

## SCHOOLS CELEBRATE MATARIKI

Matariki/Puaka was on July the 14th this year. This event marks the first rising of the Matariki star cluster which heralds the Māori new year. The local schools have been learning that Matariki is about more than just an extra day off during the year.

### FAIRFIELD SCHOOL



Fairfield School welcomed in the Māori new year with parakuihi tahi (shared breakfasts'). Each team enjoyed a relaxed gathering of whānau and an opportunity for children

to share their classroom spaces and Matariki artworks. These events were well attended and the school will make this an annual event on the school calendar. The whole school Matariki assembly was also well



*Families enjoy sharing breakfast together.*

attended with classes sharing work and singing a variety of waiata, as well as the stirring kapa haka performances of both junior and senior groups. Mānawatia o Matariki!

### MATARIKI HUNGA NUI TE KURA KAUPAPA MĀORI O ŌTEPOTI

Manawa maiea te putanga o Matariki  
 Manawa maiea te tohu o te ariki  
 Manawa maiea te mātahi o te tau  
 Tīhei Mauri Ora!



*The Kura share kai prepared by each class.*

**Pōhutukawa** - guardian of our loved ones who have passed.

**Hiwaiterangi** - guardian of our wishes and aspirations for whānau and communities.

This year, we focused on these two whetū this Matariki. Tamariki brought in photos of their loved ones who have gone to Pōhutukawa and we



wrapped them in fairy lights and glowing candle lights all week and looked after them in our whareniui.

Classrooms focused on Hiwaiterangi and the hopes and dreams that tamariki had for their whānau and Kura. At the end of the week each classroom made a dish that was joined with everyone to share together.

At the end of the day a karakia was held so that tamariki could take the photo of their loved one who now rests amongst the stars home again - kua whetūrangihia.



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# COMMUNITY KŌRERO - LOCAL BALLOONOLOGIST



Welcome to Community Kōrero, where The Informer chats with a local identity. In the hot seat this month is balloonologist and Reality TV champion Pip Milford-Hughes.

Her profile is sky-high, but there's no

inflated ego for local identity Pip Milford-Hughes. From making balloons as a distraction, to full-blown fame after winning the first season of reality game show 'Blow Up,' the Concord-based 'balloonologist' has taken it all in her stride.

Sitting down to talk to The Informer about her achievements, the joy of what she does is palpable, with a range of animated hand gestures punctuated by her insistence to "tell me to stop talking." But, when you're in the presence of someone as affable and charming as Pippity Pop, that's no mean feat.

A self-taught balloon twister who was "originally employed as a distraction," Pip sees immense value in what she does. As a play therapist, she encourages children to hone their fine motor skills through the medium of inflatables, educating them through play. She is also of the firm opinion that although "nothing beats that feeling of joy when you give a kid a balloon," balloons are for everybody: "I just love

the creative side of this, and it's so lovely to hit the mark, whether it's for a young kid or adult...nothing but sheer joy." Certainly, Pip can twist it all, from dogs to hedgehogs, and is not confined to typical designs, as evidenced by her balloon reworking of another icon, the Ranfurly Shield. She also enjoys the celebratory aspect of her craft, noting that a lot of rest home residents ask for things from their youth: "balloons are for joyous things, and can also be really nostalgic." Pip caters, too, to non-verbal clients, providing a picture board and learning sign language to make such joy even more inclusive.

In spite of her successes, Pip remains a "southern girl," with blue and gold incorporated into many of her 'Blow Up' creations. The house of the Kaitangata born-and-bred identity even features furniture made from the old Carisbrook Rose Stand. She adores the "country feel" of Concord - as well as its friendly inhabitants - noting that it harks back to her roots, learning her craft at numerous Clutha A&P shows. Such community-mindedness is reflected in her motto, "it doesn't matter what you make, it's about how you make the person feel" - words to make anyone feel lighter than air.



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*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..*

# NEW SADDLE VIEW HEALTH CENTRE OPENS



*Pictured: The new Saddle Hill Health Centre, 242 Main South Road, between the Memorial Gardens and St Peter Chanel School.*

SADDLE VIEW HEALTH CENTRE is now open and operating out of a brand-new purpose-built building at

242 Main South Road in Green Island. A full range of primary care services are on offer.

The staff are excited to be providing care to our community from the new facility. It is wonderful to be operating out of the new centre after much anticipation and a long wait. The results were certainly worth waiting for - we have plenty of space, a naturally lit waiting area, a 'Care Kiosk' ready to gather basic health information before consultations occur, and a well-resourced triage area to provide acute care services when needed.

We are staffed by our GPs, nurse practitioners, nurse prescribers, registered nurses, a healthcare assistant and our reception team, so there is someone here to help everyone with their primary healthcare needs.

We also have our Tōku Oranga (Access and Choice) team on site. They work with our patients to help manage their health, by talking over issues, working through blocks and developing goals. You will leave your free appointment with a plan to make change. Stacey is also available to help families with sleep advice for their newborns and young children.

We look forward to serving our new and existing patients from this facility, and providing committed and compassionate care when you next need to visit us. We are accepting new patient enrolments, and you are welcome to come check us out.

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# TOOT'S COLUMN

Kia ora, people.

I hope everything is going well, and that you and yours all enjoyed the recent Matariki holiday.

It's been quite busy for me this month. I have been looking after the students during Reorientation Week whilst they were partying and having a good time. No arrests and no injuries, so it was a good week for everyone involved.



Senior Constable Mark (Toots) Tuten

What I would like to talk about this month is neighbour disputes, or, what the over-extravagant headlines in the papers refer to as "neighbours at war."

This is very rarely the case. It is more often an unwillingness to talk to each other and discuss what the real issue is.

There must be a willingness on both sides to engage in a degree of flexibility for the issues to be resolved.

Quite often, I find that the issue has been going on for a while (in some cases, years) before I get involved.

Let's face it, these things very rarely sort themselves out in a way that is to the satisfaction of both sides.

Let me know about the situation in the first instance and I can speak to both sides find out what the issues are and try and move on from there.

A lot of people are under the impression that the first person who calls the police is the victimised party. This is not necessarily the case - it's not until I find out the whole picture and get a holistic view of what is going on that I can try and sort things out.

So, if you have any problems with your neighbours, come and see me first. You never know, I might be able to do something to help.

Stay safe.

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# OUR TAMARIKI

## LOCAL SCHOOLS ACKNOWLEDGE MATARIKI CONTINUED

### BIG ROCK SCHOOL



*Students and whānau fill the Brighton Hall for a meal to mark Matariki*

For our Matariki celebrations we had a shared meal with all of our school families at the Brighton Hall. The school provided a lamb on a spit, a deer/venison cooked on the barbecue as well as a bush casserole and vegetarian curry. All of the families brought food to share. In the hall we had flags flying from every culture or nationality represented within our school community (24 in total). The hall also had at least 2 pieces of work from every child on display that was directly linked to New Zealand history.

All of the families also took part in a New Zealand History quiz with Kiwiana prizes up for grabs. Classic New Zealand music played as well. It was a remarkable evening made possible by all of our amazing children and their whānau.



*Students and whānau complete New Zealand history quiz together*

### GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL



*Students and whānau share a meal together*

On Wednesday afternoon, Green Island School celebrated Matariki with a shared lunch as a whole school with whānau and friends. We then headed into class with our buddy classes and did a range of hands-on activities that everyone could get involved in. It was great seeing everyone get stuck in.



*Students learn to weave putiputi*

### CONCORD SCHOOL



Concord students have been working hard at creating art pieces representing Matariki star cluster. Their Matariki learning culminated with a whole school breakfast early on Friday morning.

### ST PETER CHANEL SCHOOL



*Year one students Barnaby and Isabella with their wonderful Matariki art.*

# Update on plans for the future of Green Island landfill

Earlier this year, the DCC began talking to people about the plans for the staged closure of the existing landfill and the development of a new resource recovery park at Green Island.

Based on Dunedin's current waste disposal rates, the DCC expect that the Green Island landfill can keep taking our city's waste until about 2029/2030. Between now and then, and as the landfill continues to fill up, it will be closed and capped in stages. The first stage of the closure is now complete, with the area capped and grassed.

The current Otago Regional Council (ORC) resource consents needed to operate a landfill at Green Island expire in October 2023. The DCC has now applied for replacement resource consents to continue to use the landfill until it closes. More information about the resource consents will be available later this year once the ORC has completed processing the application.



Thanks to everyone that came along to the pop-up information sessions earlier this year

Work is also progressing on the design of a new state-of-the-art resource recovery park (RRP) at Green Island to support the new kerbside bin collection service. EnviroNZ have been appointed as the operator of the new service, which is due to be rolled out from mid 2024.

We will be talking to people about what's planned for the RRP in coming months including at the 'Greater Green Island Get Together' on Saturday 9 September 2023. You can also visit the DCC website to find out more.



## FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP



Maia (and Filbert) Match ready

With the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup in full swing, part-time Fairfield reporter and football fan Maia Hayden (10) takes us through the first match held in Ōtepoti, Switzerland versus The Philippines.

The Women's World Cup is a big deal. It's so exciting to be able to see some of the games here in Dunedin. My dad and I are on a mission to attend as many of the games as we can – he is going to all of them, but I can't as one of them (Argentina versus South Africa) is during

school time!

The first game in Dunedin was on Friday July 21st. It was The Philippines against Switzerland. It was hard to know who to support, but I picked Switzerland because I love chocolate, and their flag is nice.

As we walked to the stadium, it was noisy and there were so many people. It was so exciting to see lots of supporters going to a football game. I think it's really cool that

so many people want to see women play football.

I enjoyed hearing the chanting from the Philippines fans, and

loved the Mexican wave that the Swiss fans tried to start. They were very excited, as their team scored two goals and won the game. I liked that even though they lost, The



The View from the stadium

Philippines fans were still so happy and excited during and after the game.

The game was a great experience because I got to see a big sporting event in my own city. I would recommend people supporting these teams and getting tickets to the games down here. I cannot wait to see New Zealand play and give my support to them.



Playing Foosball with Tazuni

# YOUR MONTHLY **Harcourts** MARKET REVIEW

The stats are in for June and they point to a small increase in market confidence. The median value rose from \$565,000 the month previous to \$585,000, and there were 147 sales compared with 126 the same month last year. Median days to sell stayed consistent at 49.

This reflects what agents are seeing in the field, with increased buyer activity at open homes. But those buyers are faced with a smaller choice with the normal reduction in the number of new listings during Winter. The Winter season can be an excellent time to sell, with less competition, and especially if the home enjoys good winter sunshine hours.

Good news this week with the Reserve Bank keeping the official cash rate at the same level, and many buyers are shopping with pre-approved lending. Sellers can take confidence that if their home is well presented and either correctly priced, or launched with a focused no-price marketing campaign such as Auction or Deadline, there will be buyers keen to view.

So it remains an excellent time to sell and upgrade your home, with the relative difference in price still within reach. Many kiwis are beginning to come off low fixed term mortgages and face much higher repayment costs. If you face the need to downsize to something more affordable, or reduce the investment portfolio to ease some pressure, now could be the ideal time to capture the interest of those active buyers while stock levels remain a little lower.

GREATER GREEN ISLAND  
JUNE

STATS 2023  
DUNEDIN

Average Dwelling Price

**\$780,263**

Number of sales

**19**

DUNEDIN JUNE

STATS 2023  
DUNEDIN

Median Dwelling Price

**\$585,000**

Number of sales

**147**

## DUNEDIN FIRE BRIGADE RESTORATION SOCIETY



Above: Nearing completion the restoration of another appliance.

Nestled in an innocuous-looking industrial complex in Burnside sits the Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society, a labour of love for a group of former firefighters and retired tinkerers alike.

The society was established in an effort to preserve Dunedin's fleet of fire engines, which, like the people behind their restoration, have their own tales to tell. According to the society, there are 18 appliances in the fleet, drawn from all over the region - whether from the former Roslyn fire station, Port Chalmers, Lookout Point, or even Clyde and Waipori Falls. These engines are lovingly restored and form part of an ongoing exhibition of local firefighting history, with authentic equipment (some of which dates back to the 1920s) populating the premises.

Though the attention-to-detail is second-to-none, and the restoration work evocative of the associated eras, these engines are more than mere museum pieces. The society uses them for children's birthday parties, weddings, and other whānau-centred events, which, according to one member is "a neat way to show off some family history, with grandkids not knowing that granddad was a firefighter...this is a good opportunity to show them that, while giving the grandkids a ride."

If anyone is keen to tinker, can wield a paintbrush, or even just wants a cuppa and a yarn - you needn't even have firefighting experience - feel free to contact the society via their Facebook page - Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society.



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# GREEN ISLAND "SUPER STOP" PROPOSAL

A small group of attendees at the community meeting on Thursday July 20th were among the first to hear about the proposed super stop changes for Green Island. Representatives from ORC and DCC presented plans to extend the bus stop outside the old Commercial Tavern site to a double stop. They would install upgrades, including large shelters with lighting, wider footpaths, improved curbing, as well as the addition of digital timetables.

This change could potentially reduce the current stop outside the Runciman Street tunnel to a single stop, freeing up some parking. Two corresponding shelters will be installed outside the Memorial Gardens, replacing the single stop currently in use. DCC and ORC hope to have this project completed by the end of June 2024.

During the meeting, attendees also raised the issue of adding a public toilet at that end of Green Island and suggested extending the Abbotsford peak timetable by 30 minutes in the morning. The GGICN will be compiling community thoughts to present in a letter to the DCC and ORC within the next two weeks. If you would like to make a comment, please contact [admin@greatergreenisland.nz](mailto:admin@greatergreenisland.nz).



Artists impression of the propose super stop outside the old Commercial.

## GREATER GREEN ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IMPORTANT DATES

### MONTHLY MEETING

Where: Village Green

When: 5:30pm, Thursday 24th August 2023

### GREEN ISLAND MARKET DAY

Where: Main South Road, Green Island

When: 10am - 1pm Saturday 2nd December

## STAGE AND BARBECUE UPDATE

Stewart Construction have been contracted to complete the work on the Stage and Barbecue. They plan to start construction by the end of August and are planning to have the work completed in 7 weeks.

The community has been lucky enough to receive a further \$5,000 from the Harcourts Foundation towards the cost of the barbecue itself, which is now on order and being built by the manufacturer.



Artists impression of the new stage and barbecue about to be constructed.


By publication, we are hopeful that the last stage before construction can begin gets the final seal of approval from the Parks and Recreation team before Stewart Construction begins their hard mahi.




# Informer


## The Informer Particulars

 **Informer Editor:** John Hayden

 **Volunteer:** Lindsay Aitchison

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

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