



The Informer

April 2023 Edition

Green Island | Concord | Abbotsford | Fairfield | Waldronville | Westwood | Ocean View | Brighton

2023 TEDDY BEAR PICNIC - COME TO THE PARTY

It may be Autumn, but anytime is a good time for a BBQ, right? The team at Greater Green Island Community Network is always up for a community gathering - whatever the season, especially when there's an exciting project in the air.

As many know, our fabulous community workers have been dishing a lot of time and energy into the plans for the BBQ and Stage development in the Green Island Memorial Gardens. And what better way to share our vision and inform the community of the progress than a family event, 'Teddy Bear BBQ'.

Community Worker Alana Goldsack said the event would feature a sausage sizzle, scavenger hunt, face painting, teddy bear story time, lawn games, a teddy bear competition - all wrapped in layers of fun,

"The gathering is an opportunity to get together with families before the winter months kick in, and also promote the magic of our vision".

When people come together with a spirit of connectivity, communities thrive. This was the very reason, Ms Goldsack said, that the BBQ and stage project would be an important meeting place for our communities.

"This event promises so much fun, in such a special place. Come along and join in, bring a picnic blanket, be in to win a signed Highlanders jersey - and learn more about our vision for the park," she said.

Teddy Bear's BBQ

BRING YOUR TEDDY BEAR AND PICNIC BLANKET TO A BBQ IN MEMORIAL PARK

- Free Sausage Sizzle 🐻
- Scavenger Hunt 🐻
- Face-painting 🐻
- Lawn games 🐻
- Teddy bear story time 🐻

**SATURDAY
22ND APRIL
11AM - 2PM**

WIN!

A signed Highlanders Shirt
Raffle tickets: \$2 each / \$5 for 3



GGICN have currently raised \$28,500 thanks to contributions from the Green Island Business Association, AAW Jones Trust, St John, and a generous donation from the Green Island Town & Country Club. Why don't you get on board too?

\$28,500 RAISED!

\$96,000 TARGET

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FLEX FITNESS - ACTIVELY HELPING YOUTH



Photo: Flex Fitness manager Alyssa Houston is passionate about youth well-being.

Mention mental health, fitness and breaking down barriers, and Flex Fitness manager Alyssa Houston's response bounces with enthusiasm and passion. There's adrenaline in her drive, and a commitment to help people through the Green Island gym facility.

This is evident in Flex Fitness's vision in providing free access for teenagers on

Mondays from 3.30 until 4.30pm. Ms

Houston said there was no obligation for young people to sign up for memberships. The initiative was designed to engage, support and enhance the well-being of youth, establishing an awareness as they grow older.

"It's a healthy alternative than being on a tablet and phones," Ms Houston said.

The initiative began a couple of years ago, and as Ms Houston observed the stress and anxiety in adults following covid times, she decided to make wellness more accessible for families as a whole.

"We are trying to get in a little earlier and get kids set up to elevate some of the pressures we are seeing later in life. We are giving it a good solid push now and reaching out to schools," Ms Houston said.

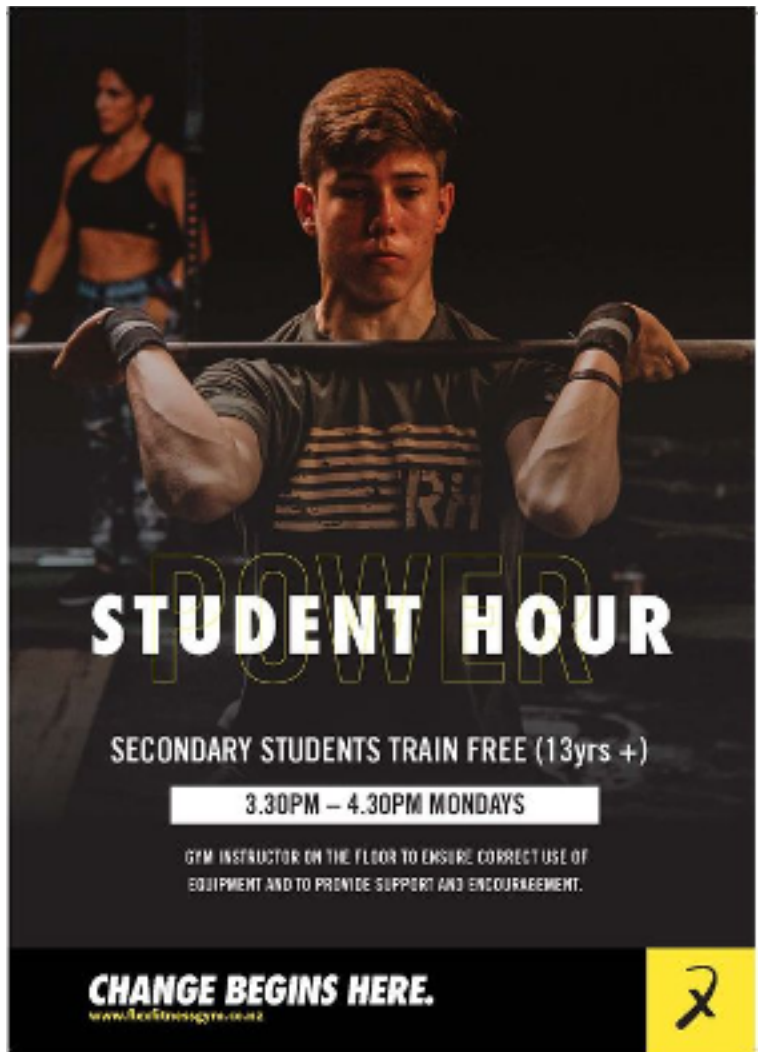
The gym had received a lot of positive feedback from both parents and teenagers, with approximately 10 teenagers attending each week.

"We are wanting to get in there and utilise this opportunity to bridge the gap. We are proud of it, and are wanting to step it up.," Ms Houston said.

The community feel of the gym was important for Ms Houston, as she said "the people, hands down, you couldn't ask for a more amazing group of people. It's a very rewarding experience".

Flex Fitness also offers memberships, casual classes and free trials, catering to those who enjoy group fitness classes, personal training sessions and individual fitness goals, and is open 24/7.

For more information, please call 03 488 2555 or call into Flex Fitness at 207/2011 Main South Rd, Green Island.



SUPPORT LOCAL Shop LOCAL ^{NZ}

Green Island businesses are an essential resource for the Greater Green Island Community.

Green Island businesses have been hit tough the last year. Let's go out of our way to support them now so they are still around for use in the future.

IT'S ON AGAIN! GGICN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

It's that time of year again, and the GGICN workers are getting crafty in the lead up to Easter. Following the success of last year's wooden egg hunt, the team are repeating the event - this time with a twist of organic and sustainable creativity.

Community worker Alana Goldsack said 120 wooden egg cut outs will be hidden in 12 parks around Greater Green Island, and like last year, "we hope to be emailed all the wonderful photos of decorated eggs, but this time we would love to see how children can use nature to be creative".

Sustainability was an important ethos of GGICN, and one which was threaded through the work and vision of many of the organisation's projects.

"We want to encourage you to get creative with the decorations, spend some time collecting nature to see what cool patterns and colours you can create. See what you can find in your back yard or in the recycling that could make decorations," Ms Goldsack said

The eggs would be hidden over 12 playgrounds and parks (see list in the advertisement below), and will be in place by 9.30am on Good Friday.

"This is a great way to get out of the house over the long

weekend. Have some fun exploring the playgrounds in your area. It is something to do that does not involve chocolate. It is on-going as you hunt for things to decorate the egg and then there is the time that it takes to decorate once you get home. It is more than just a two minute Easter egg hunt," Ms Goldsack said.

So come and join the hunt, and remember if you find more than one egg - you get to enjoy the fun of hiding it for other children to find!

Don't forget to email us the photos of all the creations or message us through Facebook. We love seeing the local creativity!



Good Friday 7th April: St Mark's 27 Shand St Green Island

7pm Good Friday Reflections

Easter Day 9th April: St Margaret's 4 Seaview Road, Brighton

7am gather on Brighton Beach at the bottom of McIntosh Road for worship at Sunrise, followed by communion at St Margarets and breakfast.

For more information ph Jan Clark
0273515171



The Greater Green Island Community Network

✉ admin@greenergreenisland.nz

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/GreaterGreenIsland>

📷 @ggicn_dunedin

📞 03 425 7719

📍 Green Island Police Station, 198 Main South Road

🌐 www.greenergreenisland.nz

🏠 P.O. Box 13006, Green Island, Dunedin 9062

The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charitable organisation aiming to foster a strong community which works together to develop its own solutions - a community which is self-reliant, responsive, resilient, and sustainable - a community where neighbourhoods are again full of people we know as our neighbours..

BRIGHTON LANDFILL APPEAL SET FOR APRIL



Photo, from left, South Coast Neighbourhood Society spokesperson Sarah

Photo, from left, South Coast Neighbourhood Society spokesperson Sarah
The Ramsay and Society member Elise Holton at the site of the proposed landfill.

proposed Brighton landfill has been a hot topic of opposition over the past two years. The Informer speaks to South Coast Neighbourhood Society spokesperson about the upcoming appeal and how it has engaged the Brighton community.

How is the Stop the Landfill protest going? Unfortunately the DCC got their consent for Smooth Hill. So while we're really proud that collectively as a community we did achieve much tighter conditions for the consent, we're disappointed we couldn't stop it altogether.

What is the next step? The first stage of our appeal is an Environment Court Mediation on the 18th and 19th of April. In our appeal we specifically raised concerns about the inability to completely eliminate risk of liner failure, the consequences of leachate contaminating the Otokia Creek – particularly organic pollutants that accumulate in the environment, the substantial risk of life to neighbours from fires, and concerns around decomposing waste creating odour and attracting birds.

We'll be bringing any and all suggested mediation points to the community for consideration in a community meeting. If we can't come to a compromise in the mediation we will be proceeding to environment court.

Over the couple of years of opposing the landfill, what have you learnt? I have unintentionally become an environmental activist and I now know A LOT about landfills. But mostly I've learned that Brighton has a really special community and I've had the opportunity to meet so many people that I never would have had this not happened. It's been a great lesson for all of us on the South Coast Neighbourhood Society Board on how to communicate effectively and make information and participation accessible – things the DCC could definitely do with learning themselves.

How has the Brighton community rallied together? The fundraising speaks for itself – phenomenal effort raising over \$50,000 towards the legal and expert expenses. And it's been so fun! From quiz nights, to writeathons, muso days and the grand finale Lobofest – a music festival in Ed and Michelle Lobo's beachside backyard with none-other than

So what's the most sustainable way forward? We argue that this landfill simply isn't needed. Instead invest in initiatives to reduce, reuse, repurpose and recycle. Invest in technology at Green Island that will sort and separate waste, collaborate with other commercial operators and neighbouring regions that have ample capacity. Where is the incentive to reduce, if we just keep digging bigger holes that have more capacity than what we need as a City? Why would they pursue a project that at their own admission still can't eliminate the risk of waterway contamination and airport bird-strike? This strategy flies in the face of all the advances we've made over the last 40 years – and that's because it's a 40 year old plan that they've simply dusted off and myopically pursued.

THE WILD DUNEDIN 2023 FESTIVAL

The Wild Dunedin team are thrilled to announce that our popular Festival is on again in the school holidays 14 – 23 April.

This year our Festival is focusing on whenua with workshops, open gardens, expert talks and activities about soil, compost, growing your own food and sustainability.

Festival guest Kath Irvine of Edible Backyard will be holding a workshop on pruning at Blueskin Nurseries on 17 April, one on keeping hens at the City Library on 18 April, and giving a talk on soil at Tūhura Otago Museum on 16 April.

The Green Island Community Garden is holding an open day and tours of their very productive garden in Shand St from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 22 April.

Puketeraki Maara Kai at Karitane is running two workshops on organic kai and native plant propagation on 15 April, and also on 15 April Jim O'Gorman aka the Dirt Doctor from Kakanui is running a workshop on composting at the Botanic Garden.

Suzy Cato will be entertaining tamariki with music sessions at Toitū, Tūhura Otago Museum and she'll also make an appearance at the very popular Wildlife ER sessions.

Kids go Free at Orokonui Ecosanctuary during the Festival, there are loads of free things for children at Tūhura Otago Museum including Bug Day and Penguin Day, plus deals at Larnach Castle, the Royal Albatross Centre, Penguin Place, Blue Penguins Pukekura, Monarch Wildlife and Cruises and Resistance Climbing Gym. There will be a Wild Swim at Portobello and Dive Otago are running a snorkeling experience exploring Dunedin's kelp ngāhere for ages 8 and over.

Bookings are essential for many events. Go to the website where you will find the full programme and you can make bookings. Also become a Friend and follow us on social media. Pick up a programme at any library.

wilddunedin.nz



FROM THE COMMUNITY CONSTABLE'S DESK

Greetings and salutations
Greater Green Islanders.

Well, it's been just over a month since I landed and I'm loving it. Everybody has been welcoming and supportive, which I was expecting, of course.



Above: Senior Constable Mark Tuten.

Green Island was not a place I frequented much in my last job, I would occasionally be assigned to jobs in the area, but I would be in, do my job, and get out again and back to the big smoke.

What I've noticed is that it is different down here. The weather seems slightly better, this side of the hill, for a start.

There is a definite community spirit here. It's not that everyone gets on (I can testify to that) but there is a certain something where everyone I've met so far, wants to improve things.

This may not be a startling insight, but the thing is, people want to be part of making Greater Green Island better. I'm talking about members of the community, small business owners, members of community boards etc.

For a pleasant change, nobody is expecting me to sort everything out. They are prepared to do things themselves and have asked me to merely assist. Long may it continue.

Now for the police news, please keep the speed down on the main road, it's 30kph not 50kph. I've had a few complaints about this so far. I've got more important things to do than to sit at one end of the road with a speed radar. If you're late, you're late. Don't put other people at risk, just chill, you'll get there.

So, with my first column finished, I'd like to bid you farewell with a slightly misquoted statement of: Let's make Green Island great again.

Finally, I can't finish without saying a big thanks to Fred Jansen for all he accomplished in his time working for you. He is now working in Central and by all accounts, loving it. Best of luck Fred.

Toots

Business Owners/Managers, Sole Traders and Service providers, you are invited to a:

WINE AND CHEESE NETWORKING EVENING

Tuesday 2nd May
5:30pm - 7:00pm

213 Main South Road, Green Island (MediTrain)

Each person will have 60 seconds to promote themselves and 60 seconds to promote another business from the community, followed by casual networking over wine and cheese.

Brought to you free by businesses for businesses
RSVP to Alana at events@greenergreenisland.nz



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Informer


The Informer Particulars


 **Informer Editor:** Sasha Turner

 **Volunteer:** Lindsay Aitchison

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 1500 physical copies distributed a month

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 Newsletters available online at :

www.greenergreenisland.nz/aboutnewsletter/newsletter-archive/

Articles are free for community groups/clubs and events (not for profit) in the Greater Green Island Suburbs.

Please email your articles and stories in Word less than 250 words. Images need to be high quality 300DPI.

Alternatively you can contact Sasha to discuss to help you write a story.

Support community news by advertising with us for as little as \$40 an edition, reach over 2000 readers

GARDEN GOSSIP

Here at the Green Island Community Garden, we thrive on community. There's nothing more satisfying than getting together with others to share an enjoyment of gardening. It just makes us tick. We are not only growing fruit, vegetables and herbs together – we're constantly learning from each other how to grow more productive and sustainable gardens.

We have a wonderful space behind St Peter Chanel School which is set aside for garden members, and we're always interested in meeting new people who are curious about our vision and projects. New members are also welcome. Passing on our love of gardening, and sharing the knowledge is what keeps sustainability alive. We're passionate about helping others grow vegetables and fruit for themselves, especially when food prices are soaring. Why wouldn't you want to grow your own produce?

As a community group, we work hard to ensure the space is protected and kept for garden members only. It's unfortunate that we do have to install security cameras and have them operating. We are concerned that a number of people have been taking from the garden – and would rather people approach us for help rather than taking produce that isn't fully ripened. We know times are tough, and the cost of food doesn't seem sustainable for many. So, drop in – have a chat – become involved. We love our patch, and are always welcoming of those who want to learn how to garden.

For more information, call Marion on 021 263 1221.



ARE YOU PREPARED?

Cyclone Gabrielle has recently caused unprecedented harm and destruction to large parts of the North Island. The effects of which will impact the lives of many people for months and likely years.

We cannot say it can never happen here in our community. History gives us the lesson of when such events have occurred, the Abbotsford slip in 1979, the Taieri plain floods of 1980, were all unexpected events.

As well as the physical losses which can be great, the mental trauma and anguish on individuals is an unmeasurable factor affecting the community.

Many have lost everything, homes, possessions and in some cases livelihoods. While the government swings into action to provide aid and help, especially with infrastructure to support communities, resources are not infinite.

A GROWING CONNECTION

Meet one of Greater Green Island's community gems, Marion Thomas, manager of the Green Island Community Garden. We chat to Marion about the marvellous world of the community gardening, and how people can become involved in the project.



How do I get involved with the garden? Join us at one of our work sessions. Tuesday from 12 noon until 2pm and Saturday from 10am until noon.

Photo: Marion Thomas at home in the Community Garden.

Where is the garden? At the end of Shand St. Past the council flats. Access is easy with steps and a ramp.

I don't know anything about gardening. Can I still come? Everyone is welcome. You can ask as many questions as you like and learn from working with others.

How much does it cost to join? There is no cost. All equipment is available on site, including gloves.

Is there an age limit? No.. Babies to 90s - all welcome.

I'm not very fit. Is there anything I can help with? Yes. You do what you are comfortable doing.

What's in it for me? Meet new people. Learn valuable skills. Get outside and enjoy the ambience. Take home a share of the food that is harvested that day.

Can I come and help myself to veggies? NO!! A lot of work goes in to the garden and the volunteers enjoy the produce.

Follow us on facebook to see what we are doing. Green

As learned in this latest event, help may not be immediately available. This is where the actions of neighbours and community comes to the fore. This raises the question. How well do you know your neighbours?

If the need arises, would you feel comfortable to be able to call upon your neighbour for assistance? If an event occurs, would you go to your neighbour to check on their welfare? Have you swapped phone numbers? Is there a neighbourhood support group in your area?

Knowing your neighbours - and having that support available in emergencies is crucial. In March, we celebrated Neighbours' Month, a month when we were encouraged to share a meal, garden produce, books - and connect with the people around us.

As we move forward, let's keep building on these relationships. We never know when someone might be in need.

STORIES FROM OUR TAMARIKI

CONCORD'S BIG DAY OUT

By EMILY MCKENZIE

Bang! The bus threw me back into my seat. We were finally there! When we got to the Dunedin Botanical Gardens we walked to the glasshouse and straight away we had morning tea. After that we did a treasure hunt. I got to look after a little kid called Ariella. My group got about ten questions done then we had lunch and walked to Woodhaugh Gardens. I went on the flying fox and swung so high at the end! We were allowed in the paddling pool. A bee was in the paddling pool.

I went on the flying fox again because it was so fun, someone came and shouted "There are iceblocks" and after my turn, I went and got a nice juicy iceblock. Mine was flavoured fruity. After a whole lot of playing it was time to go.

I was so excited to get back to school. I rushed to class to put my hat away and then rushed back out again. When I got home I had a huge headache.

Wow! First the Botanic Gardens, then the Woodhaugh Gardens. Such a big day!

HORSING AROUND BRINGS SUCCESS FOR BRIGHTON GIRLS.

By LEXIE AND STELLA BROWN.



Lexie and Stella Brown got up at a crazy 5:20am on Saturday, 18th March to travel to the Palmerston Mini Show.

Both girls have been riding since they were 4.5 yrs old.

Lexie's best part of her day was getting her first ribbon in her first novice class and watching the fancy dress and seeing her friends get first place in it.

Stella's best part was getting first place in turnout and winning a trophy. And when one of the judges was being cheeky and trying to take the soft toys they had for the riders.

It was a very long but successful day with the girls coming home with 15 ribbons and a wee sleep in the car.

Stella received an arm band made of flowers with ladybirds and bees on it for her sportsmanship and Lexie also got judges choice.

The girls attend the local Brighton Pony Club, which they absolutely love. Pony Club is situated at 812 Brighton Road.

For more information, please contact Megan Meade on email at: brightonpc17@gmail.com.

BIG ROCK PRIMARY HELPS CYCLONE HIT SCHOOL

By Cameron Walters and Chloe Knights

Haumoana School was affected by the roaring cyclone Gabrielle in the the North Island. The Cyclone destroyed countless buildings, structures, and cars, As well as public transport. As we all wish that the school and everywhere that got impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle will return to their former glory of beautiful landscapes and buildings, rebuilt back to what they once were.



Our school, Big Rock Primary, decided to help out Haumoana School by putting smiles on their faces by sending chocolate instead of cans like other schools have done to different schools who were impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle. Many of the children at our school brought hundreds of chocolates to support the Haumoana School children. We hope that there are large smiles on their faces.

We chose Haumoana School as they are school serving a beach community, similar in size and it seemed like a good fit for us.

Thank you to all of the parents of Big Rock for helping out.

A colorful poster for a "Holiday Programme" titled "TWISTS & TURNS". The text on the poster includes: "19th- 21st April", "For kids aged 5 to year 6", "Cost: \$5 per child per day", "Kōrero", "Games", "Bible Stories", "Crafts", and "Kai". The central graphic features a large, stylized "TWISTS & TURNS" in a circular arrangement with colorful arrows. Below the main title, it says "FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME PSALM 25:1". At the bottom, it states "9am - 3pm @ Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord, Dunedin". On the right side, there is vertical text: "To register go to tinyurl.com/dcbcholidayclub For more information contact connect@dcbhc.co.nz".



ANZAC DAY 2023

GREATER GREEN ISLAND SERVICES

BRIGHTON

9:45AM PARADE starting at Brighton Rugby Club

10:00AM MEMORIAL SERVICE at Brighton Hall.

GUEST SPEAKER: Councillor Lee Vandervis.

GREEN ISLAND.

DETAILS UNAVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING.

Information will be shared on the
Greater Green Island Facebook page.



Greater Green Island EASTER EGG HUNT

Friday 7 April 2023
9.30am onwards

*Find an egg, take it home and
decorate it with things you find
in nature.*

Find one of 120 wooden eggs cut
outs hidden in 12 parks
We are hiding a whopping 120 wooden Easter
Egg cutouts.

That is 10 Easter Eggs in 12 parks around
Greater Green Island!

A family friendly day out! Eggs in place at a
park near you from 9:30am until they run out.

If you find more than one egg have fun
re-hiding for others.

Share photos of your detective work and
decorated eggs.

Concord - Emerson Street
Playground, Mulford Park

Green Island - Memorial Park, Elwyn
Crescent Park

Abbotsford - Matthew Street
Playground, Lambert Street
Playground, Severn Street
Playground

Fairfield - Skatepark, Walton Park

Waldronville - Delta Drive Park

Ocean View - Braids Hill reserve
playground

Brighton - Domain

