



Greater Green Island
Community Network

The Informer

July 2026 Edition

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

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI: CELEBRATING THE MĀORI NEW YEAR ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES

As winter settles across Ōtepoti and the stars of Puaka and Matariki rise in the eastern sky, communities throughout Dunedin are coming together to celebrate the Māori New Year with reflection, remembrance and connection.

Matariki is a uniquely Aotearoa celebration, marking a time to honour loved ones who have passed, give thanks for the present, and look ahead to the year ahead. In Kāi Tahu tradition, Puaka (Rigel) is the primary star that signals the New Year, alongside Matariki (the Pleiades star cluster).

This year's festival theme, Matariki Herenga Waka, celebrates people coming together, reconnecting and sharing a common purpose.

The Puaka Matariki Festival runs from 4-25 July, with events taking place across Ōtepoti Dunedin and the wider region. From community gatherings and cultural workshops to performances, exhibitions and public celebrations, there are many opportunities to connect, reflect, learn and celebrate.

Several local schools are embracing the spirit of Matariki by hosting community breakfasts. Concord School, Fairfield School and Abbotsford School will all welcome whānau to gather, share kai and celebrate the season.



Beautiful Matariki Stars artwork created last year by our Greater Green Island Community. Photo: Brianna Le.

A highlight for the local community will be Hauhake tū, ka tō Matariki, hosted by Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ōtepoti in Fairfield on Friday 24 July.

Part of the 2026 Puaka Matariki Festival, the free community event will feature live performances, Māori arts and crafts, kai stalls and activities for all ages. Rooted in te reo Māori and tikanga, the celebration honours those who have passed, strengthens community connections, and looks ahead to the hopes and aspirations of future generations.

The wider region is also marking Matariki in meaningful ways. From 24 June to 22 July, Anzac Park in Mosgiel will host the Taieri Matariki Static Star Installation, creating a place for people to pause, reflect and remember loved ones.

The main festival event will be Matariki mā Puaka held at Logan Park on Friday 10 July. The free family evening will feature a spectacular drone light show, live entertainment headlined by Tiki Taane, a night food market, and free bus travel provided by the Otago Regional Council.

The national Matariki public holiday will be observed on Friday 10 July. Nau mai, tauti mai - everyone is welcome.

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ISLAND SPECIALISTS



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A NEW SPACE FOR COMMUNITY, CONNECTION AND CRICKET

Howzat! Green Island Club cricketers will be looking forward to the next cricket season already, with a trio of refurbished training nets to be added to their grounds.



In a collaboration between Fulton Hogan (donation of time and labour), Blackhead Quarries (donation of gravel) and Steel and Tube (donation of mesh), the Fulton Hogan team were able to put in a big shift to

get the perfect surface, ready to be transformed in Spring 2026 with the final touches of new turf and training nets for next season.

Blackhead Quarries General Manager, Grant Pellowe, who had an active involvement in the development and delivery of the upgrade said "It's always fantastic to be able to give back and continue to develop facilities for our community, using local supplies."

"A few of the staff from the quarry, and Fulton Hogan are involved with the Green Island Cricket Club, so for us, donating our time, skills and the materials is just another way to give back to a sport we love".

Green Island Cricket Club President John Moyle said "It's wonderful for the Green Island Cricket Club. During the summer months the nets are used by all levels of the club, from the juniors through to our premier players, so having a new training area that is useful across the board is fantastic."



Photos and story supplied by Fulton Hogan.

"I'd also just like to thank the teams from Fulton Hogan, Blackhead Quarries and Steel and Tube for generously donating their time, materials and expertise to make this happen; it's another great addition to not only the Cricket Club but the Fairfield / Green Island community".

CAFE WEDNESDAY

Sharing the hope and love of Christ

Wednesdays 10am-11.30am during the term

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

OTAGO CAVY CLUB SHOW IN GREEN ISLAND

The Otago Cavy Club May Show was a great success, with an excellent turnout of entries and members of the public.

We hold both a Purebred Show, judged according to the NZ Cavy Council breed standards, and a Pet Show, where cavies are judged on their health, condition, and the care provided by their owners.



We are passionate about education, responsible cavy ownership, and building a welcoming community of like-minded people.

Visit the Otago Cavy Club Facebook page for updates on our regular shows.

We welcome anyone interested in learning more about cavies or getting involved in the hobby.



Photos and story supplied by Otago Cavy Club.



Sales Strong, Listings Tighten

The Dunedin property market continues to show resilience as we move into winter. The median sale price remained stable, sales volumes were strong, and stock levels continued to reduce despite a healthy number of new listings coming to market.

Buyer activity remains steady across most price brackets, with well-presented and competitively priced properties continuing to attract strong interest. Overall, the market remains well balanced, providing opportunities for both buyers and sellers.

The median sale price held firm at \$615,000 in May, remaining consistent with the broader trend seen across the region over the past two years.

A total of 213 properties sold during the month, closely matching the 209 sales recorded in May 2025, highlighting continued buyer activity despite ongoing economic uncertainty.

Properties took a median of 43 days to sell, a slight increase from 39 days in April, indicating buyers are taking a little more time to make purchasing decisions.

Available housing stock continues to tighten, with the number of properties listed on Realestate.co.nz falling from 833 to 786 over the past month. This ongoing reduction in available listings may place further pressure on supply if buyer demand remains stable.

MAY STATS	
GREATER GREEN ISLAND	
Average Dwelling Price	Number of Sales
\$632,636	22
DUNEDIN	
Average Dwelling Price	Number of Sales
\$615,000	213

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"!

We're excited to be launching a "What's On in Greater Green Island" guide for our Informer newsletter, and we'd love your help to make it a valuable resource for local residents.

If your club, school, community group, church, sports organisation, or business has an upcoming event, activity, fundraiser, meeting, workshop, class, or community gathering happening in the Greater Green Island area, we'd like to hear from you.

To have your event included, please send us:

- Event name
- Date and time
- Venue/location
- Brief description
- Contact details or registration information (if applicable)

Email submissions to Erin:
informer@greenergreenisland.nz.

Let's work together to showcase the community spirit of Greater Green Island and help residents discover what's happening right on their doorstep. We look forward to hearing from you!

CALLING ALL LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS!

Whether it's a one-off event or a regular activity, our aim is to help connect people with the many fantastic things happening throughout our community.

Please note: Event submissions must be received by the 15th of the month to ensure inclusion in the next newsletter.



CARISSA FRASER JOINS NIDD REALTY TEAM

Hello, I'm Carissa Fraser.

After many years helping local people buy and sell property, I'm delighted to introduce myself as part of the team at Nidd Realty.

Having called this community home for over 10 years, I understand that real estate is about much more than a property transaction.

It's about people, families, opportunities, and new beginnings. I'm committed to providing honest advice, clear communication, and dedicated service, while working hard to achieve the best possible outcome for my clients.

Whether you're thinking of making a move, investing, or simply curious about the market, I'm always happy to have a chat.

I look forward to continuing to support our community and helping people take their next step with confidence.



GREEN ISLAND AFC PAIR SELECTED FOR MĀORI FOOTBALL AOTEAROA POUNAMU PROGRAMME

Green Island AFC is celebrating a proud milestone, with player Fern McBride and coach Terry Boylan both selected for the Māori Football Aotearoa Pounamu programme.

Fern has been chosen to represent her whānau- Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāti Raukawa and Ngāti Mutunga- as well as Green Island AFC, as a member of the Māori Football Aotearoa Pounamu squad.

A talented young player in the club's Women's Southern Premier League (WSPL) team, Fern has progressed through Green Island's junior ranks and continues to exemplify the club's values both on and off the field.

For Fern, the selection is both a personal achievement and a reflection of the support she has received throughout her football journey.

"Being selected for the NZ Māori Football Team is something I am incredibly proud of," Fern said. "I feel very fortunate and grateful for this opportunity. This achievement reflects not only the hard work I have put into football, but also the support of my whānau, coaches, teammates, iwi, and community who have helped me along the way."

Fern hopes her selection will inspire other young people to pursue their goals.

"This selection gives me even more motivation to keep working hard and become the best version of myself, both on and off the field. I am honoured to represent my whānau, my iwi, and my community on the national stage."

She credits her family for playing the biggest role in helping her reach this point.

"The biggest influences on my football journey have been my parents and grandparents. Growing up in a football-mad family definitely helped, and they have always encouraged me to chase my goals and believe in myself."

Also receiving national recognition is Green Island AFC Men's Southern Premier League Head Coach Terry Boylan, who has been appointed Assistant Coach for the Māori Football Aotearoa Pounamu squad.

Terry's leadership, passion and commitment have had a significant impact on the club's men's programme, and his appointment provides an opportunity to showcase his coaching talents on a national stage.

"The appointment in itself is a huge honour for me," Terry said. "Most importantly, with being Māori, it is a reflection on something you're doing right within your coaching principles and practice."

He said the recognition is shared with those who have supported him throughout his coaching journey.

"For the whānau, they are immensely proud of the recognition received as they are a huge part of my journey both on and off the pitch."

Reflecting on the path that led to this appointment, Terry emphasised the importance of resilience and continual learning.

"My journey has been about having a strong belief in myself and learning from mistakes that have been made. The biggest learning is knowing I'm still learning every day and that I have a long way to go to where I would like to be as a coach."

Green Island AFC is immensely proud of both Fern and Terry for their achievements. Their selections are a testament to their dedication, hard work and commitment, and serve as an inspiration to players and coaches throughout the club and wider community.

The club wishes them every success as they represent their whānau, community and Aotearoa on this exciting journey.



Fern McBride proudly stands in her Māori Football Aotearoa gear alongside coach Terry Boylan. Photo: supplied.

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

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR MOWS HIS WAY TOWARDS A GOAL



Photos: supplied by Nick Smith.



Six-year-old Oakley is proving that you're never too young to start working towards your dreams.

With a little help from his dad, Nick, Oakley recently launched Lawns with Oaks, a small lawn mowing business serving Brighton and surrounding areas.

The venture is helping him learn valuable life skills such as responsibility, hard work, saving money, and serving others in the community.

Already, Oakley has completed his first two lawns and saved his first \$40 towards a set of monkey bars he hopes to have in his backyard. His goal is to complete 10 lawns to help fund the purchase.

Lawns with Oaks offers lawn mowing, edge trimming, and general tidy-ups, with small lawns starting from \$20.

All work is completed with Dad alongside him, and every dollar earned goes directly into Oakley's savings.

It's a fantastic example of a young local entrepreneur setting goals and working hard to achieve them.

Anyone interested in supporting Oakley's venture can contact Nick Smith on 022 549 0471.

LAWNS WITH OAKS

Local Brighton Family

Hi, I'm Oakley.

I'm 6 years old and learning how to work, save money, and run my own little business with my dad's help. ♥

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- ✓ Lawn mowing
- ✓ Edge trimming
- ✓ General tidy up

SMALL LAWNS
FROM
\$20



All money goes towards Oakley's savings and helping him learn responsibility, hard work, and serving our community. ♥



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LITTLE ROCK PRESCHOOL RUGBY FUN



Photos: supplied by LRPS.

Little Rock Preschool in Brighton is abuzz with active physical learning. We are energetic and have so much enthusiasm!

Kaiko responded to this by enlisting the expertise of our Rugby Playing Dad, Jimmy, who guides us in Rugby skills sessions – these are fun, physical and highly anticipated.

Budding rugby superstars have emerged, and skills in eye tracking, teamwork, encouragement and being the best we can be have been showcased.

Little Rock Preschool embraces and promotes the holistic way tamariki learn, and we engage in some awesome community learning such as this.





Dunedin Ōtepoti

Recreate NZ is coming to Dunedin from July 2026!

We can't wait to journey alongside young people with intellectual disabilities aged between 10-35 years.

Our range of programmes are focused on themes of adventure, recreation, socialisation and education, are all group-based and range from 4 hours to 4-days!

For more information, please get in touch with us!

Contact Us!  021 198 1578  dunedin@recreate.org.nz

RECREATE NZ BRINGS RESPITE & RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES TO DUNEDIN

Kia ora! I want to share some exciting news from our team at Recreate NZ, a unique Charitable Trust aimed at providing 'life changing experiences for young people with intellectual disabilities & neurodiversity.'

Through the incredible support from Sport NZ, we are able to expand into Dunedin from July 2026.

This adds to our presence in Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Wellington and Christchurch, actively serving over 600 people in total (aged 10-45 years).

Recreate run group-based programmes which fit in to Social, Recreation, Adventure and Education categories.

Our main focuses are providing respite to whānau/caregivers and providing our participants with fun and enriching opportunities for social connection and recreation.

We have some exciting Term 3 programmes planned including July School Holidays, fun social events, and a weekend away in Oamaru! All of our programmes can be covered with Individualised Funding and/or Carer Support.

If you or someone you know are interested in Recreate programmes, please head to our website to fill out a registration form (<https://www.recreate.org.nz/register>).

For any questions or more information please contact Charlotte at dunedin@recreate.org.nz or 021 198 1578.

NOMINATE TODAY

KEEP DUNEDIN BEAUTIFUL AWARDS 2026

The Keep Dunedin Beautiful Awards celebrate and honour Dunedin people who are committed to beautifying their city and caring for our built and natural environment through volunteer action or sustainable business practices.

Schools, community groups, businesses, and individuals are recognised for projects that are new or on-going.

ANYONE CAN NOMINATE ANYONE – SELF-NOMINATIONS ARE WELCOME!

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**
Actions that improve or protect our environment.
- CREATIVITY & INNOVATION**
Unique or original approaches to making a cleaner, greener, and more beautiful Dunedin.
- SUSTAINABILITY & LONG-TERM BENEFITS**
Projects that contribute to ongoing environmental improvement or community resilience.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION

Efforts that involve teamwork, inspire participation, and strengthen local connections.

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

Clear evidence of positive change, such as restored spaces, reduced waste, or improved aesthetics.

STRONGER SUBMISSIONS WITH PHOTOS OR VIDEOS ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED!

 **SUBMIT SUPPORTING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS TO:**
keepdunedinbeautiful@gmail.com

AWARD CATEGORIES

 +  +  + 

COMMUNITY GROUP SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS

HELP US CELEBRATE LOCAL HEROES MAKING DUNEDIN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE



KEEP DUNEDIN BEAUTIFUL.

All eligible nominations will be assessed by the Keep Dunedin Beautiful Awards Sub-Committee. Decisions are final.

Visit keepdunedinbeautiful.org.nz for more info

NEW LILLIPUT IN CONCORD

A delightful new Lilliput Library has appeared on the fence at 2 Roy Crescent, Concord, offering locals a simple way to share the joy of reading.

The idea is easy – take a book, leave a book, and help keep the little library stocked for others to enjoy. Whether you're searching for your next read or have books to pass on, everyone is welcome to take part.

Next time you're passing by, open the little door and see what literary treasures you might find!



Talking Café

All things De-cluttering

Tuesday 21st July
1pm - 3pm

Venue:
St Mark's Church lounge
Shand Street, Green Island



For further information:

Age Concern Otago
03 479 3054
hp@ageconcernotago.co.nz

Greater Green Island Community Network
021 228 6934
admin@greenergreenisland.nz



ageconcernotago.com



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Are you frustrated with the new technology on your "smart" cellphone?

Wish you could understand how to use it better?

Then come to the sessions below...

**Every Monday from
20 July until 10 August 2026**

1 - 3 pm

**Greater Green Island Community Network
4 Howden Street, Green Island, Dunedin.**

Get smart with technology

What can your
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A smartphone has the
potential to change your
life in many ways.



Keeping you connected and up to the play.

Over the course of four weekly two-hour
sessions, you will find out about:

- The basics of using your smartphone
- Wifi vs Mobile data
- Sorting your contacts
- Messaging and emailing
- Using and navigating popular apps
- Connecting socially with friends/family
- Online safety and much more



To register your place, please contact:

Ph: 03 479 3054

Email: hp@ageconcernotago.co.nz

Limited spaces available per course.

Registration required.

Open Night

Monday 27th July, 6.30pm, School Hall, Years 7-13



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**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 where neighbourhoods are once again full of people we know as OUR neighbours.



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.



Editor: Erin Dellow-Kane



Volunteer: Lindsay Aitchison



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Found online at: <https://greatergreenisland.nz/newsletters>

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Check out our website: www.greenergreenisland.nz

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