



# The Informer

May 2023 Edition

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

## TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC ATTRACTED CROWDS



Photo, from left, Sylvia Cottle with baby Loki Isaksson, Hannah Perkins with Neona Cottle and Ari Isaksson and Ellyse Vanwoerden with Aria Vanwoerden. Right : The free sausage sizzle was a huge hit as well as the children's scavenger hunt. Below: Our huge Teddy was a star attraction of the afternoon.

The recent Teddy Bear's Picnic at the Green Island Memorial Gardens proved that when there's an exciting community event, the crowds will gather. And that's exactly why the Greater Green Island Community Network are working hard to ensure the development of a stage and BBQ in the gardens will go ahead. Imagine the community fun!!!

Brighton resident Sylvia Cottle who attended the festivities, which attracted over 200 people, said she appreciated the event and the activities on offer.

"The shaded park and gated playground in Green Island is such a blessing for young families. The lovely host rallied up the kids for a story and sing-a-long time which had my toddler's attention for a good half hour. I will have my eyes peeled for more like-minded events," Ms Cottle said.

A huge thank you to LJ Hooker for the supply of the tent and help on the BBQ, as well as the volunteers who helped with children's activities and clean up. Thank you also to our amazing community for joining us!



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# THANK YOU FUNDING PARTNERS

## THE GGICN CELEBRATES GENEROUS SUPPORT

We are excited to share that the Greater Green Island Community Network has received funding from our valued partners, the Dunedin City Council, Otago Community Trust, and DIA Lotteries. We are grateful for their generous support, which enables us to continue our work in the community and prioritize the needs of our local residents.

Our funders are more than just providers of financial support, they are true partners in our mission to improve the quality of life in the Greater Green Island area. Together, we are making a positive impact on the community by hosting events, developing our Informer newsletter, supporting youth development through the Wheako project, advocating for local issues, and much more.

Thanks to this funding, we can continue to produce our Informer newsletter, which keeps the community informed about what's happening in the area. Additionally, we can host special events such as the recent Easter egg hunt and the upcoming Get-Together, which provide opportunities for people to come together and enjoy themselves. The Wheako project is also making a real difference in the lives of young people in the area, providing positive youth development and support for local schools.

We are also proud of the advocacy work we do on behalf of the community. We regularly make submissions to the DCC and liaise with local council to ensure that the community's

needs are being heard and addressed. By working closely with the council, we can make a real difference in the lives of those living in the area. To create community where neighbours are again full of people we know as our neighbours.

## MEMORIAL GARDEN STAGE AND BARBECUE SUPPORT

We are also excited to receive support from The Green Island Town and Country Club, the Green Island Business Association, and the AAW Jones Trust towards the Memorial Garden Stage and Barbecue project. This project will provide a free barbecue to the community, as well as a stage for local events and performances, making greater use of the Memorial Gardens. We invite anyone who is interested in partnering with us to complete this project to get in touch.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our funders and partners for their continued support, and for being an essential part of our team. We could not achieve our goals without them, and we are committed to working together towards a brighter future for the Greater Green Island community.

We would also like to thank the NZ Police for their continued support and for allowing us to share their station in Green Island.



GREATER GREEN  
ISLAND TOWN AND  
COUNTRY CLUB



**DUNEDIN** | kaunihera  
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- ✉ admin@greatergreenisland.nz
- 📘 <https://www.facebook.com/GreaterGreenIsland>
- 📷 @ggicn\_dunedin
- 📞 03 425 7719
- 📍 Green Island Police Station, 198 Main South Road
- 🌐 [www.greatergreenisland.nz](http://www.greatergreenisland.nz)
- 🏠 P.O. Box 13006, Green Island, Dunedin 9062

*The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charitable organisation aiming to 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 TRAPPING PROJECT

Hi from the Brighton Trapping Project team! We're five locals passionate about increasing native birdlife. We'd love for you to help us reduce introduced predators such as rats, possums and mustelids (stoats and ferrets) in Brighton and Ocean View.

Last year we were curious to see how many predators we actually have here. We ran 11 monitoring lines on lifestyle blocks, reserves and in the dunes - 110 chew cards in total. We can identify the kind of predator by looking at the teeth marks on the cards (they have a spicy lure in them which predators bite down on). Almost every card was chewed on. Take home message: we have A LOT of predators in our neighbourhood.

We've just received funding for humane traps that when used correctly pose very little risk of catching anything other than the predators they're designed for.

If you're a Brighton/Ocean View resident, here's how you can get involved:

Set up a trap in your backyard! We sell rat, possum and mustelid traps at a good rate and give you one-on-one training to install and use them.

Adopt a community trapline! We'll soon be looking for community volunteers who want to adopt a community trapline - a great way to keep fit over winter.

Please like our Facebook page @brightontrappingproject for more information. Send us a message if you want to be involved.



Above: The Brighton Trapping Project Team at a recent trap making workshop

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# WHEAKO UPDATE

The Wheako programme at Concord and Green Island schools has had a successful first term. Within the first few weeks of term, the programme commenced with several groups across the two schools.

Green Island School boasted an additional group of returning Wheako students who were passionate about informing their peers about the risks of vaping, and spent most of the term focused on a student-led project. The other Green Island group and the Concord group enjoyed various activity-based learning sessions aimed at promoting teamwork, generosity, and responsibility, while also building relationships between the students and the youth workers, Alana and Noah.

Towards the end of the first term, the groups had several notable highlights. Two of the Green Island groups participated in a bike trip on the Dunedin Harbour cycleway and visited the Green Island Community Police Station where they were able to meet Constable Mark Tuten (Toots), ask questions and learn more about how police work and police gear. Concord also spent an afternoon at the local police station and had a tour of the Green Island Community Garden.

Overall, it was a promising start to the year, and the mentors and students are excited to continue building on the strong foundation established in the first term.



Above: Youth worker Noah Scott, together with Community Worker Alana Goldsack (right) enjoy developing programmes for local students.

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# COMMUNITY FAVOURITE NEWSLETTER EDITOR MOVES ON TO PURSUE CAREER IN COUNSELLING



Above: The brains and heart behind the Informer - Sasha Turner

After six years of dedicated service to the greater Green Island community, Sasha Turner is moving on from her role as newsletter editor to focus on her studies and pursue a career as a counsellor. Turner has helped produce over 66 editions of the Informer Newsletter, keeping residents informed about local events and highlighting the community's positive achievements.

In addition to her role as newsletter editor, Turner has also taken on extra jobs, such as photography. Her keen eye for detail, her positive presence, and ability to capture the essence of community events has been invaluable to the newsletter's success.

Over the years, Turner has worked tirelessly to develop the newsletter, transforming it into a professional and informative publication. She has introduced new sections and features, including community profiles and developing a greater community voice especially in the Tamariki Page.

Throughout her work, Turner's cheerful and personable presence has been appreciated by many in the community. She has become somewhat of a celebrity in her Brighton neighbourhood, where she will continue to contribute to the Newsletter. Her contributions to the Green Island community will undoubtedly be missed.

**FREE ENTRY**

**SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER  
10.00AM TO 1.00PM**

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MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW**

However, Turner's pursuit of a career in counselling is a testament to her commitment to personal and professional growth. She hopes to make a positive difference in the lives of others through her future work as a counsellor.

Although Ben McKenzie and Fred Jansen, two of Turner's colleagues, will miss her penchant for silly hats in photos, the entire Greater Green Island Community Network team acknowledge the valuable contributions she has made to the community through her work as newsletter editor. As Turner moves on to the next phase of her career, we are sure you all join us in wishing her all the best in her future endeavours.

**TAKING EXPRESSIONS  
OF INTEREST FOR**

**GREATER GREEN ISLAND  
GET TOGETHER**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
Looking for volunteers to help with set up, clean up,  
safety, traffic management, running activities and  
crowd control.

**CLUBS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS NEEDED**  
Looking for clubs, community groups, agencies, churches,  
health organizations, activity groups, schools and early  
childhoods from Greater Green Island who would like to  
exhibit.

**SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER  
10.00AM TO 1.00PM**

email  
events@greatergreenisland.nz  
for more information

# RESTORING THE KAIKORAI STREAM

The vision of the Aroha Kaikorai Valley Trust is extending its waters, welcoming interest from environmentally passionate Greater Green Island residents.

The Trust, which is a registered charity, was established to clean up and enhance natural surroundings of Kaikorai Stream from Burnside to Roslyn.

Whilst its goals for cleaner water, elimination of pest plants such as ivy, gorse and broom, native planting, attraction of native birds and the elimination of pests are envisioned for areas north of Green Island, Trust member Simon Millian said interest was welcomed from all areas connected with the creek.

"We hope to establish our presence in the middle of Kaikorai Valley and to partner with community groups up and down the valley as well as other city wide groups for mutual support. Mainly we are focussed on action for improving the quality of the different aspects of the environment - land, air and water - and the things, including us, that live there," Mr Millian said.

Community interest and engagement was important in sharing and developing the vision, he said.



Above: Kaikorai Stream from Runciman Tunnel, Green Island.

"It would also be good to talk together to complement existing or proposed action throughout the catchment and build strength together. Team work will bring the greatest chance for change - both in supporting the quality of our living spaces and the quality of our community relationships," Mr Millian said.



Above: Simon McMillian  
Photo credit  
DailyEncouragerNZ

Interest in the stream's water quality and surrounding areas stemmed from environmentally conscious business owner Paul Southworth when he moved his business Turboweb to Kaikorai Valley Rd in 2017. Finding the area had been used as a dumping ground, Mr Southworth, along with others, began clearing and planting natives - and never lost the passion to transform the area.

Fast forward to 2023, and the recent formation of the Trust, the vision is growing along with the momentum for a better environment.

Mr Millian said the response from the community has been encouraging.

"(It's been) a positive response, both in the set-up of the Trust and support with our first initiative. However, we are only just beginning to get our name and aims out to the public," he said.


"The Kaikorai Stream Catchment is a local space, one we can all visit and engage with it. I think it is, actually, a hidden gem that is out of sight and out of mind for most of us. If we live there and/or work there, I think it is our responsibility to take due care of it. If we won't, or don't, take responsibility, who else should? Think global, but act local!"




# Informer


## The Informer Particulars

 **Informer Editor:** Sasha Turner

 **Volunteer:** Lindsay Aitchison

 [informer@greenergreenisland.nz](mailto:informer@greenergreenisland.nz)

 1500 physical copies distributed a month

 Content Deadline: 15th of each month

 Newsletters available online at :

[www.greenergreenisland.nz/aboutnewsletter/newsletter-archive/](http://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

Pumpkins are rumoured to be one of the easiest vegetables to grow, but as we approach harvesting time, how do we know when to pick them?

A general rule is to harvest pumpkins after the first frost, however if the climate has been mild, pick them once they have coloured and sound hollow. If the skin of the pumpkin is hard and doesn't leave a dent when knocked, it is ripe. Another indication they are ripe is when the leaves dry away.

Cut the pumpkins from the vine with a sharp, clean knife, leaving a short stem on the vegetable.

Once harvested, store them in a sunny dry place for at least a fortnight for the skin to harden and the wick to dry. Following that period, store them in a dark, well ventilated and dry location in a temperature of 10 - 15 degrees.

Enjoy introducing the taste buds to some delicious recipes at [www.taste.com.au/recipes/collections/pumpkin-recipes](http://www.taste.com.au/recipes/collections/pumpkin-recipes).



## ARE YOU PREPARED?

### *When Absent from Home*

In previous columns, we have focused on preparing emergency kits and the importance of neighbourhood engagement. In this issue we explore being prepared if emergencies outside the home setting.

If an emergency event occurs when you and/or family members are away from home whether at work, shopping, or what ever, the ability to be able to return home may be difficult if not impossible.

If you have children that are at school or daycare, provide the staff of the school or daycare the contact details of two or three people who the children know who could be able to come and pick them up in such an emergency.

If you are unable to take your normal route home, do you know your local area well enough to take an alternative route home Do not try to walk or drive through flood waters in an attempt to drive home. You may become a victim of the flood, requiring others to rescue you.

Public transport, buses, taxis, etc may not be operating. Roads, Streets, or even entire neighbourhoods may be cut off and not accessible.

If communications (internet or phones) are down, Discuss and have an agreed meeting place and/or method of communication.

If you are able to use your phone or cellphone, please keep the use to a minimum so the system can be kept clear for emergency calls.

JOIN US TO DISCUSS

# DUNEDIN'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEXT 30 YEARS!

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP  
5.30 – 7.30PM | 25 MAY  
GREEN ISLAND CIVIC HALL

The Dunedin City Council and Otago Regional Council are jointly developing a Future Development Strategy (FDS) for Dunedin.

These workshops will begin with a short presentation followed by table-based discussions. If you can't make it on time, feel free to turn up when you can and join the discussion.

For set-up and catering purposes please RSVP at [www.dunedin.govt.nz/future-development-strategy](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/future-development-strategy)

**Some things we want your thoughts on are:**

- access to sustainable transport choices, and infrastructure and improvements your community will need over the next 30 years
- the best options for intensification to cater for growth in the long and very long term
- building community and environmental resilience to climate change
- opportunities for green and blue networks.



# TOOT'S COLUMN

## FROM THE COMMUNITY CONSTABLE'S DESK

Greetings Whanau, Toots here.

I hope you've all had a good month. I know I have.

Apart from getting some (well-deserved) leave, I attended my first cricket match.

Now, I must state, cricket is not a sport that has sparked too much enthusiasm in me.

I suppose, at this point, I should point out that I was there in a professional capacity and not as a spectator.

My initial thoughts were - nice ground, lovely weather and nice atmosphere.

I am not cognoscente in the finer details of cricket, but I have to say, they can certainly fling that ball down the wicket at some pace. I wouldn't like to be anywhere near that ball, whether it was being launched (a far more accurate description) or hit.

Nothing but admiration for all involved.

But I digress. I was more interested in the crowd. People watching was the reason I was being paid to be there.

A eclectic bunch would be a good description. Mums, Dads, families, cricket teams (with matching shirts and nicknames on the back), mischievous looking students with nefarious intentions (I was convinced). All of them packed to the gunnels with all the items needed for a 20/20 match.

These included bucket hats blankets, deck chairs, packed lunches, sunscreen, etc. I can only imagine what would be needed for a 5 day test!

The crowd were fantastically behaved. There were, of course, one or two ne'er-do-wellers, who were invited to leave by security staff for their transgressions, but even they took their ejections with aplomb, giving and receiving a wave from the crowd as they took their walk of shame.

I only had two direct interactions with the crowd, first being to read the score on the scoreboard for a chap who didn't bring his glasses (I obviously didn't know the score!) and a wee tap on the shoulder for one of the afore mentioned students who clearly wasn't listening to the security staff (just to steer him in the right direction).

Overall, a fantastic day, and many thanks from the exiting crowd on their way home, Which was nice!

By the way, the Black Caps won, and I'm sure the atmosphere would have been the same if they lost.

Toots



## SUCCESSFUL EGG HUNTERS



Photos from left, Ronan, 6, Creations from the Crawford family, Terri Abernethy and Skyla, 5, and Damian King, 5

# WE'RE GOING ON AN EGG HUNT AND IT'S GOING TO BE A BIG ONE...AND IT WAS!



Who needs sugar when the GGICN Easter Bunny is around? Not the dozens of children who took to the vicinity's biggest egg hunt, recently, in search of 120 laser cut wooden Easter eggs.

On the back of last year's success, the 2023 event saw higher participation - and a bigger showcase of beautifully decorated eggs. Thank you to all who joined the fun and messaged us photos. Nothing beats opening up the computer to a multitude of photos of happy parents, caregivers and children, displaying adventuring and creativity.

We have some wonderful parks and playgrounds in GGICN - and we love seeing people enjoy them.

Above: Penny West, 5 (left) and Macy West, 7 (right), and Braxton Knight, 10 (centre) enjoy their Easter egg finds.

## WHO CAN YOU FIND IN THE TEDDY BEAR BBQ CROWDS?

