

NIGHT 'N DAY CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AT THE HEART OF GREEN ISLAND

"Time has gone really fast!" says Antony Duthie as he reflects on twenty years at the helm of Night 'n Day Green Island, originally known as the Green Island dairy.

When Antony first purchased the business, it was trading as a traditional neighbourhood dairy. Soon after he took ownership, the change was made to become part of the Night 'n Day franchise. Although he came from a retail background, the food side of the business was a learning curve.

Two decades later, plenty has changed. The range now stretches well beyond the basics, from lolly mixtures to delicious milkbar items like a Mt. Cookies & Cream Deluxe Shake. The humble hot dog remains one of the store's biggest sellers, while Antony's personal favourite is the boneless Helova chicken.

Customer expectations have shifted too. People want quality and value for money, the Tuesday and monthly deals are keenly followed. The cheap butter special remains one of the most talked-about deals.

One thing that hasn't changed is the importance of regular customers. Lunchtimes and after-school periods are reliably busy, and surprisingly, sometimes around 9-10pm! Alongside locals, travellers often pop in from the motorway. But it's the familiar faces who mean the most.

Antony genuinely enjoys getting to know his regulars. If someone hasn't been in for a while, he wonders how they're doing. For some, a visit to Night 'n Day is a social outing, not just popping in to buy milk. Stories are shared, and people sometimes "unload" when asked how their day is going. Antony believes taking the time to listen is important - "A little extra customer service goes a long way."

Beyond the shop counter, Antony has been a strong advocate for the Green Island community.

As part of the local business association, he has spoken up about issues affecting the area, including concerns around the design of the roundabout and the subsequent delays in getting it completed. He also publicly expressed his disappointment when the local Westpac branch closed in 2019, highlighting the impact on residents and businesses.

Alongside other local businesses, Antony is actively involved in the annual Green Island Christmas Market and continues to push for the beautification of Green Island, helping to ensure the area remains attractive and welcoming for residents and visitors alike.

Community involvement has always been central to the business. Night 'n Day Green Island proudly supports local schools by supplying branded items and sponsors many local clubs and sports teams throughout the area.

Antony expresses gratitude to the people who have supported him along the way. He thanks his partner Kelly, daughters Alyssa and Rylee, and his mum, Sally, who still helps out occasionally to balance the tills and steps in on weekends when he is away.

He also recognises the contribution of his hard-working team, past and present, including several long-serving staff members and even one employee who has returned three separate times. Creating a positive workplace hasn't gone unnoticed; one customer once pulled him aside to ask what he does to keep his staff so happy and engaging!

To mark 20 years in Green Island, there will be spot prizes in store as a small way to thank the community for supporting the business over the last two decades. Night 'n Day Green Island is more than just a dairy. It's a place where people connect, catch up and feel known - and that's something worth celebrating.



Antony Duthie reflects on 20 years of serving the community. Inset: pictures of the original set-up.



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January 2026 reflected a seasonally quieter yet steady market across the Greater Green Island suburbs. While transaction volumes were slightly lower due to the summer holidays, buyer interest remains strong.

There is demand in the area for Families seeking 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom homes – after our recent successful sale in Queen Street, Brighton.

First-home buyers are also looking to secure their first property in the area, with good budgets to spend, ready to compete for homes that are well-presented and functional.

If you are thinking of selling, get in touch for a free appraisal to see where you sit in this market – you never know, we may just have the buyer ready to “say YES to your address!”

GREATER GREEN ISLAND

STATS **JANUARY**

Average Dwelling Price

\$802,250

Number of sales

8

DUNEDIN

STATS **JANUARY**

Median Dwelling Price

\$618,000

Number of sales

130

Highland Real Estate Group Ltd Licensed REAA 2008

Correction from our February 2026 Informer

We mistakenly referred to Gerald Marsh as a founder of the Green Island Junior Football Club Seven-a-Side tournament.

The correct name is Merv Marsh, alongside Jim Martin.

We apologise for any confusion caused and wish to thank readers for their understanding.

TOOTS' COLUMN



Senior Constable
Mark "Toots" Tuten

Greetings people,

The holiday period always seems to be a hectic time of the year for me.

I was policing in the Octagon for the New Year celebrations (very muted, this year, I thought).

I also spent an enjoyable week teaming up with the Community Constable for South Dunedin, doing traffic work in response to the Burt Munro meeting in Invercargill.

We were traversing the highways and byways from Milton to Oamaru for the week and on the whole, everyone was behaving themselves. We were obliged to write out a few Infringement notices for speeding though.

It was a great to upskill my trafficking knowledge, but I know my own skill set, so I won't be moving over to the dark side anytime soon, and I am looking forward to getting involved in the community again.

I had a great day at the Brighton Big Day Out this year. It seems to get bigger each year. A big shout out to all the volunteers and organisers for the event, you did a fantastic job. Pity the weather didn't play its part. One of these years, I'm gonna go up in one of those helicopters! (If my boss will let me.)

I know you're champing at the bit for this... so this month I thought I'd give this amazing fact:

Australia is wider than the moon! The moon is 2100 miles wide with Australia being 2500 miles (amazing how it looks so big from down here).

Oh, and for a bonus; Scotland's national animal is a unicorn! Don't know who signed off on that one.

Remember, if you have any queries or questions, pop on down to see me at the Green Island Police Station.

Live long and prosper people,
Toots.

CAFE WEDNESDAY

Sharing the hope and love of Christ

Wednesdays 10am-11.30am during the term

Free Kai & Hot Drinks
A Thought to Encourage your Week
Easy Parking
Everyone Welcome



Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord

ST JOHN YOUTH GREEN ISLAND

We're excited to welcome the St John Youth Programme to the wider Green Island community! This fun and inspiring programme gives young people the chance to learn lifesaving first aid skills, build confidence, and develop leadership- all while making new friends and giving back to their community.

The Green Island Division meets every Thursday during school term time, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, at St Margaret's Church on the corner of Main South Road and Jenkins Street. The programme has already kicked off for the year, but new members are always warmly welcome.

Open to children and young people aged 5 – 18 years old, St John Youth is perfect for anyone keen to learn practical skills, grow as a leader, and be part of something meaningful.

New members can try the programme with a two-week free trial. Come along and see what St John Youth is all about- learning, leadership, and community start here!

For more information, please contact: bronson.blackbourn@stjohn.org.nz or visit: youth.stjohn.org.nz



We want to hear from you!

SHARE YOUR CLUB, GROUP, OR STORY WITH THE INFORMER NEWSLETTER!

The Informer loves hearing from our community.
Get in touch - your story could feature in an upcoming issue

Please email: informer@greatergreenisland.nz



Join ST JOHN YOUTH



Young people developing their potential through leadership, hauora and engaging in their communities.

St John Youth is for all young people aged 5 to 18 years, so come and learn, connect and grow with us.

Green Island Division



Thursday



6pm - 7:30pm



St Margaret's Church,
208 Main South Road,
Green Island

youth@stjohn.org.nz | 0800 ST JOHN | youth.stjohn.org.nz



LOVE TO SING? JOIN THE DUNEDIN HARMONY CHORUS!

Dunedin Harmony Chorus is an award-winning group of women dedicated to sharing the joy of dynamic, high-quality a cappella performances within the community and on the national stage.

Singing unaccompanied four-part harmony- largely in the barbershop style, but also incorporating modern, pop, and spiritual interpretations- the chorus is known for its energy, showmanship, and passion for making music come alive.

As part of the global Sweet Adelines International organisation, members regularly compete in national and international competitions.

Dunedin Harmony was crowned Small Chorus Champions at the 2024 Sweet Adelines New Zealand event, and the group is already preparing to compete at the 2026 national competition in Palmerston North.

The chorus has around 30 members ranging in age from 25 to 85 and is always eager to welcome new singers!

Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening at 7.00 pm at the Dunedin Church of Christ, 3 Prince Albert Road, Dunedin.

Anyone interested is warmly invited to attend a rehearsal to see what it's all about- no formal audition is required, just a love of singing and the enthusiasm to learn.

Our musical team, led by director Robyn Abernethy, provides regular vocal education to help members develop their best sound. Expert coaches and mentors from across New Zealand and overseas offer unparalleled opportunities to build both singing and performance skills.

Members also have access to a wealth of online resources covering vocal technique, music arranging, directing, choreography, and leadership skills in a friendly, supportive atmosphere.

Dunedin Harmony Chorus performs at a variety of community events throughout the year, including St Andrew's Day celebrations, Christmas concerts, and private or corporate functions. Whether performing for local audiences or competing nationally, the chorus brings sparkle, harmony, and heart to every stage.

Joining Dunedin Harmony Chorus is more than just singing- it's about friendship, confidence, learning, and fun. You'll gain vocal training, musical education, and the thrill of performing, all within a warm and welcoming group of diverse, dynamic women.

Come along and experience it for yourself- you may find it changes your life!



Curious About Singing?

Sing With Us!

Dunedin Harmony Chorus are women singing and performing a cappella barbershop.
Join us any Tuesday at 7 pm.
E: enquiries@dunedinharmony.org
F: DunedinHarmony W: www.dunedinharmony.org





*Pictured above: Nico had an awesome day at the Brighton Trail Ride.
Photo Credits: Gamunu Hapuarachchi and Nadika Hapuarachchi*

Pictured below: The Pump Track crew was busy at the recent Brighton Trail Ride, serving up over 200 burgers and sausages with fantastic help from Tall Poppy Real Estate agent Leona Munroe and her team. Photo: supplied.



Both the Gala Day and Trail Ride were a great success and provided valuable opportunities to fundraise and connect with the community to share the vision for the pump track.

Several grant applications are still pending, and if successful, the majority of funding needed for the build will be in place. If all goes to plan, Brighton could see the pump track completed by mid-year. Fingers crossed!

A huge thank you to Aotearoa Gaming Trust for their generous support, and to everyone who has helped fundraise, volunteered time, or shown support for the project so far.

*Pictured below: Brighton Trail Ride fun!
Photo Credits: Gamunu Hapuarachchi and Nadika Hapuarachchi*



BRIGHTON PUMP TRACK PROJECT UPDATE

There's exciting news for the Brighton pump track community! Aotearoa Gaming Trust has confirmed a \$25,000 donation towards the Brighton Pump Track project - a huge boost that brings the build one big step closer.

The project is tracking well on the fundraising front. At the Brighton Gala Day, more than 100 raffle tickets were sold for a load of firewood, which was won by local MP Damian O'Connor and his wife, Helen Beattie.



Above: Malachi & Zach Turner were on hand to help stack 4m3 of gum & pine for raffle prize winners Helen Beattie and Damian O'Connor. Photo: supplied.

**ABBOTSFORD'S
BIG DAY OUT**

**Sunday 29th March
10:30am to 1pm**

ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Bouncy castle •
- Pippity pop •
- Book sale •
- Hot Food •
- Games •
- Bake sale •
- Frosty J's •
- and much more!

**RAISING FUNDS FOR OUR SCHOOL POOL
HELP US MAKE A SPLASH AGAIN!**

DUNEDIN GARDENING CLUB THRIVES



The Dunedin Gardening Club warmly welcomes visitors and new members to its monthly meetings and events.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 7.30pm, at the Green Island Bowling Club, 183 Main South Road, Green Island (opposite Night 'n Day).

From June, the club moves into its winter programme, with meetings and events held during the day on either a Saturday or Sunday. Evening meetings at the hall resume from September through to December.

The Dunedin Gardening Club is a friendly, social group brought together by a shared love of gardening.

The club offers a wide range of activities throughout the year, including monthly speakers (always on a gardening topic), bus trips, planned outings, and attendance at gardening events around Dunedin. Once a year, the club also hosts a speaker from overseas.

After each guest speaker, members enjoy supper, giving new members a relaxed opportunity to meet others and make connections.

Each monthly meeting also includes a raffle and a popular koha table, where members bring plants, seeds, cuttings, produce and gardening-related items that can be purchased for a small donation.

A friendly monthly competition allows members to share what's growing in their gardens and, where available, obtain plants from fellow gardeners.

The Dunedin Gardening Club has a proud history. Established in 1919 by David Tannoch, then Superintendent of the Dunedin Botanic Garden, the club has been running continuously for 107 years and is the oldest continuously operating gardening club (not a society) in New Zealand. Today, the club has over 100 members, with numbers continuing to grow at each meeting.

Current President Midge Ruka has been on the committee for 26 years, and has served as President for 23 years. Her vision is to see the club continue to thrive, ensuring it remains active and welcoming for generations to come.

The March meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th March- Guest speaker Marion Lawrence will present "Botanical Design." Following the demonstration, members are invited to bring along their favourite gardening tool to show everyone.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, you'll find knowledge, inspiration and good company at the Dunedin Gardening Club.



For more information, please contact: Dunedin Gardening Club President - Midge Ruka: midgeruka@gmail.com 027 696 2551



The Informer

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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 Erin to help you write a story.

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Clinics in : Alexandra, Balclutha, Lawrence, Milton and Mosgiel

INGRID LEARY OPINION - JOB LOSSES ARE HITTING CLOSE TO HOME IN GREEN ISLAND

At recent MP engagement days, one concern keeps surfacing: jobs. At the George Street market, conversations that might once have centred on housing or health increasingly turned to job losses, reduced hours, and uncertainty about the future. Young people, in particular, are asking a worrying question: where are the opportunities?



Enjoying the recent George St market are (from left) Rachel Brooking MP and Damien O'Connor MP, alongside Taiari MP Ingrid Leary

In Green Island, this isn't an abstract debate. It's about neighbours, whānau, and friends navigating layoffs, hiring freezes, and tighter household budgets. Nationally, youth unemployment is the highest in a decade; while statistics tell part of the story, they can't capture the lived reality behind them.

What struck me most at the George Street market was the anxiety among younger Dunedinites. Students and school leavers spoke about sending out dozens of CVs without hearing back. Others worried that the part-time work they rely on is drying up. Many feel they're doing everything "right" - studying, training, trying - yet doors remain stubbornly closed.

That concern echoed again when I spoke with nursing students at the Southern Institute of Technology orientation day in Invercargill. These are young people committing to one of our most essential professions. Yet alongside their enthusiasm was a common fear: Will there be jobs? Will we have to leave the South to build our careers?

Across both Dunedin and Invercargill, young people have been telling me something deeply concerning. They don't want to move to Australia. They want to stay close to family, community, and the places they call home. But some feel they have no real choice - drawn by the promise of "greener grass" and better pay across the Tasman. We should not accept this as inevitable.

Unemployment and underemployment are not personal failings. They're shaped by economic cycles, industry shifts, and policy decisions. When investment slows, when businesses struggle, when secure entry-level roles disappear - it is young people who are often hit first and hardest.

Right now, those pressures are being compounded by government cuts to regional programmes, a construction sector that's been decimated, and a cost of living that remains stubbornly high. Together, these make it even harder for local families and small businesses to stay afloat - and for young people to see a future here.

Dunedin and the wider Otago region have enormous strengths: education, research, health, tourism, and innovation. But potential alone doesn't create jobs. We need sustained investment in regional development, infrastructure, skills training, and industries that deliver stable, decent work.

For Green Island, that means backing local employers, strengthening apprenticeships and vocational pathways, and ensuring young people can transition from study into meaningful employment without feeling forced overseas.

Because when our young people feel their future lies elsewhere, it's not just a labour market issue - it's a community one. And when people want to build their lives here, our collective responsibility is to make sure opportunity lives here too.

Want to Learn Cake Decorating?

- Do your cakes just not turn out like YouTube?
- Would you rather talk to someone to get your practical hints?
- How does a sharing, knowledgeable and friendly club sound?

Maybe we can help:

Dunedin Cake Decorating Club

We meet on the 4th Saturday of the month at St Margaret's Church, Jenkins St, Green Island, Dunedin starting at 10 am

✉ dunedincakedecoratingclub@gmail.com

📘 www.facebook.com/dunedincakeclub



Cakes by Club President Jeanette Ayres.

Love cake decorating and want to learn alongside others? Skip the internet tutorials and enjoy hands-on tips, shared skills and good company. Everyone's welcome at the Dunedin Cake Decorating Club

FAIRFIELD SCHOOL HARDCOURT OFFICIALLY OPENED

Fairfield School recently celebrated the official opening of its new hardcourt with a community event.

Recently retired Tall Blacks captain Tom Abercrombie, alongside former teammates Hayden Allen and Ethan Rusbatch, were there to mark the occasion. They were joined by representatives from Basketball New Zealand and Otago Basketball, making the celebration memorable for students, staff and supporters.

A highlight of the opening was hearing former Fairfield School pupil Hayden Allen deliver an inspiring speech. He encouraged students to get off the screens and play sport for enjoyment, fitness and fun with friends. He also shared how participation and hard work can open doors to unexpected opportunities.



Fairfield School Office Manager Sue Grave has the honour of cutting the ribbon alongside former Tall Blacks Hayden Allen (left) and Tom Abercrombie (right). Photo: supplied.

Now playing for the Otago Nuggets, Hayden worked with basketball court and hoop installation specialists Court Kings to install the new turf over the summer holidays. For him, it was a full-circle moment - around 30 years ago his uncle installed the original hoops at the school, helping spark his own love of the game.

Growing up on Martin Road, Hayden spent many hours on the courts after school and on weekends, making the redevelopment a powerful real-life example for today's students that anything is possible.

Principal Greg Lees noted that interest in basketball at

Fairfield School has grown significantly, with 150 students now playing across 21 teams.

Much of that growth has been the result of years of dedication and fundraising, driven by the school's Office Manager Sue Grave. Her passion has helped grow basketball at Fairfield School and turn a long-held dream into reality. It was fitting that she was invited to cut the ribbon at the ceremony.

The upgraded court will provide lasting benefits for students and the wider school community, supporting active lifestyles and a love of sport for years to come.



Contact us:

 03 425 7719

 info@greenergreenisland.nz

 @ggicn_dunedin

 <https://www.facebook.com/GreenerGreenIsland>

The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charity committed to building a strong community that works together to develop its own solutions - A community that is self-reliant, responsive, resilient and sustainable, and where neighbourhoods are once again full of people we know as our neighbours.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



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NEW ZEALAND POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa



MOVE IT MARCH

2nd - 27th March 2026

It's great to see tamariki and their community choosing active travel to and from school. This March, the Dunedin City Council and local schools are running the Move it March campaign to encourage the use of active travel.

Move it March runs all through the month of March, so keep an eye out for extra pedestrian activity on footpaths and crossings, especially on Wednesday, 11th March for Walk or Wheel to School Day! This year's theme is Be Bright, Be Seen!

Tamariki are encouraged to walk or wheel (skate, scoot, cycle, roll) to and from school when possible. Abbotsford, Concord, Fairfield, Green Island and St Peter Chanel School are all getting involved. There's lots of prizes to be won, and participating schools will be getting a special visit from Scout-the safe and active travel mascot.

7

FAMILY FUN & MARKET DAY

7TH MARCH ★
10am - 2:30pm

GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL



Music and movement for preschoolers

Wednesday 10am (\$4 per family)

MAINLY MUSIC

Join us in a fun music session,
followed by a provided morning tea,
friendship and fun!

Contact: Nicola - 02108378065

Address: Fuel Church - 78 Main Road Fairfield



Greater Green Island EASTER EGG HUNT

Find wooden Easter egg cut outs
in parks around Greater Green Island

Check our Facebook page for locations!

Happy

Easter

Sunday 5th April
from 10am

~ Find an egg ~
~ Take it home to Decorate ~

Share a photo to our Facebook page!
<https://www.facebook.com/GreaterGreenIsland>



If you find more than one egg, have fun re-hiding it for others!