



# The Informer

August 2024 Edition

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

## COMMUNITY HUB OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Thanks to the generous proactivity of Harcourts Dunedin, the Harcourts Community Hub enjoyed its grand opening in Green Island on July 16th. Situated at 202 Main South Road, the hub is poised to become a focal point for any number and all manner of not-for-profit community groups. Harcourts Dunedin Branch Manager Ange Copson says the "small but perfectly formed space" is a "great opportunity to connect with the cool community and area that we all live in and love."

Copson's roots are in the heart of the region, growing up on Owen Street and recalling a star turn in a Santa parade, where she rode an elephant right behind the man in red along the main road. Such fond memories of the Greater Green Island area lead Copson to the conclusion that Harcourts has an integral part to play in the community, and one not limited to this dedicated space. Certainly, with involvement in a number of Greater Green Island Community Christmas Markets (including a repeat running of the high-intensity but ever-so-fun children's area slated for the 2024 edition), as well as key donations to the recently unveiled BBQ and Stage project in the Memorial Gardens and a number of foundation grants for various

activities in and around the area, it is only natural that such a space will "meet the parameters for enriching the local community."

Not only does the hub provide a physical space for community groups to meet, but the people behind it can also help with publicizing events and meetings, ensuring the venue is "accessible for everyone, and a great way to engage us with the wide range of people and groups in our great wee community, giving a focal point and connection for those in any of our 8 suburbs."

For information on how to book the Harcourts Green Island Community Hub, or for help promoting an upcoming event(s) for a not-for-profit community group, contact Harcourts Dunedin Branch Manager Ange Copson on 027 422 4479 or via email at [ange.copson@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:atange.copson@harcourts.co.nz)



**Ange Copson**

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Harcourts Dunedin



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## INGRID'S INSIGHTS

Health and cost-of-living were the two biggest concerns for residents of Green Island and Abbotsford when I was out surveying constituents with my MP Door-Knock Survey recently. I am making my way around what is a very diverse electorate, getting a feel for which issues are universal, and which have particular local resonance.

For example, many Green Island business owners say they're still recovering after months of traffic disruptions due to road works in the main street; other residents are worried the Government's planned changes to speed zones around schools will result in increased injuries to young people, with no evidence of any public benefit by increasing speeds.

Thanks to everyone who took the time for a quick chat about NZ's direction of travel, their concerns for the local community and for wider NZ, and which issues they think will dominate over the decade. These conversations enable me to focus on what matters most to people when I am in Wellington, and inform which public meetings I will hold locally to help feed into Labour policy.

Special thanks to those who kindly invited us in out of the cold for warm cuppas. Your generosity meant we found the energy to keep going a few extra hours despite temperatures not far above zero. Door-knocking continues



Above: Ingrid Leary protest for better pay and conditions for care and support workers

rail, hail or shine, so expect to see me back in your neighbourhood again soon.

Health was another big topic for Labour Leader Chris Hipkins when he visited Dunedin recently -- twice in a week. We packed in a public meeting, café visits, conversations with market stall holders and two rugby games: one involving the All Blacks and the other touted as the Ranfurly Shield of school rugby with Southland Boys hanging on to their national ranking in a nail-biting clash against King's High.

Letters and emails to me continue to highlight alarm at the Government's Muldoonist fast-track consenting laws, youth bootcamps and the war in Gaza.

Do keep in touch so that I know how best to serve you: [Ingrid.Leary@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Ingrid.Leary@parliament.govt.nz)

## MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP

Do you ever feel overwhelmed, like your mind is busy and you don't get enough time to just relax?

Would you like to learn a bit more about how your mind works and how to bring a little more calmness into your busy life?

The thing I love about mindfulness is that you don't actually need much to start a regular practice. You can simply begin by increasing your awareness of what is happening in each moment. You do not need a clear mind or even plenty of time alone!

Whether you are brand new to mindfulness and meditation or you've experienced it before, I'd love to invite you along to an upcoming event I'm holding in our community.

Come and join us for a chat about our minds, finishing with a guided meditation and a cuppa.

Saturday, August 24th, at 2 pm - cost of \$10

Brighton/Ocean View - location to be confirmed

Bring paper and a pen and a comfy cushion to sit on!

Please contact Letitia on 0278593357 for further information, or to book your spot

(Please note: this workshop is child-free)



# The Informer

 **Informer Editor:** John Hayden

 **Volunteer:** Lindsay Aitchison

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

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[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 John 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

# GREEN ISLAND LIONS CLUB - SERVING GREEN ISLAND

The building crew have completed the new Community Garden shed and the community garden team are in the process of fitting shelving and filling it up.



The build took longer than expected as the weather was not helpful. The crew spent well over 70 hours to complete the task. Many thanks to Joe from the Community Garden for his help and very useful tools. It was an enjoyable job with many lighter moments, especially trying to read and understand the pages and pages of plans.

One of the highlights was hot drinks and sausage rolls, provided by a very kind neighbour—thanks Tony!

Our next task is to erect the tunnel house. This could be interesting as no-one seems to know how it goes up!

I am planning to do this later in July when we get a spell of nice weather—yeah right. We only need about 4 people and week days seem to suit the retired crew better. I will email members when we are planning to get the tunnel house

under way. Even if you are not part of the building crew it is worth popping in to say giddyay, maybe drop in some scones, and have a look around the community garden. It is a great garden.

Cheers, Brian Cromarty.



## LOVE THE INFORMER? ADOPT A STREET!

We want you to adopt a street to deliver the Informer Newsletter to. The Informer is a monthly newsletter, with delivery in the first week of the month. Whether you can deliver 5 or 50 we want to hear from you. Get in touch today! Contact us on [greatergreenisland.nz](http://greatergreenisland.nz) or email us at [informer@greatergreenisland.nz](mailto:informer@greatergreenisland.nz)



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🌐 [www.greenergreenisland.nz](http://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..*

# YOUR MONTHLY **Harcourts** MARKET REVIEW

The June statistics threw up another consistent month in line with the 12 months previous. The median value was \$579,000, and if you averaged the median values over the last 12 months it is \$584,000. So fair to say nothing much has changed which is unsurprising given interest rates also haven't changed.

The median days to sell did improve from 45 days in May to 36 days in April and we think there are several reasons for this. Firstly buyers who have had their finance pre-approved for some time are acting, and the conditional days on market is less due to a shorter time frame on securing finance. Also, we have seen a lift in Auction activity with a number of sales being made under the hammer on Auction day. Our team have sold 2 under the hammer this month already, with 13 more auctions coming up on 31st July.

There were 129 sales in total for the month. Just 9 of those sales over \$1M, with the bulk of activity being in the \$400,000–\$800,000 range with a total of 118 sales. Total number of listings on the market at the time of writing this report are 702, so it would seem there is still a wide choice of properties for sale. However depending on a buyers' budget there may not be quite as big a choice as it first appears. There are 61 properties for sale under \$400,000, 203 between \$400,000–\$600,000, 159 between \$600,000–\$800,000, and 193 above that range.

At long last there appears to be the start of some positive news in the media, reporting that inflation may be down a bit more than expected, and a possible reduction in interest rates from the Reserve Bank this side of Christmas. Already we have seen major banks offer a small reduction in their 2–3 year fixed term rates. While this all helps to generate a little more positivity, it will be some time before interest rates return to a low enough level to put significant pressure on house prices. Agents are reporting steady numbers at open homes and we have not seen the traditional major drop in activity through the colder Winter month. So overall the market remains one of stability and a fair and balanced opportunity for both sellers and buyers. It's a good time to make real estate decisions.

## GREATER GREEN ISLAND

STATS **JUNE**  
Average Dwelling Price

**\$626,200**

Number of sales

**10**

## DUNEDIN

STATS **JUNE**  
Median Dwelling Price

**\$579,000**

Number of sales

**129**

*Carissa*

**FRASER**

M 027 35 36 374

E carissa.fraser@harcourts.co.nz

**Harcourts**

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# TOOTS' COLUMN

Hello everyone,

I must admit, even though I've been in Aotearoa for well over 20 years, I still have not caught the rugby bug.

I have a passion for the round ball that has not abated over the years.

When I first came to this country, it was joining a football club that helped me integrate, find like minded people, and generally have a personal investment in a community.

It is with this in mind that I congratulate Green Island Rugby Club for getting to the final at Forsyth Barr Stadium on the 31st of July, and I wish them all the best.

Knowing the passion of a local derby from back home, I'm sure it will be a great day out and the Grizzlies will be victorious.

I've had a few people come to the station to tell me that they have reported incidents through the police 105 reporting system but didn't know how to attach photos/attachments etc.

If you've got any problems with this, come in and see me and I will help you out.

Remember if you see something, report it. It can be done anonymously. If the police don't know about it, we can't do anything about it. You are the eyes and ears of the community.

Take care everyone, stay safe.

(Article written before the final - Congrats GI Rugby Club)



Senior Constable Mark "Toots" Tuten

**space** at Playcentre   
mōu, me tō pēpi



## Learn, play and grow with your baby

Space is a 30 week programme for you and your baby, facilitated by Playcentres across Aotearoa. You'll meet weekly during term times to explore parenting and your baby's development.

As well as discussion topics such as sleep, attachment and brain development, you'll enjoy music, books and play experiences, while getting to know other new families in your community.

Riselaw Road, Mornington, and Mosgiel Playcentre

For more information please contact:

Cathy Anderson - 0278805241 E-mail: Cathy.andresen@playcentre.org.nz



## FAIRFIELD SCHOOL MATARIKI CELEBRATIONS

Fairfield School acknowledged the Māori New Year with shared breakfasts across four mornings. Children were able to enjoy kai with friends and whānau, share learning and Matariki artworks, and enjoy lights and sounds while sharing their classroom and learning spaces. Year 1/2 were based in the Kotahitanga Block, 3/4 in Matamata, 5/6 in the School Hall, and 7/8 in Akoranga.

Highlights included the waiata performances and huge attendance from whānau - some families had three breakfasts to attend! This has become an annual event on the school calendar, and will continue to grow. Thanks to our school community for the support. Let us honour and celebrate the rising of Matariki; We welcome the fruits of the year ahead. Happy Matariki!

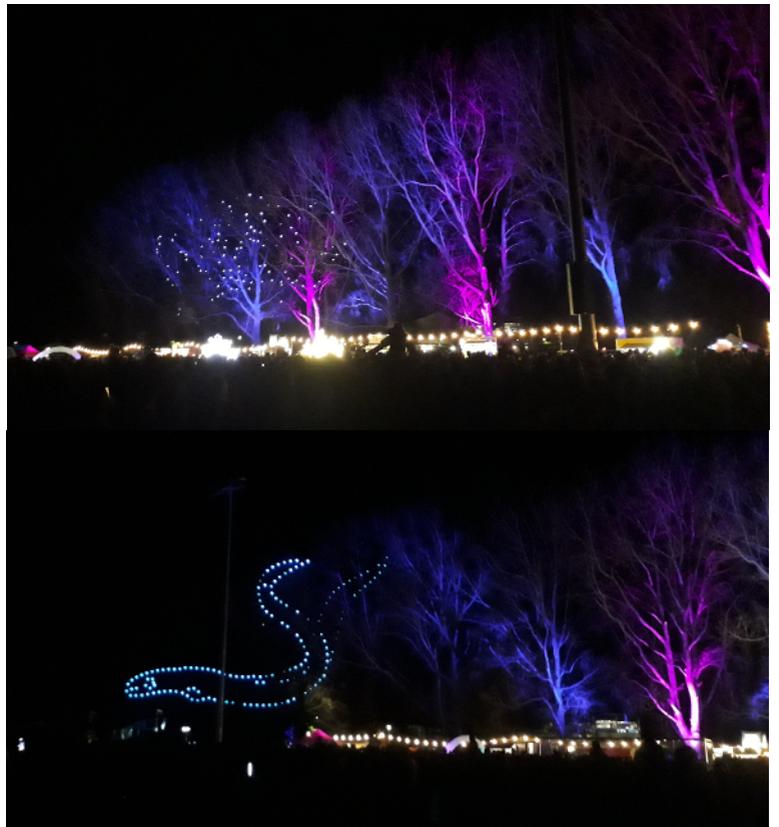
## MAIA'S (MATARIKI) MUSINGS

*This month, our wahine toa Maia Hayden (11) reflects on the Maori New Year.*

Matariki is a special time of year for everyone in Aotearoa. At school, we learn about how it not only represents the start of Maori New Year, but also how it is a time to celebrate and remember.

In past years, I have visited the graves of my family members who have passed away, including my grandma, who is buried at island Park cemetery. I also remember that last year, my dad took me to see the Disney movie Coco - this movie is about a young boy who wants to become a musician, like his great-great grandfather, so he goes to the Land of The Dead to find him. The cool thing about seeing this movie was that it was all in te reo, so that made it seem really special.

This year, we went to the drone and light show at Logan park, and it was so colourful and spectacular! The drones made so many different shapes, like eels, birds and even a whare with seven stars beside it, which represent the mother (Matariki) and her 6 daughters. The crowd was really amazed, and so was I - it was a special show for such a special day, and it made me think lots about my family.



*Above: Some highlights of the Matariki light and drone show held at Logan park*



## LILLIPUT LIBRARIES

### **Brighton and Ocean View:**

2 Scroggs Hill Road  
1020 Brighton Road  
60 Scroggs Hill Road  
1056 Brighton Road  
7 Seaview Road  
779 Brighton Road  
21 Scurr Road

### **Westwood:**

576 Brighton Road

### **Waldronville:**

21 Delta Drive  
381 Brighton Road  
3 Canberra Place

### **Fairfield:**

7 Fry Street  
35 Flower Street

### **Abbotsford:**

17 John Street  
41 Severn Street

### **Green Island**

18A Brighton Road  
3C Church Street  
21 Edinburgh Street

### **Concord:**

5 Thoreau Street

# SPECIAL RIGS FOR SPECIAL KIDS

Providing an unforgettable experience to those kids who have special needs, this unique trip takes these special kids on a journey in a large truck, ending up at a venue where food, drink and entertainment are provided.

The 2024 edition of this impactful and unforgettable event will be held in Dunedin on Sunday August 25th. Hosted by the local transport industry, this event invites tamariki with special needs (and a supporting adult) to get up close to those big rigs they see on the roads.

There is no need to pre-register – just arrive at the Edgar Centre at 8.30am. From there, the first truck departs at 11am. If your child is aged 7 or under, please bring their car seat or booster seat.

(see below for a map of the route; and at right, a list of approximate times the rigs will be able to be viewed)

11:00am Lead truck leaves the Edgar Centre

11:05am Victoria Road

11:10am Forbury Road

11:15am Corstorphine Road

11:20am Kaikorai Valley Road

11:25am Taieri Road / Three Mile Hill

11:48am Puddle Alley & Hagart Alexander Drive

11:52 Old Motorway / Morris Road

11:59am Fairfield

12:10pm Green Island

12:13pm Stevensons Road

12:18pm Corstorphine Road / Playfair Street

12:20pm Forbury Road

12:22pm Victoria Road then Queens Drive

12:27pm Andersons Bay Road

12:28pm Portobello Road / Portsmouth Drive

12:30pm Midland Street / Edgar Centre



# Thank You

YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS BUT THE INFORMER HAS A TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS BEHIND EVERY EDITION

THANK YOU to all our volunteers who offer their time to create, edit, or deliver the informer, we could not do this without you!



**mainly music**

Mainly music is a fun music session for families with young children to enjoy together and for children to grow developmentally.

Fairfield at FUEL Church – 78 Main Road, Fairfield

10am Wednesdays (term time only)

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OR FACEBOOK: GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY

# COMMUNITY KORERO - LACHIE "LJ" MCLELLAN

Welcome to Community Korero, a column where The Informer chats with a local identity. In the hot seat this week is educator and Green Island rugby club strength and conditioning coach, Lachie 'LJ' McLellan.



Above: Lachie (LJ) McLellan with Grizzlies

Lachie (LJ) McLellan loves being home. The dedicated teacher and sports coach has returned to the region after 12 years living and teaching abroad, finding himself right in the thick of the Green Island Rugby Club's stellar success this season. As the Grizzlies' strength and conditioning coach, McLellan is quick to point out that their success thus far is built on "a bloody neat group of players who are backed by coaches and management who have full belief in each and every player's ability."

Spending the last 12 years teaching Physical Education internationally in Abu Dhabi and Singapore certainly stood McLellan in good stead for his current role, as has his vast and successful athletics background. "I spent a large part of

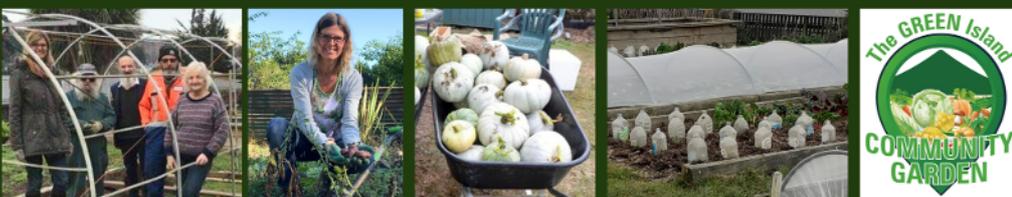
my 20s working and competing in athletics at national and international level – nowadays, I'm a teacher during the day, and then I use my love of coaching to train up-and-coming Otago sprinters during the summer months." But it was always part of his plan to return home with his wife and two children: "Dunedin was always the end goal after our travels so we could give our children the opportunity to grow up with some of the experiences we had."

As if he wasn't busy enough, McLellan teaches Integrated Studies, mathematics and physical education at John McGlashan College; nevertheless, this is all a part of what drives him. "I love working with all people young and old and in different contexts. From inside the classroom educating children, to on the sports field where I can watch athletes develop and compete to the best of their abilities."

A quote which he tends to use a lot in his day-to-day experiences as it connects to his philosophy is from American long distance runner Steve Prefontaine, who said "to give anything less than your best, is to sacrifice the gift" – such insight is to be expected from McLellan, who is clearly relishing being back in our fair region, and is keen to keep contributing both on and off the grass. He remains similarly circumspect when asked about the Grizzlies' chances of winning their first title since 1978: there's still a long way to go, and we're taking each game as they come – it's all part of the process."



## GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY GARDEN



A garden run by the community for the community,  
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GreenIslandCommunityGarden](https://www.facebook.com/GreenIslandCommunityGarden)

## Israeli Folk Dancing Beginners Workshop

Saturday 17th August 2024  
9am - 3pm

To be held in Fairfield, Dunedin

\$35 includes morning tea & lunch

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Contact Cory Hope 0273585606

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# GREEN ISLAND MARKET

**SATURDAY, MAIN SOUTH RD**  
**7 DECEMBER GREEN ISLAND**

**10:00AM - 1:00PM**

**FREE ENTRY**



## *Events*

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