaining the production of this Valley Voice publication is one of our key objectives. Each issue costs over \$3k for printing alone, with additional production costs on top.

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Authorised by Rachel Brooking MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington





heads
UP!

TAKE A MOMENT—LIFT YOUR GAZE TO THE STARS!

In both the cosmos and community development, growth and transformation arise not from isolation, but from collective strength, diversity, and the willingness to move forward as one.

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2025 VALLEY VOICE SCHEDULE

ISSUE #:	#5	#6	#7	#8
CONTENT DUE:	July 16	August 27	October 8	November 12
DISTRIBUTION DATE:	August 9	September 20	November 1	December 6

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

I hope you all had a chance to celebrate Matariki! Traditionally, Māori New Year festivities include lighting ritual fires, making offerings, giving thanks to the present, and holding various celebrations to honour ancestors and those who have recently passed.

Nowadays, people come together to share kai, play music, sing songs, and tell stories. Matariki is about reconnecting with your home and whānau. Today there are many ways to acknowledge the Māori New Year and observe the rising of the Matariki star cluster: Take time to remember loved ones who are no longer with you; Give thanks for the year that has passed; Enjoy a Matariki feast together; Plan for the next year; Spend time with family and friends; Write down your wishes for the year; Plan to grow a garden.

While The Valley Project didn't mark the occasion with a specific event, we did enjoy spending time with our community at the recent Winter Warmer earlier this month. It was great to share kai while spending time with new faces and old friends. We also celebrated National Volunteer Week to show gratitude to our wonderful volunteers. We could not do our mahi without you!

We look forward to the future with Otago Polytechnic and Otago Uni interns supporting Valley Project ambitions over the next few months. Māwatia a Matariki! -- Jen Rodgers

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Thursday 7th August 1pm to 2:30pm

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REGISTER VIA THE VALLEY PROJECT:

PROJECT@NORTHEASTVALLEY.ORG | (03) 473 8614



VALLEY FEST!

CreekFest is re-branding as the Valley Festival—three weeks of festivities celebrating the Valley; from Ōpoho to Pine Hill to Upper Junction. Workshops, community dinner, kids' activities, open days, and much more!

13 SEPT. - 5 OCT.

Look out for more details in the August VV and on our socials.



(03) 473 8614

262 North Road,
North East Valley,
Dunedin

@valleyproject

www.northeastvalley.org

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the
VALLEY
project

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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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 16 JULY, 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.

We are looking for people who are **pregnant** to complete a 20 min survey on their phone or laptop



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TRANSPORT DREAMS

PANEL DISCUSSION: Possible futures for transport in Aotearoa and how to get there.

Local elections are coming up, so let's think about the role of local government and what we can expect of our councillors.

Come along and spark ideas to aid your voting decisions.

NEVN School Hall, 248 North Road, North East Valley
Monday, 25th August, 7 - 8pm | Hosted by the Valley Project

save the dates

Backyard Bird Survey	28 June - 6 July
NEV Garden Orientation	Sun. 6 July
Eco Design Drop-in	Thurs. 10 July
Knitting Workshop	July 17 + Aug. 7
Crop Swap	Sun. 27 July
NEV Garden Orientation	Sun. 3 August
Transport Forum	Mon. 25 August
Crop Swap	Sun. 31 August
Community Dinner	Sat. 13 September
Valley Fest	13 Sep. - 5 October
Youth Volunteer Day	Fri. 17 October

Follow our Facebook for official event info and notices.



TACKLING INVASIVE SYCAMORES

North East Valley's lush green hills are home to a wide variety of native plants and birds—but one tree is threatening to take over: the sycamore. While beautiful, sycamore trees are highly invasive in New Zealand. They spread quickly, shading out native species, altering ecosystems, and disrupting the natural regeneration of our bush.

Each year, thousands of sycamore seedlings pop up across the Valley, particularly along tracks, gullies, and backyards. Without control, they can form dense stands that crowd out native plants and reduce biodiversity. That's where you can help.

Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary is calling for volunteers to assist with sycamore seedling removal in key areas. Just a few hours of your time can make a real difference in keeping our valley native and wild. Tools and guidance will be provided—no experience needed.

Open VUE will also soon begin mapping large sycamore trees along Lindsay Creek and in Chingford Bush as part of a long-term removal and replanting project. This is a big job, but with community support we can reclaim our native bush.

Want to learn more or get involved? Call 473 8614 or email OpenVUE@northeastvalley.org. Let's work together to restore native biodiversity in the Valley—one tree at a time.

-- Jennie Wagner-Gorton



WINGS IN THE VALLEY

Get ready, North East Valley—our backyards are about to become science stations! The 2025 NZ Garden Bird Survey runs from June 28 to July 6, and this year we're inviting everyone in the Valley to help put our birds on the map.

The best part? You don't need to be an expert. The official gardenbirdssurvey.nz site has clear, easy-to-use ID tools. And if you're still unsure, we've got backup! A friendly bird expert from Otago Uni is offering one-on-one help for anyone in NEV who wants support identifying and counting birds in their backyard. Call 03 473 8614 or email OpenVUE@northeastvalley.org for more info.

This is a fun, feel-good way to connect with nature and contribute to conservation. So gather your whānau, brew a cuppa, and get counting. Let's make NEV chirp-worthy this winter!



WEKA SIGHTINGS IN DUNEDIN

Earlier in the year I took it upon myself to collate reports of weka in Dunedin to get as complete a picture of the pattern of weka in the region, and to attempt to get some understanding of what's happening and where the birds are. These flightless birds, also known as Māori hen or woodhen, are about the size of a chicken and feed on fruit and insects.

A number of people in North East Valley got in touch and shared with me their observations of weka and this has really helped in understanding what's been happening here this year. At the same time, I was given a copy of all the reports made to the DOC hotline and have included them in this summary.

I have received a total of 49 individual observations. They can be broken down as:

One report at Dundas Street/Leith stream in 2020.

March 2024 two reports of a pair of birds in Normanby.

March 2024 four reports of a weka in the St David Street/Leith Street area.

July and August 2024 a single bird detected on a trail camera at Signal Hill Reserve.

December 2024 approximately a dozen reports from the Cliffs Road and Second Beach track, St Clair. There was a further report in April.

January 2025 onwards, multiple reports of one or two weka in the Normanby/Signal Hill area.

So, it's clear that there have been multiple events of weka either being intentionally or inadvertently being brought to Dunedin. We have no data yet about where they have come from or in the case of intentional releases, what the motives are. Based on the total number of reports and the distribution of them in the Normanby/Signal Hill area, there are currently a pair of weka exploring a large area across the Valley.

Based on photos received, the birds seen recently are too dark to be Buff weka, so it is believed we are looking at some form of Western weka. Nearest source of these is the Eglinton Valley in Fiordland National Park.

Thanks to the people in North East Valley who have shared observations. These have enabled a much more thorough picture of the current status of weka in Dunedin to be described.

Please continue to report any sightings to me and I will add them to my spreadsheet. Hopefully we can get to the bottom of this mystery by mapping and observing their locations. -- Bruce McKinlay, brucejmckinlay@gmail.com, 027 389 1477.

For more information on weka, please visit: doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/birds/birds-a-z/weka/



BITTER TO BETTER: LEARN TO LOVE KALE

Mānawatia a Matariki! With Puaka and Matariki rising over Ōtepoti this month, we are entering one of the quieter periods in the garden, with many crops well finished for the year—although weeds never seem to take a break! We're putting a number of beds to rest, layering them up with green (comfrey) and brown (fallen leaves) biodegradable matter and then covering with pea straw. This will allow us to spend time dealing to weedy paths and a good general tidy of the garden.

Good old kale, silverbeet, perennial spinach and kōkihi (NZ spinach) are our reliable community garden residents, and their delicious green leaves are a great tonic in winter to make dull meals look better. Kale is super hardy and we leave ours to self seed so they pop up all around the garden. There are a few haters out there of this frilly brassica, but try this pesto with pasta and be a convert:



..... KALE PESTO RECIPE

1/2 cup pumpkin seeds	1/4 cup Parmesan cheese,
1/2 cup olive oil	or 1 tbsp nutritional yeast
1 clove of garlic	Salt and pepper to taste
2 cups chopped kale	2 tbsp lemon juice

In a food processor, grind up the pumpkin seeds and garlic. Then add the cheese or nutritional yeast, salt, and several grinds of pepper, and pulse again. Add in the kale and the lemon juice, and drizzle in the oil so that it turns into a nice creamy pesto. Taste for seasoning. You can sweeten with honey or maple syrup if needed. This recipe will make around a cup of pesto and you can keep it in the fridge for a few weeks. If not for yourself, it's worth growing kale to serve your visitors or to gift friends! -- Lynn Vare

Do you have a sea lion story?

University of Otago is researching pakake (New Zealand sea lions) and their interactions with people.

Please spare 10 minutes to complete an anonymous survey about your outlook on sea lions in Otago and Southland. You can choose to be in the draw for one of five \$200 supermarket vouchers.

Use URL:

<https://forms.office.com/r/c9StWWAmvp>
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DALMORE RESERVE COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 28 June 10am	Sat. 26 July 10am	Sat. 23 Aug. 10am
Sat. 12 July 10am	Sat. 9 Aug. 10am	Sat. 13 Sep. 10am

N.E.V. COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKING BEES

Sat. 28 June 9:30am	Sun. 20 July 1pm	Sat. 9 Aug. 9:30am
Sun. 6 July 1pm	Sat. 26 July 9:30am	Sun. 17 Aug. 1pm
Sat. 12 July 9:30am	Sun. 3 Aug. 1pm	Sat. 23 Aug. 9:30am

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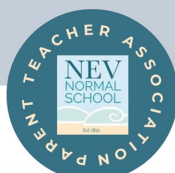
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Thank you very much for supporting the growth & learning of our tamariki!

Fundraising goes into classrooms & the library as new books, and into experiences for the kids' school camp.

(...continued from front page.) collective sports grounds are built atop what used to be an inlet of the Otago Harbour known as Pelichet Bay, named after an early Dunedin surveyor, Charles Pelichet. It formed into a lake when a railway line to Port Chalmers was constructed in 1873. Lake Logan, popular for swimming and boating, was given its name in honour of a prominent Dunedin business man and land donor, John Logan. 30 hectares were later reclaimed in preparation for the great 1925 Exhibition.

The valley nook at the Northern corner of Lake Logan was used as a rifle range for 80 years. The bordering Butts Road is designated so after the thousands of bullet shells found in the area. In 1971 the range was closed and Logan Park High School was born.

By the late '60s, population growth, outlived buildings, and a growing shift away from vocational education prompted the principal and board of King Edward Technical College to pursue a new, academically focused community school. A proposal was made for a school to service the West Harbour area—North East Valley having been greatly considered. The government settled on the Logan Park site—not up on the sunny hillside as initially requested by the school board, but on the more affordable valley floor.

Initial construction lasted from 1971 to 1974. 25 acres of the 84-acre site were extensively cleared, drained, raised four metres with fill, and levelled for buildings that would claim just 2.5 acres. Engineering work was also completed to divert the Leith Stream into an extended city water system.

In February 1974, 300 co-ed third-formers took their seats at the nearly finished school. 560 more filled classrooms at its completion the following year. LPHS was officially opened in June 1975 by the Minister of Education, Phil Amos.

The shift of King Edward College students to the new Dunedin North site was memorialised and recalled in the newly created school motto: *Kua Mutu; Kua Timata/Now it has ended; now it has begun*. LPHS was a multi-faceted Uni Entrance high school providing both a new and extended curriculum covering subjects such as Latin, French, German, English, Classical Studies, Integrated Studies, History and Social

Studies, Sciences, Physical Education and Commerce, as well as Technology, Typing/Short-hand, Art and Art History, and eventually Information Computer Tech, Journalism and Engineering.

Arch Wilson was Logan Park's first principal; a respected and highly successful leader with a fresh and youthful approach to education. He dedicated himself to the school's sporting and academic excellence, cultural diversity, and competitive enrolment strategy; standards that LPHS proudly upholds to this day. He put emphasis on academic qualifications and university degrees as pathways to promising futures.

The late Mr Wilson was known well to make it his business to learn the names of every pupil at LPHS—all 960!—and to personalise his encouragement of their academic strengths and achievements. Former English teacher, Margaret Mcleod, said of him, "The whole school revolved around his enthusiasm—a very good beginning for the school."

Jane Johnson wholeheartedly agrees. The first female LPHS principal, as well as its longest-serving, was once a young staff member during Arch Wilson's short but influential tenure. Though their paths crossed only briefly, Ms. Johnson came to deeply appreciate Mr. Wilson's ethos as she progressed in her own educational career. Before becoming principal of LPHS, she first served there as Head of the English Department, house dean, and chairwoman of the regional PPTA.

Today, Ms. Johnson is playing a leading role in organising the high school's 50th reunion celebrations. She would be truly honoured by your presence!

LPHS PRINCIPALS THROUGH THE YEARS:

1974 – 1979: Arch Wilson
 1980 Mar–July: Interim, Lance Blaikie
 1980 – 1994: Colin Croudiss
 1993 – 1999: John Letts
 1999 – 2017: Jane Johnson
 2017 – 2023: Co-Principals Peter Hills and Kristan Mouat
 2023 – present: Co-Principals Peter Hills and Kirsty Sangster

In the next issue, we will profile distinguished former staff and alumni who have achieved notable success following their life at Logan Park.



50th JUBILEE REUNION EVENT

LABOUR WEEKEND 2025 | Fri. 24 – Sun. 26 October

LET YOUR WHANAU AND FRIENDS KNOW!

Register asap: www.lphs.school.nz or on the LPHS

For monthly 2025 reunion updates:

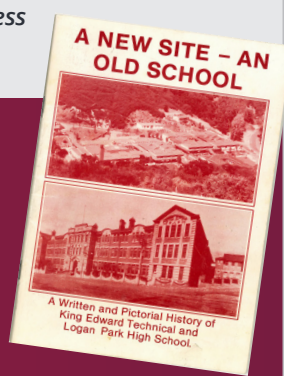
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Logan Park
High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Kopu o te Raki





THE LAST WOODEN FLOORS

Last month many of us gathered at the North East Valley Baptist Community Centre for what might have been one of its final dances: "Le Bal Rouge," a fundraiser to contribute to the efforts to keep the facilities in the hands of community. The beloved space, with its worn but welcoming wooden floor—where countless community celebrations, rehearsals and dance classes have unfolded—is now for sale.

Meanwhile, our local primary school has recently carpeted its hall. While this change makes the space cosier for school activities, it highlights an often overlooked aspect of community planning: the specific physical requirements that make dance possible.

Dance, in all its forms, thrives on smooth, solid surfaces that allow for safe movement, balance, and the subtle shifts of weight that define everything from a folk dance to contemporary movement. Many may not realise that the difference between a wooden floor and carpet can determine whether a space can host dance at all. As our school adapts its spaces for its primary educational mission, we are reminded of how specialised yet simple the needs of dance can be—and how crucial it is to maintain some spaces in our community where those needs are met.

In a world where screens increasingly mediate our interactions, and where we find ourselves in ever-narrowing social bubbles, these physical spaces where we come together—stumbling, exploring, laughing, moving in sync—matter more than ever.

Dance offers something precious: connection without words. When we dance together, we communicate through movement first, establishing a connection that is very different from our verbal relationships.

There is something beautifully messy about community dance. It is not about perfection; it is about presence—all of us momentarily shedding our labels and finding common ground. In these fleeting moments of shared movement, we glimpse what community can truly be: not a collection of like-minded individuals, but a vibrant tapestry of different perspectives learning to move together.

The Balfolk "Bal Rouge" fundraiser showed the strength of our dancers' desire to preserve these spaces, it reminds us that many still value places where we can be together in all our glorious, awkward humanity. As we continue efforts to save the Community Centre, we are not just fighting for a building with a wooden floor—we're preserving a place where generations have learned that community is always worth it.

If these spaces matter to you too, please reach out. Share your stories, your photos, your memories of dance in our valley. In remembering what these spaces have meant to us, perhaps we can find new ways to ensure they remain part of our community's future.

For more information about Balfolk, contact Kate Grace at balfolkdunedin@gmail.com. To join our efforts to save the Community Centre, text 020 4003 0814 or go to: <https://valleybaptistcommunitycentre.com/>

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KAI, COMFORT AND COMMUNITY: WINTER WARMER HIGHLIGHTS

Near-zero temperatures, freezing rain, hail, and a biting Southerly—you couldn't have asked for a better day for our annual Winter Warmer!

A very frosty Dunedin morning didn't stop the warmth and energy in the North East Valley Normal School Hall on Saturday 7 June, just as Otago woke up to the first snow dump of the season. The Valley Project's Winter Warmer kicked off at 10am but the action started much earlier, with volunteers arriving at 8:30am to get everything set up for the day ahead.

Inside the hall's small kitchen, things were at full-tilt from minute-one thanks to Julie Broderick of Gardens New World! A row of slow cookers and trays were packed with hot soups and curries ready to feed the crowds. There was also delicious mashed potato, rice, garlic bread, and even cake, all donated and prepared with love—the curried sausage in particular were a much-loved Kiwi classic from my childhood. We can't go

on without expressing our sincere gratitude to local legends Gardens New World and KiwiHarvest, as there was plenty of delicious food to go around.

The event wasn't just about food, though. Trestle tables struggled under the weight of free clothing for all ages and sizes, carefully sorted by hard-working Valley Project volunteers and staff who had spent the whole day prior getting everything ready.

Before the doors opened, the team had a quick health and safety briefing before locals poured in at 10am. It didn't take long for the space to fill with the smell of food and the sounds of laughter and conversation!

There were also information stalls from local support agencies offering help and advice on overall wellbeing over the winter months: The Dunedin Curtain Bank offered great practical solutions to keep the heat in; Otago Mental Health Support Trust were there to offer a friendly ear and mental health advocacy for winter woes; Aukaha offered advice and practical solutions on Healthy Homes; WellSouth offered free blood glucose checks; and the DCC Eco Design Advisor Service exhibited their hireable Home Energy Audit Toolkit. Presbyterian Support Otago was also on hand collecting donations for the Octacan food drive.

"I love these events," said Christine from Hamburg, a local resident who's passionately been a part of the community for years. "It's great to catch up with people you've seen around but never really had a proper chat with."

The (now very warm) hall was filled with people from all walks of life; young families, elderly residents, students, and long-time locals, all enjoying the chance to connect. Even those who couldn't stay for long were sent off with takeaway containers full of leftovers.


By close at 1pm, most guests had left and the kitchen crew were kept busy cleaning dishes and packing up meals to go. There was a strong sense of community spirit left in the room as the doors closed and the last dishes were washed.

The event had something for everyone, with free take-home potatoes and pumpkins, and firelighters donated by Gardens New World to help get the Valley's wood burners going.

Many thanks to everyone who donated clothing, linens, and curtains in the two weeks building up to the event. We are proud to report just a small stack of unclaimed goods remained which were later collected by Presbyterian Support Otago for their op-shop.

The Winter Warmer was more than just a good hearty meal; it was a reminder of the power of people coming together to support each other. There's nothing better than good food, friendly faces, and a feeling of belonging! -- **Karl Bray**

Support for Families




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Otago Ki te Raki Charitable Trust


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Parenting




Behavioural issues

He Ao Hou is here for you. No matter the challenge, we'll help you find the support you need. There are no restrictions, and no barriers based on ethnicity, culture, religion, or anything else.

He Ao Hou is for all

Call us today to see how we can help

027 270 5955 | admin@heaohou.org.nz | www.heaohou.org.nz



SUPPORTING WHĀNAU TO LIVE WELL THIS WINTER AND BEYOND

As winter quickly approaches, there will be many who will start to feel the pinch, especially when temperatures drop and power bills increase.

A free in-home service, known as EnergyMate, could be the difference between a cold house and a warm home. Our EnergyMate coaches visit homes just like yours, and provide in-home energy assessments. They will share tips and advice on the most efficient ways of using appliances, keeping homes warm, and making sure you're on the most suitable power plan for your living situation.

One of the many positive outcomes delivering this service was when our EnergyMate coach visited Emma, a retired woman living on her own. She just couldn't keep her home warm. After completing the in-home energy assessment, one of

the issues identified was that her home had no curtains.

With high power bills and health concerns due to living in a cold environment, we were pleased to be able to help. Our EnergyMate coach got in contact with Dunedin Curtain Bank, who supplied curtains at no cost, to help insulate her windows. Our EnergyMate coach was even on hand to help hang the curtains!

Emma was absolutely thrilled and noticed an immediate difference to how much warmer her home was. Our coach also checked with her power provider and found that if she swapped her plan, she could save money each month.

Adding to that some simple tips and advice on how to use her appliances more efficiently, Emma now knows she has the means to warm her home without

breaking the bank and no longer fears receiving a power bill she can't afford.

It's services like these that make a true difference to the lives of people who would otherwise struggle to pay their power bills or live in cold and often damp homes through the coldest part of the year.



[PSOTAGO.ORG.NZ/ENERGY](https://psotago.org.nz/energy)
FREEPHONE 0508 396 678
ENERGY.MATE@PSOTAGO.ORG.NZ

Heat pumps are a great choice for maintaining a warm home. Their efficiency, typically ranging from 300% to 500%, means that for every 1kW of energy input, they provide 3 to 5kW of heat output. However, improper use can lead to higher energy bills and less comfort. Here are tips to ensure you use your heat pump effectively. Keep warm without breaking the bank!

To maximize efficiency, set your heat pump to the "heat" (Sun) mode and select the "auto" fan setting. Be cautious with the auto mode, as it may switch to cooling if the room temperature exceeds the thermostat setting, which can happen on sunny days. Aim to keep the temperature between 20°C and 22°C. Setting the temperature higher can significantly increase power consumption; for instance, running a heat pump at 26°C

uses 50% more power than at 21°C. If you're not home during the day, it's best to turn off the heat pump to save energy.

Effective heating requires proper airflow direction. Use the "swing" button to direct warm air downwards, allowing it to rise and evenly heat the room. This prevents warm air from accumulating at the ceiling.

Regular maintenance is crucial for optimal performance. Clean the filters monthly, or every two weeks if the heat pump is used frequently. Ideally, have the heat pump professionally cleaned every one to two years.

If you experience cold air from your heat pump, check the fan setting. A low or quiet setting will only deliver about a quarter of the heat the pump is capable of. Ensure the fan is set to "auto" or "high" and that the mode is on "heat." In very low outside

temperatures, the heat pump may enter defrost mode, temporarily reducing heating capacity. This is more likely to happen with older heat pumps or with an outdoor unit.

A 6kW heat pump running for 8 hours a day can add approximately \$80 a month to your energy bill, assuming it's used correctly. By following these guidelines, you can ensure your heat pump operates efficiently, keeping your home warm and your energy bills manageable this winter.



The Aukaha Mana Takata team works alongside whānau and communities to create healthier living environments. Our focus is on making homes warmer, drier, and more energy-efficient—especially during the colder months. We assess homes for insulation and heating needs and connect whānau with practical support to make sure everyone stays warm, safe, and healthy through winter.

Eligibility for our Healthy Homes program is open to low-income renters and homeowners who have children with health vulnerabilities living in the household. You are able to make a referral for yourself or on behalf of someone via our website: aukaha.co.nz, then navigate to menu item 'Application Forms'.

Our mahi doesn't stop at housing.

We also support whānau in other important areas of life including: Employment support – helping people get job-ready, access training, and finding meaningful work; Driver licensing – supporting whānau through the process of getting their learner, restricted, or full licence; Whānau Navigators – Walking alongside individuals and families to help them access services like health, education, housing, and more.

If you or someone you know could use a hand, please don't hesitate to reach out—we're here to help.

Some tips and tricks to help keep your home warm and dry: Open windows for 10–15 minutes each morning to let out moisture and reduce condensation;

Ensure your curtains are double-layered and fit well to stop heat loss through the windows; Close curtains at dusk to keep heat in; Place draft stoppers at the bottom of doors and seal gaps around windows; Dry clothes outside or use a vented dryer where possible to reduce dampness inside the home.



[AUKAHA.CO.NZ](https://aukaha.co.nz) [AUKAHA](https://www.facebook.com/aukaha)
LEVEL 2, 266 HANOVER STREET
03 477 0071

DJ AUTO THINK TANK

Q: SHOULD I CHANGE OUT MY VEHICLE'S FLUIDS FOR SEASON-SPECIFIC FORMULAS?

A: There are six essential car fluids: Engine oil lubricates engine components; Engine coolant regulates engine temperature; Transmission fluid ensures smooth gear shifts; Differential fluid reduces friction in the drive-train which transfers power to the wheels; Brake fluid transfers movement and force from the brake pedal to the vehicle's braking system; and windshield washer fluid is used to maintain windshield visibility.

While it can be beneficial to use season-specific formulas, you don't necessarily *need* them for Dunedin's climate. Manufacturers increasingly aim to provide a wide operational range with all vehicle fluids. Aftermarket products often exceed these specifications. As long as you're up to date with servicing your car, you should survive well in most environments.

Where you could get caught out is how fluids deteriorate over time. Coolant that has aged can become acidic, losing its anti-boil, anti-freeze, or anti-corrosive properties. Engine oil loses viscosity and gains microscopic contaminants, posing several risks to your engine including overheating, corrosion, or even engine seizure.

Your priority concern should be regular fluid changes—with an emphasis on engine oil—for maintaining vehicle performance and preventing costly repairs. It's always a good idea, of course, to consult your vehicle's manual or a mechanic for specific recommendations for extreme situations.

If anything, consider using a high quality engine oil, such as Castrol or Penrite, which offer the cutting edge of oil design and production. What sets oils apart are the additives and grades aimed specifically at your engine. The variation here is vast and complex, but using a reputable oil ensures you don't end up purchasing outdated product disguised as the right grade. There are a lot of free online resources you can use to choose the right oil.

Antifreeze wiper fluid might be worth considering, too, particularly for those residing in areas prone to frost and/or snow, such as Pine Hill, Normanby, and Upper Junction. Winter washer fluid is designed to prevent freezing and is specifically formulated to clear snow and ice.

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



FAREWELL TO LOCAL FAVOURITE

Naphtali client, Tyla Slood, responds to the indefinite closure of the Croque-O-Dile Cafe at the Dunedin Botanic Garden.

"I would like to say thank you to the staff at the Croque-O-Dile Cafe. I often go to the cafe Thursday afternoons with my friends who, like me, have challenges. We always felt welcomed and would have fun. There are three staff who work there who always remember our orders without having to tell them.

Now the cafe is closed, we will miss the food and playing games, but most of all, the staff. It is important that the city council has cafes in [the Botanical Garden] with kind staff that recognize and value people living in our city with challenges."

The Croque-O-Dile Cafe officially closed its doors in mid-May. The DCC is upgrading the building as it seeks a new lessee. In the meanwhile, food truck applications are welcome: botanic@dcc.govt.nz

SMALL SPACE, BIG POSSIBILITIES

Fletcher Glass, owner of the former Palmers Quarry on North Road, is preparing the red-brick gatekeeper's building and surrounding land for commercial leasing. He would love to see the 28m² interior space developed into a business of some sort, and its 100m² section complemented by outdoor dining, parking, food/drink carts, etc. There is space for decking with views to Baldwin Street and to Lindsay Creek.

Water, power, and sewer are supplied to the building. Fit-out to be agreed. A consent will be required for any commercial use which Mr Glass will work with the tenant to obtain. There is no heritage status on the building. Clearing of exotic vegetation on and around the site continues with the goal to maximise sunshine hours across all seasons.

Mr Glass is also planning to revive the walking trails throughout the former quarry. He is asking the community for any historical material that could be used for the installation of information plaques along the trails. We hope to feature some of the findings in future Valley Voices!

Contact Fletcher Glass: 027 645 7233 | fletcherglass@hotmail.com





Why Winter Might Be the Perfect Time to Sell

Many people assume spring is the best time to list, but this year we've seen a surge in buyers right through autumn and into winter. First-home buyers and up-sizers in the \$450,000-\$850,000 range have been out in force. Some open homes have had over 20 groups through, and multiple-offer situations are becoming common. A recently sold, renovated villa attracted five serious offers within days.

What's driving this activity? Buyers are actively seeking warm, sunny, well-maintained, realistically priced homes - with our neighborhood of Opoho, NEV and Pine Hill being particularly

popular. When presented and marketed well, these homes are snapped up quickly.

So, unless your home relies on summer sunshine (e.g. coastal or lifestyle blocks), winter can be an excellent time to sell. With fewer listings and more motivated buyers, you may face less competition and get a faster result. And with mortgage rates continuing to ease, this momentum is likely to continue.

The key is smart preparation—packaging and positioning your home to appeal to serious, qualified buyers.

Market Statistics – Last 12 Months Opoho, NEV, Mount Cargill & Upper Junction

Number of Sales	94				
Median Sale Price	\$527,000	1 yr ago \$495,000	3 yrs ago \$580,000	5 yrs ago \$411,000	
By number of bedrooms	1 \$420,000	2 \$450,000	3 \$534,000	4 \$575,000	5+ \$699,000

Getting Your Home Ready to Sell – Without Breaking the Bank

One of the most common questions I'm asked is: "What should I do to get my home ready for sale?" The good news? You don't need major renovations. Thoughtful, budget-friendly updates often make the biggest difference

Small Changes, Big Impact

- Repaint and/or replace your letterbox - this is the first thing people see
- Touch up paint and replace tired fittings (light switches, handles, etc.)
- Freshen up soft furnishings—new towels, cushions, and throws help rooms feel well-kept
- Tidy bathrooms and kitchens—decant products into matching containers for a "styled" look
- Repaint obvious trouble spots like bargeboards or flaky window trims
- Don't forget the front door—clean it, update the mat and add a pot plant or two
- Mow lawns, weed garden beds, and water blast decks and driveways to instantly lift kerb appeal

Strategic Tweaks with Strong Return

- Improve lighting - modern light fittings and/or LED bulbs can make rooms feel newer
- Mount your TV and tidy cords to modernise living spaces
- Define usable outdoor areas - simple furniture or planters can suggest entertaining zones
- Energy efficiency sells—heat pumps and insulation are popular with today's buyers
- Landscaping doesn't need to be professional - just neat, green, and low-maintenance

What NOT to Fix

- Avoid expensive kitchen/bathroom remodels unless top quality
- Don't replace all flooring - spot-replace or clean carpets if needed. Get rid of pet smells.
- No need to replace the roof if it's not leaking - consider offering a 'buyer credit' instead
- Skip superficial big fixes in otherwise outdated rooms
- Avoid over-capitalising - stick with finishes that fit the home and neighbourhood
- Steer clear of highly personal touches like bold paint colours or niche features

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



NZ PROPERTY
SOLUTIONS
Licensed under the REAA 2008

art, craft & music

ART CLASSES

For all levels. Casual attendance welcome, tutor Rose Shepard, community rooms, 10am–noon, Thur. ☎ 027 406 4154 ☎ 467 9993 ✉ Shepard@thistle.net.nz

ART CLASSES

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

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 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

MAINLY MUSIC

Leith Valley Church, Malvern St, Wednesday 10am, \$4. Contact: Fran ☎ 467 9208 (Leith Valley Church) or ☎ 027 456 1188

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.

REHEARSAL SPACE WANTED

NEV Band looking for long-term rehearsal space. Reliable, mature, considerate. Currently a duo with weekly jams. Demo available. ☎ Paul 027 544 6126

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

WANTED: BASSIST/MULTI-INSTRUMENTALIST

NEV duo looking for someone with good feel for music who plays bass and poss synth/guitar/percussion. Broad influences but make our own music (songs + jams) in weekly sessions; swap demos and see! ☎ Paul 027 544 6126

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 information & advice. Know your rights, how to take action and how to access the services you need. For ANYONE about ANYTHING! ☎ 03 471 6166 or 0800 367 222 ☎ www.cab.org.nz ☎ CABDunedin 155 Princes Street

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

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 appointment. Legal advice by qualified lawyers. Practical solutions. Appointments now available at the Valley Project on Tuesdays from 11am. ☎ 03 474 1922 or ✉ reception@dcl.org.nz

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

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.

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

WRITING GROUP

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

employment

SUPPORT POSITION NEEDED

Seeking person to assist young disabled man 8–9am and/or 8.45–9.45pm: personal care and...

household tasks. Must be physically strong as transfer assistance required. Successful applicants have the ability to expand hours. Position in NEV. Applications + CV + references to ✉ Tessa.Brown@ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz

WORKBRIDGE

FREE specialised service assisting work-ready people with any health conditions, learning difficulties, or injuries to find suitable employment. Vocational prep provided – CV's, cover letters, job search, interview skills, placement. Once employed, support continued 12 months more. ☎ 0508 858 858 🌐 workbridge.co.nz

fitness & health

ADULT YOGA CLASSES ŌPOHO SCHOOL

Fiona Johannessen, experienced yoga teacher of all ages & levels. Needing time to focus on breathing and moving mindfully? This might be for you! Tues. 7.30–8.30pm (school term). \$10 casual rate. All levels welcome. ✉ Fiona:sweetfee77@gmail.com

BALFOLK DANCE CLASSES

Balfolk and English Country Dance classes resume in July!
\$10 for casual attendance
or \$40 for a block of 5 classes

English Country Dance:

Block 1 starts 15 July
Block 2 starts 19 August
Day class: Tues. 10.30am–12pm,
Baptist Community Centre,
270 North Rd.

Night class: Tues. 7pm–8:30pm,
Opoho Scout Hall, 123 Opoho Rd.

Balfolk:

Block 1 starts 23 July
Tues. 7pm–8:30pm,
Baptist Community Centre

The Pastel Ball:

Sat. 20 Sept. The Sargood Centre.
Think Jane Austen vibes, or
anything pastel that makes you
feel fabulous. Tickets: Eventfinda

Toitū Balfolk Minibals

1st Sunday each month at Toitū
Otago Settlers Museum.
2–3.30pm. FREE! 6 July & 3 Aug.

Join our mailing list:

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

CONTRA DANCE

Every Monday 7.30–9pm. Valley Baptist Community Centre, corner Calder Avenue. \$3. No partner required. ☎ 0211854566

'EVERY BODY' HOLISTIC MESSAGE

Now 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.

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

DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

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

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: 🌐 allsaintsdsn.org.nz/all-saints-fruit-and-veg/ Want to volunteer? Email: ✉ admin@allsaintsdsn.org.nz

KUNG FU

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 or call/text ☎ Uschi 027 360 0238 Mention the Valley Voice to receive a 10% discount on your first massage.

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. 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.

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 ✉ wekadunedin@gmail.com

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. ☎ Glenn 473 6256

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 ☎ 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. ✉ nevn.pta@gmail.com

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 ☎ 027 880 2365

ŌPOHO SCOUTS

Keas 4.30–5.30pm, Tuesdays; Cubs currently full; Scouts 6.30–8.15pm, Wednesdays. Ōpoho Scout Den. ✉ Shane: 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 ✉ space@nevbctrust.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

further education

BEGINNER ENGLISH FOR CHINESE

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

Classifieds continued next page... 📄

COM2TECH DIGI DROP-IN

Community-led group offering range of free classes to upskill communities in communications technology & online safety. 10am–12pm Monday, Valley Project.

✉ office@com2.tech 📠 com2.tech
📞 com2tech ☎ 027 256 9182

COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT

Thinkit Feuerstein is a cognitive enhancing program for individuals with learning differences. Enriching thinking and learning skills for ages 5+ to adults. Private sessions held in NEValley/Dunedin schools.

Tutor Kiri Scott, certified practitioner in Feuerstein method.
☎ 021 118 9882 🌐 www.icelp.info
✉ Thinkit.fie@yahoo.com

INSPIRING MATHS CLASSES

In term 3 classes are moving to St Clair. New home has dedicated teaching space, own entrance, simpler parking, and easy bus access. 📍 Inspiring Maths Classes
🌐 inspiringmaths.blogspot.com
✉ Sandra.Dunedin@gmail.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

NATIVE FRENCH SPEAKER

wanted to help me improve my French. Txt Pauline ☎ 027 717 0282

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

housing

ROOM WANTED

Respectful guy with broad interests looking for long-term room in warm, dry flat/house, ideally with only one other person. Refs no problem.

✉ hoani76@hotmail.com

WANTED TO RENT

1 bedroom self-contained cottage or flat with garden space, up to \$300pw. Tidy, reliable tenant. Can provide references.

☎ Stacy 028 464 9681

trading corner

529 PLANTS

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

ALL-ROUNDER

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

BABYSITTER

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

BALDWIN STREET BOOK

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

BIN CLEANING

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

CHIMNEY SWEEPS

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

COMPUTER REPAIR

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

CROP SWAP NEV

FREE! Last Sunday of every month at Valley Project, 262 North Road. 3–4pm. Trade garden produce, preserves, baking, flowers, seedlings, bulbs, cook books, jars, garden supplies, eggs, etc.

DOOR WANTED

Wooden exterior door needed for basement entry. Approximately 1910x810mm. Happy to purchase. Can trim if needed. ☎ 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 and adults. Cutting-edge tech. 30yrs clinical experience. Flexible financing options.

☎ 021 228 4895 📠 farella.co.nz

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☎ 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 \$200 a month GST inclusive (\$46p/wk). Cheapest in Dunedin. Household items, old car, etc. ☎ 027 213 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)

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

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

POTS, BOWL, CERAMICS

It's bonsai repotting time! Great selection of local handmade pots to suit your bonsai. Check out my store at the Blueskin Community Market 6 July or go to 📠 emsebonsaipots.my.shoppify.com for 15% discount in June and July.

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 \$200 a month GST inclusive (\$46p/wk) 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

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)

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 ☎ 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

DIVERT. RECYCLE. REPEAT.

Despite earlier forecasts predicting rain, the sun came out for the NEV Waste Disposal Day. Before the official noon start, cars were already lining up outside the Valley Project parking lot, loaded with items ready to be recycled or rehomed.

The whole area was well organised with skips set up for whiteware, scrap metal, batteries, old paint and electronics. Thanks to local social enterprise, Com2Tech, old electronic devices were collected for responsible recycling, while Phoenix Recycling handled everything else! It was a great example of how a community can work together to divert waste and care for the environment.

Volunteers from the Valley Project were everywhere, helping things run smoothly and keeping traffic moving, so the skips filled pretty quickly as people dropped off old appliances. There were also great finds for the keen-eyed bargain hunters. With so much on offer it was a recycler's dream, and I'd like to personally thank the volunteer who waded into a skip to try and find me an old computer monitor.

Over the fence, the school basketball court was alive with a car boot sale. Stallholders sold everything from DVDs and toys to plants, clothes, and quirky collectibles—one stall even had a Christmas tree, just in case someone wanted to get in early this year. Filipino street food from Bacolod Nameetz was a hit, and the Nham Bubble Tea stand kept everyone refreshed.

At the end of the day, Com2Tech collected 1155kg worth of electronics for their resource centre on Harrow Street, while 300L of paint were accepted by various Dunedin paint shops. Two full skips and a trailer of recyclable goods and materials were trucked away by Phoenix Recycling to their sorting centre in Green Island. The Community Bike Workshop scored big with a dozen donations of various human-powered vehicles that were all pedalled to Allen Street in a grand parade. A huge thanks goes to our volunteers and everyone else who helped make the event such a great success. Days like this show just how awesome our Valley community really is. We'll see you again next year! -- Karl Bray

Check out the Facebook page *Recycling in Ōtepoti | Dunedin* which promotes and supports recycling initiatives in the Dunedin area. For their latest list of Recycling and Recovery Locations (featured in the Valley Voice last year), go to <https://bit.ly/4n3XoA3>, or email dunedinrecycling@gmail.com.



GIVE US A K! GIVE US AN E! GIVE US AN A! KEA, KEA, KEA!!!

The enthusiastic yell of the Keas rings out from the Scout Hall every Wednesday afternoon when it is filled with laughter, curiosity, and the unmistakable energy of young adventurers.

The Ōpoho Scout Group is one of the longest-running in the district, serving the community since 1936—that's 89 years of scouting in the Valley! Keas are the youngest members of the Scouting movement, followed by Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers.

Scouting is a youth-led programme where young people take the lead and grow into confident, capable individuals. Guided by adult Kaiārahi (leaders), they step up at every stage, becoming more adventurous and deeply connected to their community.

Adventure is at the heart of Scouting, and this term has been packed with fun and discovery for our Keas. Kea Eddie says he enjoys "marshmallows, campfires, and doing art and craft." Laura loves "playing games and going on camps." Nathaniel's favourite thing? "Playing with friends." Theo enjoys "playing games," and especially likes that his



mum, Nikki, is one of the Kaiārahi.

Nikki says one of the most rewarding parts of being a leader is "seeing them feel both relief and pride after a Kea hike, or overcoming fears on a group camp. We try to teach the Keas to lead and support each other while living by the Kea promise: I care, I share, I discover, I grow."

Nikki co-leads the Keas with Maddi, a student currently studying Geography and Ecology. Maddi says, "I love watching the kids grow in confidence as they learn new skills and try new things."

We'd love to welcome more Keas to our group! If you have a 5 to 8 year-old who loves fun, friendship, and a bit of adventure, come along and see what we're all about: Keas (5-8 yrs), Wednesdays 4.30-5.30pm; Cubs (8-11yrs), Thursdays (but we're currently full up); Scouts (11-14 years), Wednesdays 6.30-8.15pm.

The Ōpoho Scout Hall is also available for hire for one-off or regular alcohol-free events. For more info, email opoho@group.scouts.nz



VALLEY ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: KATE WATTS

I'm Kate Watts, a textile designer and manufacturer based in the old red-brick shop on the corner of North Road and Crown Street. I hold a degree in craft and design, and a master's in visual arts. For a few years I had my own clothing label, and I worked in wardrobe departments of The Court Theatre and Southern Opera.

I do a lot of things. For the past 16 years I've been making merino gloves full-time. With the help of a small team, these are manufactured and sold to 100+ retailers around the country under the Kate Watts and Crown & Feathers brands.

I also manage a wee shop, *Among the Sparrows*, where I sell my textile goods, gloves, overalls and tea towels, as well as a range of gorgeous items made by other local creatives.

With a group of my lovely friends we run a range of creative courses where one can learn to make their own inks or watercolour paints, or learn different printing techniques, or just come hang and stitch with us!

Aesthetically, I have been designing primarily for screenprinting for the last 16 years, so that leads itself to quite a bold graphic style, though my work is often quite detailed. Thematically, I have always come back to the same things; natural history museums and botanical gardens. I have developed a series of screen-

printed linen tea towels using hand-cut stencils of dolphin skeletons and coral from the hugely inspiring Animal Attic, as well as taro and mistletoe from my backyard and the Dunedin Botanic Garden. Native eels and European rock lobsters are my latest stencil creations.

Botanical painting has been an interest for the last five years. I exhibit regularly with the local group 'The Botanists'. Our next exhibition is in late September at Blueskin Bay Nursery.

Colour has become a considerable part of my work, particularly through dyeing and watercolour painting which have influenced the colours I use in my screen prints.

I have a philosophy that one hour of work done is one hour of work done. If I'm not in the mood for one project, I'll start another; cutting new stencils, reprinting older ones, having a play with a box of dyes, rug tufting, etc. As long as I start on something that is on the to-do list, I'm getting closer to achieving my goals, and inspiration will inevitably come. I spend all day in my dream studio. There are no creative blocks here! If only I could get through my admin to-do's, I would be sewing, dyeing, printing and painting all day!

Find bit of everything at @among_the_sparrows on Instagram. Also see AmongSparrows.com, katewatts.co.nz, and crownandfeathers.co.nz.





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