Greater Green Island Community Network

The Informer

November 2026

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

ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL STUDENTS FUNDRAISE TO BRING AN AED CLOSER TO HOME

A group of Year 7 and 8 students at Abbotsford School are working towards an important goal: making an automated external defibrillator (AED) more accessible to their school community.

The Wheako group has been fundraising to help purchase an AED, with the closest currently located at Sunnyvale Sports Centre. Greater Green Island Community Network Youth Worker Brianna (Bri) Le recognised that while the students were busy raising money, it was also important for them to understand what they were fundraising for and how this life-saving equipment is used.



Abbotsford School students pictured left to right: Ayla, Willow, Maddie and Hannah with their Quiz Night Fundraiser poster. Photo: Bri Le.

Bri contacted Bronson Blackbourn from St John, who visited Abbotsford School with colleague Kaye to provide a free lesson in CPR and how to use an AED. The students gained valuable knowledge and practical experience, helping them understand how they could make a difference in an emergency.

There was more good news for the project when the Dunedin Area Committee of St John agreed to donate an AED to the school.

This generous offer has significantly reduced the students' fundraising goal from more than $3,000 to just $600, bringing them much closer to making an AED available at their school.

From providing free training to donating life-saving equipment, St John has gone above and beyond to support these young people and help make their school community safer.

To help with fundraising, the Wheako group is hosting a quiz night on Friday, 6 November, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Abbotsford School Hall. Entry is $5 per person, with teams of four to eight people.

Come along, test your knowledge and support these fantastic young people as they work towards their goal. Every team will help bring them one step closer to making their school community safer!

Young people interested in learning valuable skills, building confidence and helping others can also find out more about the local St John Youth division, which meets in Green Island on Thursdays.

For ticket information, scan QR code on page 3.



NIDD
REALTY

Carissa Fraser's Local Market Review



Spring Market: More Choice, Quicker Decisions

The Greater Green Island property market is showing encouraging signs as we move further into spring, with activity picking up across Dunedin. The median sale price remains in line with the long-term trend, while a noticeable drop in days on market suggests buyers are acting more quickly when the right property comes along.

Listing numbers have continued to increase, giving buyers more choice as we head towards the warmer months. While this means buyers can take a little more time to compare their options, good properties are still attracting interest when they are priced correctly. For sellers, understanding the current competition and presenting their home in the best possible light can make a real difference.

One trend we're noticing is an increase in unconditional offers, with more buyers choosing to complete their due diligence before submitting an offer. Rather than making an offer subject to further checks, buyers are getting their finance, inspections and other enquiries sorted beforehand. This can give sellers greater certainty when comparing offers, while reinforcing the value of being well prepared as a buyer.

Overall, the market remains reasonably balanced, offering opportunities for both buyers and sellers. As we approach the end of the year, spring can be a great time to make a move, whether you're looking to sell, buy your next home or simply explore your options.

SEPTEMBER STATS

GREATER GREEN ISLAND

Rolling 12 month avg Price	Number of Sales
$660,000	14

DUNEDIN

Median Dwelling Price	Number of Sales
600,000	177

If you're thinking of selling, get in touch for a free appraisal. You never know, we may just have the buyer ready to **"say YES to your address"!**

Carissa Fraser
027 35 36 374
carissa.fraser@nidd.co.nz
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A BLOOMING FIRST YEAR FOR LYNNE MARIE'S FLOWERS



The toys are having a party in the window at Lynne Marie's Flowers!

Lynne Marie's Flowers in Green Island is celebrating its first birthday, marking one year of bringing colour, beauty and comfort to the community through the thoughtful gift of flowers.

It hasn't been an easy time for retail, with trading conditions particularly challenging recently. Lynne Turner says the support of her customers has helped keep her going, and she appreciates the recommendations and word of mouth that make such a difference to her small business.

To celebrate the milestone and thank her customers, Lynne held an in-store giveaway with three prizes up for grabs. Customers entered by making a purchase in store, and the winners were delighted with their prizes.



Samara Keen with her bouquet prize. Photos: Lynne Turner

When Lynne started out in floristry, she knew flowers could brighten someone's day, but she hadn't fully realised just how much they could mean to the recipient.

"It's an honour to help people at their darkest moments. Flowers help them feel better," Lynne says.

From celebrating happy occasions to offering comfort when words are hard to find, flowers play an important role in people's lives. Being able to create arrangements that express love, sympathy and support has become one of the most meaningful parts of Lynne's work.

Step inside Lynne Marie's Flowers and you're likely to be greeted with a warm smile and a cheerful "Hello darlin!" It's a welcoming touch that reflects the friendly personality behind the business and helps make a visit feel personal.

As the shop celebrates its first year, Lynne is thankful for the ongoing support of the Green Island community. Every customer has played a part in helping her continue doing what she loves: creating beautiful floral arrangements that bring comfort, joy and a little extra love to people's lives.

WHEAKO WRESTLING CLUB

Young people aged 12 to 18 have the opportunity to get active, learn new skills and build friendships through Wheako Wrestling, a free club run by Greater Green Island Community Network (GGICN) youth worker Ilai Manu at Kaikorai Valley College.



The programme combines traditional Pacific wrestling practices with Olympic wrestling techniques in a safe, welcoming environment. Sessions encourage respect, discipline, teamwork and cultural pride, while helping young people develop confidence, resilience and positive connections with others.

Funding from Sport Otago has enabled the purchase of new wrestling mats, a welcome addition to the programme. The mats provide a safer, more suitable surface for training, giving young people a better environment to learn techniques, develop their skills and build confidence.

Ilai brings a wealth of experience and a calm teaching style to as an accomplished athlete, coach, academic and cultural ambassador. He represented Tokelau at the Oceania Championships, Pacific Games and Pacific Mini Games, becoming Tokelau's first Oceania gold medallist.

As a GGICN youth worker, Ilai uses sport to help young people strengthen their identity, develop leadership skills and build positive pathways for the future.

Wheako Wrestling is open to students from all schools, with no cost to attend. Sessions run every Friday during school terms from 3pm to 4.30pm in the Kaikorai Valley College gym.

For more information, email Ilai: ilai.manu@greatergreenisland.nz ph/ text: 021 340 814

Stacks of new mats have arrived - Thanks Sport Otago!



NIDD REALTY

WHEAKO

Greater Green Island Community Network

SPRING SALES THAT GIVE BACK

For every home sold in Greater Green Island Area
I'll donate **$250** back to the
Greater Green Island Community Network.

This Spring, donations will support the Youth Action Group, helping local young people:

- Build confidence & life skills
- Strengthen positive relationships
- Overcome challenges
- Reach their full potential

Your sale can make a difference.

Thinking of selling this Spring?
Let's make your sale count.



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AT NIDD REALTY



ST JOHN YOUTH

Empowering young people to build confidence, leadership skils, wellbeing, and lifelong friendships. St John Youth is for everyone aged 5-18. Come learn, connect, and grow with us.

GREEN ISLAND DIVISION

Thursday | 6:00pm - 7:30pm | St Margarets Church 208 Main South Road, Green Island

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

Hato Hone St John



OASIS CHILDREN'S AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

TUESDAYS 3-4.30PM
during term time

St Mark's Church, cnr Shand & Howden Streets, Green Island
Attendance is FREE

Craft, Games, Baking, Storytelling & Fun for all primary school age children
For more information
Ph: Catherine 021 1432974 or Jan 027 3515171
or just turn up on the day and complete a registration form.



FOODBANK COLLECTION MONDAY 7 DECEMBER

The Green Island Lions Club will be out collecting with local emergency services for the Taieri Foodbank on Monday, 7 December.

Look out for paper bags being delivered to homes in Green Island and Abbotsford during the week before collection night. Thanks to John at Moyles Fresh Choice, who has once again generously supplied paper bags for the appeal.

Please fill your bag with non-perishable food donations and have it ready for collection on Monday, 7 December. Every donation helps support local people and families in need.

Listen out for the sirens on collection night, or pop your bag by your letterbox ready to be picked up by the volunteers.

LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS CAKES

Christmas is just around the corner, and the Green Island Lions Club is taking orders for their popular Lions Christmas Cakes.



At just $25, these quality 1kg cakes are rich, fruity, moist and full of flavour, with a minimum two-year shelf life.

They make a great Christmas treat or gift, and are also popular with local businesses looking for a thoughtful gift for staff and customers.

Best of all, delivery is freight free to your door!

Lions Club of Green Island

To order your cake, contact Andrew Lawrence at: lion.lawrence@outlook.co.nz





CELEBRATING CONNECTIONS AT THE TOGETHER ACROSS TIME EXPO

Hosted by Greater Green Island Community Network and Age Concern Otago, the *Together Across Time – Positive Ageing Expo* was a wonderful showcase of community groups, organisations and services, bringing people together for a day filled with information, activities, entertainment and conversation.

Highlights included Super Gran's interactive pikelet and butter making stall, the Museum's interactive science show, which captivated audiences of all ages, and a special performance by Mosgiel Abilities Resource Centre (MARC).

Feedback from stallholders highlighted the friendly atmosphere, variety of stalls and opportunities to connect with the community.



GGICN Community Development Worker and Expo organiser Lee-Anne Michelle with grandson Luca.

Many valued the chance to share information about their services, discover new community resources and build relationships for future collaboration.

Bringing generations together was at the heart of the Expo, with grandparents and grandchildren enjoying activities together and children exploring the stalls using the popular bingo card.

As our first event of this kind, the Expo was a valuable step towards strengthening connections and sharing information across our community.

A big thank you to everyone who helped make it happen!

A crowd gathers to watch performances.



The Green Island Shed showed off their skills with a wonderful display of wooden creations!











MUSO DAY AT THE BRIGHTON CLUB

Brighton Club Incorporated hosts a regular Muso Day on the last Sunday of each month, bringing live music, food and good vibes to the local community.

September's event featured a great line-up of performers, including Blue Heron, James Dignan, Bronwyn, Ammonita, Armadillo, The Strange DeVine, The Pop Tops, Odd One Out, Redshift, HONEY and Alan Ned Gray.



The Stange DeVine rocking at the Brighton Club Muso Day. Photo: Martyn Buyck

Amongst the more experienced performers was The Strange DeVine, a local band whose members are around 13 - 14 years old. They impressed the crowd with a confident set featuring covers of iconic artists, including Pink Floyd, showcasing musical ability well beyond their years. Make sure you catch them at the November Muso Day!

The band is made up of brothers Aaron (guitar and vocals) and Isaac (keyboard), alongside Shae (bass and vocals) and Leo (drums). Their musical achievements already include awards for Isaac and Shae, who both received recognition with their school bands at the recent Rockshop Bandquest.

With supportive parents and friends cheering them on and a great crowd enjoying the afternoon, it was a wonderful opportunity for these young musicians to share their music with the community.

Outside, a BBQ was raising funds for Big Rock School, while plenty of food and drinks were available inside the club. Locals and visitors settled in to enjoy the music, catch up and make the most of a relaxed Sunday afternoon.

Muso Day is a fantastic way to support up-and-coming local bands alongside established performers, giving young musicians valuable opportunities to gain experience, build confidence and perform for a live audience.

The Strange DeVine have another exciting opportunity ahead, joining the band line-up for Dunedin's New Year's Eve celebrations in the Octagon.

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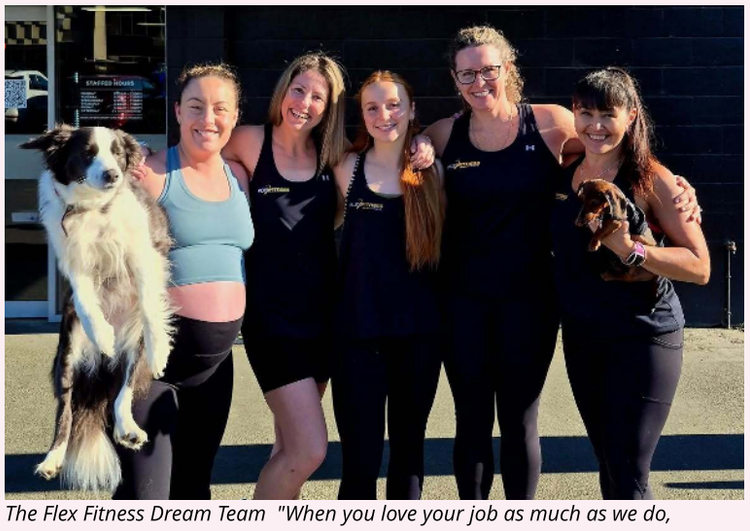
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The Flex Fitness Dream Team "When you love your job as much as we do, you just can't escape that feel good atmosphere being together!"

Flex Fitness Green Island - Come and check us out!

We have...

- 24hr access
- Emotional support pets
- Friendly team AND members
- Top notch classes and instructors
- Personal trainers for your individual goals
- Free programmes to support the wellbeing of our community- Students (Mondays 3.30pm-4.30pm) Seniors (Friday 9am till 12pm)

Staffed:
Monday - Thursday 6.30am - 7.30pm & Friday 6.30am - 1pm.

AKV LAUNCHES ADOPT A DRAIN PROGRAMME FOR CLEANER WATERWAYS

Aroha Kaikorai Valley (AKV) has launched its first Adopt a Drain collaboration, bringing together local architectural business design arc and the Otago Regional Council to help protect the health of Kaikorai Stream.

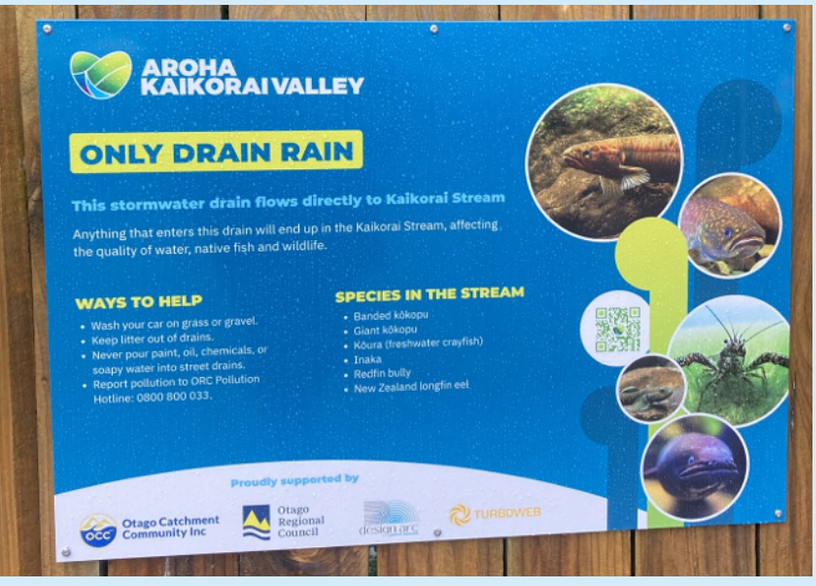
The initiative aims to raise awareness of stormwater pollution and encourage local businesses and community members to take responsibility for the drains around them. While stormwater drains may seem disconnected from the natural environment, water entering drains in Kaikorai Valley eventually flows into the stream and out to sea.



The drain with happy blue fish "Drains Rain Only" plaque.

AKV chair Paul Southworth says adopting a drain is a little like adopting a patch of the stream. Participants commit to keeping their adopted drain free of rubbish and debris, preventing pollutants from entering it where possible, and reporting any issues they notice.

design arc is the first business in the valley to adopt a drain, with the hope that others will follow and help make a lasting difference to local waterways.





Teacher and Kaikorai Stream enthusiast, Dr Simon McMillan speaks to AKV supporters at the launch of the Adopt-a-Drain project. Photos: Erin Dellow-Kane

The launch event took place on Thursday, 15 October, outside design arc's premises on Kaikorai Valley Road. An information sign was revealed by design arc owner Julie-Ann Ross, to accompany a fish plaque on the drain, reminding passers-by that the water entering the drain will eventually become part of the habitat for ika (fish).

The programme supports AKV's long-term vision of cleaner water flowing from Kaikorai Valley to the sea. With more drains adopted across the catchment, small everyday actions could add up to a significant improvement in stream health.

More information about the programme and opportunities to get involved will be shared soon. Follow Aroha Kaikorai Valley on Facebook to keep up to date, or check out their website at akv.nz





GREEN ISLAND MARKET



SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER 2026

10:00AM - 1:00PM



Main South Road, Green Island

Over 100 stalls
Crafts, gifts & more, food, entertainment

Free family fun

Greater Green Island Community Network

www.greatergreenisland.nz

GREATER GREEN ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Greater Green Island Community Network

The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charity committed to building a strong community that works together to develop its own solutions - *to develop a community were neighbourhoods are once again full of people we know as OUR neighbours.*

The Informer

- Articles are FREE for community groups/clubs and not for profit events for the Greater Green Island area.
- Please email your articles and stories in .doc format and under 250 words.
- Images need to be of good quality, higher than 600 dots per inch.
- Contact Erin if you need a hand putting a story together.
- You can support the Informer and local news by advertising with us for as little as $45 an edition.

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Volunteer: Lindsay Aitchison

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