



The Informer

February 2025 Edition

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

GREEN ISLAND MARKET DAY A SUNNY SUCCESS

Wow! What a fantastic day we had, blessed with perfect weather. The annual Green Island Market Day, held on Saturday, 7th December, from 10 am to 1 pm, drew one of the largest crowds in its history. With over 100 stalls offering an incredible array of goods—including cookies, jewellery, pet supplies, homemade sauces, and so much more—there was something for everyone among the thousands of market-goers.

This year's food trucks were a highlight, with Citizens serving up juicy burgers, Flossie offering sugary candy floss, and crowd favourites like Churros Ole and Scroll Station delighting visitors with their irresistible treats. The warm weather made ice cream a must-have, and several vendors were ready to satisfy the demand.

The children's area, hosted by Dunedin City Baptist Church, was a hub of fun. Kids enjoyed games like giant Jenga and Connect 4, while the Sports Otago inflatable obstacle course provided endless entertainment.

The event was organized by the Greater Green Island Community Network (GGICN) with support from the Green Island Business Association, and we owe a huge thanks to the incredible team of volunteers who made it all happen.

Their hard work and dedication ensured the day ran smoothly and was enjoyable for everyone.

One of the day's highlights was the strong sense of community that brought everyone together. "It's such a wonderful event that really shows what Green Island is all about," said one market attendee. "There's something here

for everyone, and it's great to see so many familiar faces."

GGICN Manager, Ben McKenzie, said that one of the highlights for him was seeing the sense of community in action, with friends and neighbours stopping to chat throughout the day, "It's really great to see the community come together", he said.

This year's market saw an unprecedented surge in stall registrations, with many

vendors placed on a waitlist due to high demand. If you're interested in being part of next year's event as a stallholder or volunteer, we'd love to hear from you! Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for updates.

Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, or simply came along to enjoy the day. We look forward to seeing you all again next year for another amazing Market Day!



YOUR LOCAL
GREATER GREEN ISLAND
SPECIALIST

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WE ARE EXCITED TO BE PART OF THE GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY!

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To book contact:
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GREEN ISLAND MARKET DAY PHOTOS



ŌTEPOTI DUNEDIN HOMESTAYS - HOST OPPORTUNITIES

In support of schools, the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic, Enterprise Dunedin are calling out for Dunedin families to open their homes and their hearts to international students. Every year the city welcomes 100s of young people from across the globe to enjoy our city and world class education. From experiencing a different culture, creating lasting friendships to showing off your backyard, being a host is truly rewarding. Families receive pastoral support and financial compensation for hosting international students during their time in Dunedin. For more information on the programme and to sign up, visit: <https://www.dunedinnz.com/study/homestays>



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 Rachelle 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

BRIGHTON GALA DAY 2025: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

A very misty, damp start to Gala day turned into a typical Brighton fine and sunny day!

Crowds enjoyed the huge array of stalls with over 30 food vendors, from sausage sizzles to gourmet pizza, and many other offerings, including whitebait patties. There were a plethora of market stalls offering a wide selection of goods from garden art to bonsai trees, cherry juice, fresh honey, and many other hidden treasures for all visitors.

Stage entertainment was great all day long, with local bands like the Shenatics, New Zealand's 'John Denver' Bevan Gardiner, and the ultimate entertainer - Kelvin Cummings.

Heli Otago Scenic Rides operated all day, and there was also ultimate choice of amusement rides ensure that the 9000 plus attendees enjoyed a fun day out in our community.

Community spirit was strong, with organisations like Scouts



and Cat Rescue Dunedin fundraising on the day, alongside emergency services showcasing

their vital work and expertise.

Roll on the 30th annual Gala Day- to be held on Sunday 18th January, 2026.



LOBOFEST 2025: THE ULTIMATE SUMMER CELEBRATION

Lobofest 2025 looks to be the best yet as they celebrate their 10th anniversary in style! On February 15th, 2025, Brighton Beach, Dunedin will come alive with a legendary headliner - Katchafire, and a stellar lineup of local artists, plus all the good vibes you can handle.

This outdoor festival is BYO comfort – bring your seat, picnic blanket, or bean bag. Child-friendly (with supervision required) and fully licensed, they offer amazing food, drinks, and free water. Please note: no BYO alcohol or liquids, and there are no ticket sales at the gate – so make sure you grab yours early! Tickets on sale at: www.lobofest.co.nz.

To minimize your carbon footprint, carpool or use our FREE post-festival buses. Pack sunscreen, a hat, and your dancing shoes, and join us for an unforgettable day of music, fun, and community. Let's make Lobofest 2025 one to remember!

LOBOFEST
SUMMER EDITION 15.2.25
10TH ANNIVERSARY
KATCHAFIRE
1 DROP NATION
OLLIE CROOKS FREQUENCY LANE
DUBIOUS GROOVE FLYING MAN
ED AND THE SHADOW BOYS
ROARZ & INFECTIOUS DR TWANG
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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..

YOUR MONTHLY **Harcourts** MARKET REVIEW

Welcome to 2025.

A new year and new opportunities.

Our local real estate market exhibited some modest growth, with property values increasing by 0.3%, bringing the median value to \$607,500. While we had a reasonably quiet end to 2024 – which is traditional as we get ready for the Christmas break - Dunedin’s property market remained fairly stable, showing our resilience once again.

Looking to the next few months, the summer month typically boost market activity, and as we are finally seeing some sun, we expect there will be more opportunities for those wanting to secure their next home.

Combined with some positive changes taking place in the banking space including another OCR announcement on the 17th February.

Our team are excited about what this will mean for both buyers and sellers.

If you are thinking of making a move – then do get in touch, I am very happy to help.

GREATER GREEN ISLAND

STATS **November**

Average Dwelling Price

\$706,166

Number of sales

24

DUNEDIN

STATS **November**

Median Dwelling Price

\$607,500

Number of sales

218



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TOOTS' COLUMN

Greetings people,

Hope you all enjoyed your holidays and Santa came up with the goods. I take it you will all be champing at the bit to get back to work, hmm, maybe not.



Senior Constable Mark "Toots" Tuten

I was approached by a couple of Green Islanders on different occasions, with the same question. When do you indicate at a roundabout?

Basically, you only indicate before you enter the roundabout if you are turning either left or right. If you are travelling straight through, don't indicate left until you have passed the first junction. Simple, isn't it?

There is however an issue with the roundabout on the north side of Green Island. If you are coming from Dunedin into Green Island and you want to turn left onto Shand Street, you'll indicate before you get on the roundabout, but because there is a junction at Shand and Church Street as soon as you leave the roundabout, anyone coming down Church Street will not know if you are turning left onto Church or straight on to Shand .

My advice would be, if you're coming down Church Street and someone is coming off the roundabout; just let them pass (whether they are turning left or straight on). If you're going straight on to Shand Street, turn off your indicator as soon as you leave the roundabout and take it slowly.

I know this may sound convoluted, but I just want you people to be safe out there.

I've had a skateboard handed into the station. As much as I would like to show off my skateboarding tricks, I think it wouldn't be appropriate at my age. Would appreciate the owner coming forward to claim it. Describe it and it's yours.

Toots

GIRL GUIDES IS COMING TO GREATER GREEN ISLAND AREA

Girl Guides New Zealand is excited to announce the launch of a brand-new Girl Guides group in the greater Green Island area in 2025! This initiative aims to provide young girls with opportunities to build confidence, make new friends, and learn essential life skills in a fun and supportive environment.

The group will include Brownies (ages 7–9.5) and Guides (ages 9.5–12.5), with meetings set to take place on Monday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at the Abbotsford Scout Hall. The team is currently preparing for a mid-February start in Term 1, so now is the perfect time to get involved!

The program offers a wide variety of activities, including camping, outdoor adventures like rock climbing and abseiling, arts and crafts, and learning about important traditions such as Anzac Day and Thinking Day. Girls will have the chance to earn badges for skills like camping, cooking, and building, all while forming lifelong friendships and growing their confidence.

Exciting camps at locations like Waiora Scout Camp and Long Beach are on the horizon, with hopes for another Girl Guides Jamboree soon—something last held in 2016.

The group is led by Gemma Owen and Georgia McCreath.



Gemma brings a wealth of experience, having been part of Girl Guides since 2006 as a guide and becoming a leader in 2020. She is passionate about food sustainability and teaching girls to consider the impact and origins of their food, fostering thoughtfulness and community involvement.

The Girl Guides group is looking for new members as well as adult volunteers to join their team. This is a wonderful opportunity to become part of a movement that supports young girls in growing into capable, confident individuals while giving back to the community. Guides also engage in meaningful fundraising activities for organizations like the SPCA, RSA, and Cancer Society, creating items such as cat toys and blankets to support these causes.

If your daughter is ready for an adventure full of outdoor fun, essential skills, and personal growth—or if you're an adult keen to volunteer—consider joining the Girl Guides in Greater Green Island! For more information or to sign up, contact Girl Guides NZ, or email Gemma at gemmaowen2908@gmail.com.

Let's make 2025 the start of something incredible for our local girls!

INGRID'S UPDATE

The new Dunedin hospital was by far and away the most discussed issue at the Labour stall at the recent Brighton fair. It attracted so many pages of red stickers that we nearly ran out of paper.

At previous public events the cost-of-living and the new hospital have both been top of mind however this time the anxiety, frustration and uncertainty regarding the inpatient building have clearly intensified over the summer break.

No doubt the hemorrhaging of \$110,000 taxpayer money per day of delay has contributed to this.

In some rather poetic timing on the same day as the fair, the PM's Cabinet reshuffle revealed that Simeon Brown was to take over the Health portfolio from demoted minister Shane Reti.

The ministerial switch actually makes for an ideal opportunity for the National government to do the right thing and reverse its shortsighted and chaotic decisions regarding the inpatient building with the least amount of political fallout.

The fact that there is now a new Minister for the South Island also indicates that perhaps — just perhaps — the National Government might be starting to glean how important the promised new hospital is for the whole of the southern region.

So while a part of me remains pessimistic mainly due to



The Dunedin Hindu Hare Krishna community brought their positivity, vibrancy and the good weather with them when they attended the recent Brighton Fair for the first time.

Minister Brown's track record of general disregard for people and social services, I am ever so slightly hopeful that the right decisions can be made within the small window of opportunity that reshuffles throw up.

Certainly local Labour MPs will be straight in the ear of both Ministers Brown and Meager so that there is neither confusion nor excuse over what Southern communities are demanding from them when it comes to the new hospital and access to healthcare. The coming weeks will determine whether that optimism is misplaced.

GGICN WHEAKO YOUTH PROJECT UPDATE

It's been an exciting and rewarding year for the Wheako team, and we're thrilled to share what we've been up to.

Two of our youth workers, Bri and Noah, have been working to connect and empower youth through our initiatives. This year, we've expanded our reach to three schools, actively engaging with over 150 young people each week.

Our presence in the schools is outside of the classroom. We're there during school lunchtimes, building meaningful relationships and creating safe spaces for conversations and connection in the playground. These moments are the foundation of trust and understanding, which help our programmes thrive. Speaking of programmes, we're proud to be running five initiatives across the three schools. Here's a glimpse:

Concord Gardening Project: Students are getting their hands dirty in the garden, learning about sustainability, teamwork, and the joy of growing and making their own food.

Youth Leadership Programmes: We're fostering future leaders by helping students develop skills in

communication, decision-making, and confidence as they help run programmes for junior students.

Teamwork Development Skills: Collaboration is key, and these sessions focus on building trust, problem-solving, and working effectively as a team.

We aim to provide opportunities for growth, leadership, and creativity. We couldn't do this without the support of our schools, communities, and partners. Thank you for being part of the Wheako journey - The Wheako Team



From left: Harmony Mohi, Rachelle Williamson, Ben McKenzie, Brianna Le, Noah Scott, Ilai Manu

DISCOVER THE GREEN ISLAND TAEKWONDO CLUB



For over 35 years, the Green Island Taekwondo Club has been a cornerstone of the local community, offering a place where individuals and families can come together to learn, grow, and excel in the South Korean martial art of Taekwondo. Founded by Gary Angus and now led by dedicated volunteers, the club continues to thrive as a welcoming and family-oriented hub for fitness, discipline, and personal development.

The club is run by a passionate team of volunteers, all highly skilled and experienced Taekwondo practitioners. Grant, with 30 years of Taekwondo experience, leads alongside his daughter Vanessa, Sue, and her husband Shane. All instructors hold prestigious 4th or 5th Dan rankings, ensuring world-class teaching under the International Masters of WTF Taekwondo guidelines.

Starting in 2025, the club will offer three classes every Monday and Wednesday evening at Civic Hall. The schedule is designed to cater to all ages and skill levels: Young Beginners (ages 5-8): 5:20 PM - 5:50 PM; Juniors (ages 8+): 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM; Main Class (all ages): 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Whether you're a complete novice or an experienced martial artist, there's a class for you. Families are especially welcome, with many parents joining after seeing the joy and confidence Taekwondo brings to their children.

At Green Island Taekwondo, it's not just about learning how to fight. The club focuses on discipline, respect, perseverance, and confidence—values that carry over into all areas of life. Students of all ages learn patterns (Poomsae), self-defence, and sparring techniques while building fitness, resilience, and a sense of community.

Competitions are a regular highlight, with club members participating in events across New Zealand. The club prides itself on fostering an indomitable spirit in its members, encouraging them to pursue their goals with determination.

Looking ahead, the club aims to expand its impact. In the coming year, it will host the "I Love Taekwondo" tournament at Civic Hall, designed to help beginners build confidence in competing and connect with other martial artists from across the South Island.

The Green Island Taekwondo Club is more than just a place to train—it's a community. The dedicated volunteers are passionate about improving lives through Taekwondo, helping individuals become healthier, more disciplined, and more confident.

If you're ready to give Taekwondo a try, don't hesitate to get involved! Contact the club at greenislandtkd@gmail.com, call Grant on 0274363908, or Sue on 021 038 8657.

Step into the Green Island Civic Hall and discover how Taekwondo can transform your life. Whether you're looking for fitness, self-defence, or a supportive community, the Green Island Taekwondo Club is here to welcome you.

COMMUNITY KŌRERO - JOHN MOYLE

John Moyle, co-owner of Moyle's Fresh Choice, is a proud Green Island local, deeply rooted in the community's history and culture. Born and bred in the area, John grew up involved in local clubs and surrounded by a thriving community. His journey reflects both the evolution of Green Island and the resilience of a family dedicated to serving its people.

The Moyle family has a long-standing legacy in Green Island's business landscape. Their first store, established in 1956, was located where the original Night & Day now stands. The second store opened in 1977 in what is now Flex Fitness. In December 2015, John and his wife, Julie, took a bold leap by opening the current Moyle's Fresh Choice store, despite studies suggesting it wouldn't succeed. Their gamble paid off, and the supermarket has since become a cornerstone of the community.

John's deep connection to Green Island goes beyond business. He grew up witnessing the area transform from an industry-based hub to a more residential community, particularly following the motorway's opening in 1972. Significant events, such as the closing of the freezing works and the Abbotsford slip, left lasting impacts on the region. The slip was especially personal for John, as his grandparents and uncle lost their homes during the disaster, along with many of his school friends. He recalls Civil Defence operating out of the Civic Hall on Howden Street during the crisis.

Through it all, Green Island has retained its strong sense of community—a quality John cherishes. "Customers aren't just customers; they're friends and associates," he shares. Longtime residents often approach him to reminisce about



Local Legend John Moyle outside the Green Island Fresh Choice store

his grandfather's store near the railway bridge in Abbotsford or to share memories of his family.

For John, some of his fondest memories include the milestones of the Green Island Cricket Club, where he serves as president and is a lifelong member. He recalls the excitement of the club winning the national title and the Green Island Rugby Club's triumphant 21-15 victory at Forsyth Barr Stadium, ending a 46-year title drought.

Despite stepping away from playing cricket for 17 years, John recently returned to the pitch, rediscovering his love for the game. "It reminded me how much I've missed it," he says. Cricket remains his favorite way to enjoy the summer.

Looking back on his journey, John values the unique community spirit of Green Island. He takes pride in knowing that, through the ups and downs, the area has retained its warmth and connection—a feeling he hopes will continue for generations to come.

NEW LOCAL BUSINESS - MEET THE TEAM AT NICHE

Niche, a welcoming and stylish salon, opened its doors on 20th November 2024. The team consists of three talented professionals: Nakita, Shelley, and Jade. Together, they provide a range of services, including hair styling, spray tanning, eyelash extensions, and soon, facial waxing.

Specializing in colour work—particularly blonde colouring—Nakita and Jade bring over a decade of experience each in hair care. They also offer cuts for men and kids, catering to the whole family. Shelley, with more than three years of expertise in eyelash extensions, ensures lasting results for clients and is excited to expand her skills to facial waxing.

Niche prides itself on creating a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. Each stylist has their own space in the salon, offering clients a quieter and more personal experience. Thorough, free consultations are a key part of their service, ensuring every client feels heard and confident in their choices.

For those seeking affordable options, Niche provides unique packages, including "light dusting" trims for long hair and low-maintenance styles to fit the current financial



Nakita Fowler, Jade Mason, Mason Collins & Shelley Watt

climate. Clients can also pay in instalments with Zip, making services even more accessible.

With room for new clients and a growing reputation in the area, Niche is the perfect place to check out. Book by appointment and experience the care, expertise, and personal touch that Nakita, Shelley, and Jade bring to every visit.

GET SET FOR SUMMER SAFETY

SAFER BOATING

Make sure safety is your first priority if you're going out on the water this summer. Before going out, check the weather conditions, your vessel and all your gear, including safety and communication equipment.



BOATING SAFETY CODE

1. **Wear your lifejacket**
2. **Take two waterproof ways to call for help**
3. **Check the marine weather forecast**
4. **Avoid alcohol**
5. **Be a responsible skipper**

IF IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT

HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FRESHWATER PESTS

Lagarosiphon, didymo and lake snow are the three major freshwater pests present in Otago, and they can spread from a single drop of water or plant fragment. When you're out on the water this summer — boating, paddle boarding, kayaking, or swimming — make sure before you move between waterways, you always **Check, Clean and Dry** any clothing and equipment to prevent freshwater pests hitchhiking from one waterway to another.



When you leave a waterway, check there's no plant material attached to your boat, trailer, clothes or footwear.

Let's all do our bit to protect Otago's waterways.

CAN I SWIM HERE?

Every summer ORC's environmental monitoring team checks 36 popular swimming spots around Otago for bacteria and/or algae to see if they're safe to swim in.

SWIM SMART CHECKLIST:

- Avoid swimming for 48 hours after heavy rain, as runoff can be washed into waterways.
 - Follow any warning signs.
 - Check the water is clean and clear.
 - Stay away from any pipes, culverts, and flocks of birds.
 - Check for hazards.
 - Learn how to spot toxic algae and know the hotspots for blooms in Otago.
- Check your local swim spot and plan your trip with the latest information.**

STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

Find out more: orc.govt.nz/summersafety

THANK YOU TO OUR GREEN ISLAND MARKET DAY SPONSORS

We are filled with gratitude for the generosity of our amazing sponsors contributing to the success of last year's Green Island Christmas Market.

We would like to extend a special mention to all of the businesses and organisations who went out of their way to support our market day: Leap, Monarch Wildlife Cruises, Royal Albatross Centre, Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Practical Training Solutions (formerly First Aid Solutions), Tuapeka Gold Print, Larson's Pharmacy, Flex Fitness Green Island, Moyle's Fresh Choice, Green Island Auto Service Centre, and Green Island Boutique Pharmacy. Further thanks goes to Dunedin City Baptist Church, and Coastal Unity Parish (St. Margaret's) for your additional support in ensuring our the success of our market day children's area.

Thank you for standing behind our community, and for helping to make the Green Island Market Day a memorable event for everyone. Together, we've shown what can be achieved when we come together to celebrate and support our community.



Otago & Southland

