



# The Informer

December 2025 / January 2026 Edition

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

## ST JOHN YOUTH CADETS EXPLORE QUARANTINE ISLAND

Members of the Green Island and Mosgiel St John Youth Divisions recently embarked on a trip to Quarantine Island- combining adventure, learning, and environmental stewardship.

The day began with an exploration of the island's rich history, uncovering stories of its past as a quarantine station and its role in the region's heritage. Cadets then set out to discover the island's diverse wildlife, observing native species and appreciating the unique ecosystem that thrives there.

In addition to learning and exploring, the group rolled up their sleeves for hands-on conservation work, caring for the whenua (land) and contributing to the ongoing efforts to preserve this special place. Tasks included clearing invasive plants and supporting the health of native flora, reinforcing the importance of protecting natural environments.

The purpose of the trip was to build on what cadets have been learning during their divisional lessons by encouraging them to take an active interest in the world around them. Through enjoying and caring for the natural world, and developing awareness of community resources, the experience aimed to foster a sense of responsibility and connection to both nature and community.

The trip was made possible due to a generous donation from the Coastal Unity Parish and the Rod McNaughton Fund.

The St John Youth Programme is not just about learning first aid and lifesaving skills; it's about building confidence, leadership, and resilience in our youth.



St John Youth participants gathered on Quarantine Island for a day of learning and exploration.

From hands-on first aid training to community service projects, this programme empowers our young minds to become future leaders and compassionate community members. This is open to all passionate young individuals aged from 5 to 18. Whether you're interested in healthcare, leadership, or simply want to give back to your community - the St John Youth Programme is the perfect place for you.

- ▶ *Green Island Youth Division - Thursday nights during school term time, 6-7:30pm at St Margaret's Presbyterian Church, Main South Road, Green Island. (contact Bronson.blackbourn@stjohn.org.nz)*
- ▶ *Mosgiel Youth Division - Wednesday nights during school term time, 6-7:30pm at St John Mosgiel, Hartstonge Ave, Mosgiel (contact oli.blackbourn@stjohn.org.nz)*

WISHING OUR GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Carissa*  
**FRASER**

027 35 36 374  
carissa.fraser@harcourts.co.nz



Our Community Hub is available free of charge to any not for profit group that needs a (small) meeting space.

At Harcourts we are happy to *Help*

To book contact:  
ange.copson@harcourts.co.nz  
027 422 4479

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# Harcourts LOCAL MARKET REVIEW

Spring has brought renewed energy to the market, and we're seeing more buyers actively seeking homes in neighbourhood.

Buyers are showing up in great numbers, and there's a noticeable sense of motivation as many hope to secure a home before the end of the year.

We're also seeing a healthy flow of new listings coming onto the market, giving buyers more choice and variety. At the same time, well-presented and well-priced properties are continuing to sell steadily, creating a balanced and positive market environment. Homes aren't sitting for long, but they're also not disappearing instantly – giving both buyers and sellers the breathing room to make informed decisions. Compared to earlier in the year, the ratio of listings to sales is much more even, reflecting a market that is active yet stable, confident yet considered.

One of the standout stories this year has been the growth in Green Island's commercial sector, a sign of ongoing investment and local vibrancy. The uplift in commercial values reflects the suburb's increasing popularity as a hub for small businesses and services – a trend that further enhances the liveability of the wider community.

If you would like local sales results, suburb snapshots, or a personalised appraisal for your property, I'm happy to help. The Greater Green Island area continues to offer exceptional value – and October has only reaffirmed its reputation as a fantastic place to live, grow, and invest.

<b>GREATER GREEN ISLAND</b>	<b>DUNEDIN</b>
STATS <b>OCTOBER</b>	STATS <b>OCTOBER</b>
Average Dwelling Price	Median Dwelling Price

**\$611,058**

Number of sales

**17**

**\$600,000**

Number of sales

**220**

Merry Christmas

Carissa  
FRASER

027 35 36 374

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**Harcourts**

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# TOOTS' COLUMN

Greetings people,

I'm glad to be back after my wee hiatus from this column.

I received some good news this week; my position as a Community Constable for the area has been made permanent. I can hear the cheers and boos from here!

I've loved working in Green Island as a Community Constable, and I look forward to serving the community here for many years to come.



Senior Constable  
Mark "Toots" Tuten

I know the adverts are on the telly already, and I'm loathed to mention it, but I will anyway. Christmas is nearly here. It should be a joyful time of the year, but from a police perspective, it's a busy time for us.

Can I ask you to be careful this festive period. Be sensible when drinking. If you know your'e going for a night out; organize the taxi/Uber/sober driver. Do not drive! It really isn't worth it. The consequences far outweigh the advantages.

If you are travelling for your Christmas holidays, take your time, be patient and arrive safely. You've worked all year for this, get there in one piece and enjoy your time off.

Right, that's the public safety announcement sorted, now here's the fun fact for the month: Owls don't have eyeballs! They have long tubular eyes which can't move, and have to rotate their heads to see in different directions. Bet you didn't know that one. Unless you're an ornithologist, that is.

I hope to catch up with some of you at the Green Island Market Day, 6th December 10am – 1pm. It's a great day out and a chance to catch up with the community.

I will be working over the Christmas period, so if you've got any issues or queries, just pop in and see me at the station.

Stay safe

Toots.

*PS: When you hear sirens on 1st December, don't panic-it's the Emergency Services out collecting for the Foodbanks-topping up with festive food and of course the baked bean supplies! Give generously if you're able. Many families in our community are doing it tough this year.*



**Saddle View  
Health Centre**

242 Main South Road, Green Island  
Phone: 488 2754

## We're Enrolling!

We are committed to delivering high-quality, patient-focussed healthcare for you and your whānau.

- Easy online enrolment
- Warm, modern facilities with ample parking
- Helpful, compassionate staff



# OAR FM YOUTH AWARD WIN FOR YAG PODCASTERS!



Congratulations to our very own Greater Green Island Youth Action Group (YAG), who took out the Youth Category at the OAR 105.4 FM Awards - the first time the awards have been held since 2018. Their fortnightly Thursday podcast, created by around 10 local young people, stood out among more than 10 submissions.

A fantastic achievement and a well-deserved recognition of the voices, ideas, and teamwork behind the mic!



Representatives from the Youth Action Group proudly accept the award on behalf of the YAG team. Pictured from left: Lily Rogers, Ruby-Mae Inch, Joseph Hemopo with youth worker Brianna Le.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT BOOSTS ALI MCBRIDE'S FOOTBALL JOURNEY TO THE UK



John Moyle presents Ali McBride with a big cheque!

Young sports star Ali McBride was recently awarded the Moyles Community Cash donation in recognition of his exceptional football achievements over recent months.

Building on his success at the International West Ham Training Camp on the Gold Coast in September, he has now received an exciting invitation to join the West Ham Development Tour in England in September 2026. This prestigious tour includes an 11 night stay in the UK, attendance at four professional league matches, opportunities to play competitive fixtures, and several high-level coaching sessions with West Ham United and other professional clubs.

In addition to this, Ali has also been selected to attend the RH3 (Ricki Herbert) Academy Training Camp in Hamilton in January 2026 another valuable step in his ongoing football development.

Thanks to Moyles Fresh Choice- they have got Ali off to a great start for funding these opportunities.



# The Informer

- Informer Editor:** Erin Dellow-Kane
- 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 Erin 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 PUMP TRACK PROJECT UPDATE - HUGE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS!

Things are progressing well on the fundraising front. We recently received a 20k donation from an anonymous benefactor which was an amazing contribution towards our target of 120k. The locals are getting behind it too with a very successful fundraiser over Labour Weekend at the Brighton Club. Two days of BBQ, raffles and an auction saw a total of \$3500 raised. Along with some other fundraising efforts, we are edging slowly towards 30k.



Photo from left, Zach Turner, Ben Shayler, and Shane Turner cooking burgers and sausages at the recent Music weekend at the Brighton Club.

A huge thank you to Colin Driver and Annette Hogg, amazing supporters of the Brighton Pump Track. It was their idea to host the Muso Weekend at the club, and they invited our team to run the BBQ. Annette, along with Sasha Turner, did an incredible job organising the raffles, while Colin was legendary on the mic- keeping things running smoothly and leading the auction. Their enthusiasm and community spirit made the weekend a real success!

We have a final BBQ fundraiser for the year on the 5th December at The Brighton Rugby Club gig night and then we'll put the tongs away for a while. Lee-Anne from GGICN and I are working on a couple of grant applications which will hopefully give us the bulk of the funds needed as we still have a way to go.

A huge thank you to the many businesses that donated items for the raffles:

*NZ Black Caps, Cookie Time, Mark Lawrence, Creamery Road Stall, Country Wide Relocations and Tanked Otago Ltd, Ōtokia Creek and Marsh Habitat, Auto Salvage, Letitia Louise Photography, Jayne Schwenke, Easy-As Services, NOOZ, Judd de la Roche Property Brokers, Tallowell - thebrightonwaxroom, Village Green Cafe & Bar, BIN BLAST, Monarch Wildlife Cruises, TRENDS, Goodman Fielder, Jessica Garth, Moyle's Supermarket, Mitre 10 MEGA Dunedin, Larson's Pharmacy, Green Island Auto Service Centre, PTS Otago & Southland (First Aid Solutions), LUSH, Norwex - Leanne Stenhouse, Moana Pool, McDonalds Green Island, David and Teresa Grant, Bowl Line Dunedin, Megazone, Rialto Cinemas, Anna Poole, HiveEnergy, Justin Time Plumbing Services Ltd, Toka Nui Studio, Shane and Sasha Tuner, Oranga Saunas, Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Dunedin Ice Stadium, Brighton Dinner Club from Jasmine McNab, The Warehouse, Duncans Venison, Cascade Corporation, PTS Logistics, Happy Coins South Dunedin.*



Photo - Brighton Club President Colin Driver, Zach Turner and Sasha Turner giving out prizes for the raffle winners over the weekend.

If you're a business, family or individual, you can donate to the Pump Track project by scanning the QR Code or donating to the Green Island Community Network Charitable Trust account directly.



SPONSOR A POST

	Gold >\$1500
	Silver >\$1000 <\$1500
	Bronze >\$500 <\$1000



We will be launching a 'sponsor a post' option shortly. More information to come... you will be able to put your name on a post that will border the pump track!

We need your support to make this project happen. If you'd like to know more, please reach out to:

Shane Turner on: 0225000392

or email: shane.turner@xtra.co.nz

# INCREASED SEA LION ACTIVITY IN BRIGHTON & OCEAN VIEW

Local Brighton resident and science communicator Claudia Babirat recently captured a special visitor on camera- a New Zealand sea lion resting on a neighbour's property, where her family shears their sheep. It's the first one to visit the area, and neighbours Mark and Adele called Claudia for help due to her background with DOC and wildlife guide on the Otago Peninsula. Claudia alerted the community by sharing the photo on the Brighton/Ocean View Community Facebook page.

Many locals don't realise how rare these animals are. New Zealand sea lions disappeared from mainland breeding sites for nearly 100 years, and only in recent decades have females begun returning to Otago and Southland. As their population grows, Brighton and Ocean View are seeing more of them- sometimes in unexpected places.

Sea lions are a special part of our coastal community. With care and respect, we can safely share our beaches and backyards with these rare and protected visitors.

Recent Local Sightings Include:

- *Big Stone Road has frequent Sea Lion visits - often seen sleeping on or very close to the track, sometimes completely out of sight.*
- *Sea lions crossing roads and causing temporary closures*
- *Pregnant females resting or nesting in backyards*
- *Sea lions spooking horses, wandering into events, or relaxing on lawns*

How to Stay Safe Around Sea Lions

- *Keep your distance: Stay 20m metres away if possible.*
- *Don't approach: Let them rest or move at their own pace.*
- *Leash your dog: Dogs can disturb or injure sea lions, especially pups.*
- *Drive carefully: Sea lions, including small pups, often cross coastal roads.*
- *Give them space: Don't try to move or herd them.*
- *Report serious injuries: Call 0800 DOC HOT*



*Curious sheep had front-row seats to an unusual guest: a New Zealand sea lion resting peacefully just outside the shearing shed. Photo: Claudia Babirat*

## BRIGHTON GALA DAY - CELEBRATING 30 YEARS!

The Brighton Gala Day returns on Sunday, 18 January 2026, promising another fun-filled day for the whole family.

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of Otago's largest free-to-public event, the Brighton Gala Day. Over 12,000 visitors are expected to enjoy more than 180 vibrant stalls, exciting rides, delicious food, and live all-day entertainment - making it a true highlight of the Dunedin summer calendar.

All food sites are sold out, with a waiting list already in place - a sure sign of the amazing variety on offer! A limited number of standard sites remain, so be quick to register at [www.brightongaladay.co.nz](http://www.brightongaladay.co.nz).

There's something for everyone - from jewellery, arts and crafts, and outdoor furniture to garden décor and unique local creations.

Enjoy the Fish & Game Otago "Backyard Bass" fishing competition, vintage fire engine displays, and interactive exhibits from Fire and Emergency NZ, St John, Red Cross, NZ Police, MPI/Fisheries, and the Otago Harbourmaster and Port Otago vessels.

Helicopters Otago will again offer scenic flights along the stunning coastline, and the Lions Cancer Screening Van will be onsite. Educational and interactive displays will run throughout the day, with a full stage line-up of live entertainment confirmed.

The event is proudly supported by the Brighton Surf Life Saving Club and the Green Island Lions Club, who work tirelessly to make this event possible. Proceeds from the day help fund valuable local community services, with over \$2,000 of venue space donated to local charities each year.

It's a good old-fashioned family day out - and the perfect way to celebrate 30 years of community connection in the "Riviera of the South." Admission is free - see you there!



*Seaside spectacular . . . Enjoy a great day out at the Brighton Gala Day. PHOTO: PETER MCINTOSH/ Otago Daily Times*

Visit [www.brightongaladay.co.nz](http://www.brightongaladay.co.nz) or check out the Brighton Gala Day - Dunedin Facebook page for updates.

## NEW HOMES, NEW BEGINNINGS: KĀINGA ORA BUILDS IN GREATER GREEN ISLAND

This Christmas, more families in need will celebrate in warm, dry homes, thanks to 15 new Kāinga Ora homes recently completed in Greater Green Island. In the past few weeks, eight new homes were opened on Brighton Road, Green Island, including seven two-bedroom homes and one one-bedroom home with some accessibility features.



MORRIS STREET CONCORD -  
New Kāinga Ora Homes

In Morris Street, Concord, Kāinga Ora delivered five new two- and three-bedroom homes. These homes replace two older, unsuitable state houses as part of the agency's ongoing work to renew and replace homes

across the country. All homes have private outdoor spaces and are built to Kāinga Ora's optimised designs.

"We're really pleased that the people who have moved in will be able to celebrate their first Christmas here and can also enjoy the lovely outdoor space over the warmer summer months," says Kerrie Young, Regional Director for Otago, Southland and South Canterbury.

Kerrie Young says the community will play a big part in helping people settle into these new homes. Therefore, Kāinga Ora organised an open home event for Morris Street where the local community, including neighbours and stakeholders, came together to connect.



BRIGHTON ROAD, GREEN ISLAND -  
New Kāinga Ora Homes

Neighbours praised the quality of the homes, the natural light, and the spacious feel created by high ceilings and large windows. Many remarked that the new homes were a significant improvement from the two older homes previously on the site.

"We live locally, and it has been incredible to see these houses being built, knowing the opportunity they will provide for people to make positive changes in their lives," says Holly, who is one of the neighbours.

"I've worked for many years as a nurse in Australia in the homelessness sector, and I see a huge need here in Dunedin for health and community services to work collaboratively, with government backing, to better support our vulnerable community members."

Learn more about Kāinga Ora's build programme in Otago at: [Otago | Engage Kainga Ora](#)

## A FRESH, BRIGHT SMILE AWAITS IN FAIRFIELD

Hello! I'm Rebecca, and I'm so excited to introduce myself as the owner of The Smile Studio Dunedin, our new local spot for professional teeth whitening right here in the heart of Fairfield.



I'm a proud mum of two, living in beautiful, sunny Fairfield- a place I absolutely love calling home.

When I'm not helping people achieve their dream smiles, you'll find me enjoying music, sunshine, family adventures, camping, and spending time with our two dogs.



Opening The Smile Studio has been a dream come true. I wanted to create a calm, welcoming space where people can sit back, relax, and leave feeling brighter and more confident. I use safe, effective whitening treatments designed to deliver noticeable results in a friendly, soothing environment.

Whether you've got a special occasion coming up or simply want to treat yourself to a confidence boost, I'd love to help you shine.

Thank you for the warm welcome so far- I can't wait to meet more of you and share lots of smiles around the Greater Green Island area.



Find out more or book online at: [thesmilestudio.co.nz/pages/dunedin-studio](https://thesmilestudio.co.nz/pages/dunedin-studio)

## PAID PARKING EXPANDS TO SUNDAYS IN PARTS OF DUNEDIN CBD

Beware- parking charges are now in effect on Sundays in parts of the Dunedin city centre, so take note!

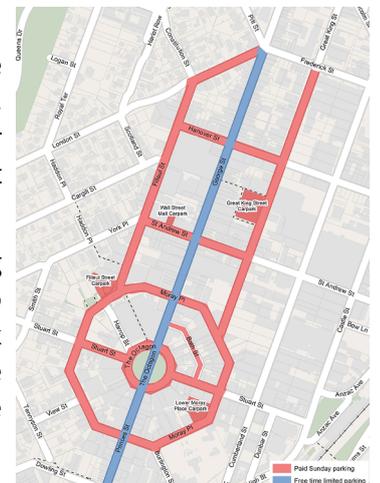
Charges apply seven days a week, 9am-6pm, except where signage indicates otherwise. Sunday fees cover the Octagon, Moray Place, Filleul Street, and sections of Stuart, St Andrew, Hanover, London, and Great King Streets, ending at Frederick Street.

Parts of George and Princes Streets remain free, with time restrictions still enforced.

Prices are the same as other days and clearly displayed on parking meters.

DCC introduced the change to improve vehicle turnover, free up spaces for customers, and support local businesses.

With Christmas shopping underway, make sure to check parking signs or risk getting caught out while doing your festive shopping!



# THE BOWLING CLUB CAVERSHAM FREE CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH



Jackie & Liam-  
Bowling Club whānau.

The Bowling Club Community Eatery in Caversham is wrapping up another big year of community mahi, with its last regular open day on Friday, 19 December 2025, before taking a well-deserved break until Monday, 12 January 2026. But there's one very special exception:

The club will open from 10am-1pm on Christmas Day for a FREE holiday brunch, welcoming anyone who wants to share good kai and good company. It's a tradition that reflects the heart of what The Bowling Club is all about- community, kindness, and making sure no one spends the day alone if they don't want to.

Alongside preparing for Christmas brunch, the team has been busy packing their much-loved Christmas gift boxes- each box is packed full of goodies and sold for \$30.

Every purchase supports the hundreds of people who receive affordable, discounted, or free meals from the Bowling Club each week. Bulk orders are warmly welcomed, and there's also an option to sponsor a 'pay-it-forward' Christmas box for someone in need.

The Bowling Club extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported their kaupapa throughout the year- whether by donating, dining, volunteering, or spreading the word.



Pop in for kai and community at 337 South Road, Caversham.  
<https://thebowlingclub.co.nz/>

## LOCAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Our local Churches extend a warm invitation to join their Christmas Services.

- St Margaret's Presbyterian (Coastal Unity Parish) on the corner of Main South Road and Jenkins Street will have an all-age Christmas play/service on Sunday 21 December at 10am
- Coastal Unity, Green Island at 10am - Christmas Day.
- St Mark's, Green Island at 7pm - Christmas Eve.
- St Margaret's, Brighton at 9am - Christmas Day.

DUNEDIN CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

# CHRISTMAS SERVICE

THURSDAY 25TH  
DECEMBER  
10AM - 11AM

COME AND CELEBRATE  
CHRISTMAS WITH US,  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



DUNEDIN CITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 19 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, CONCORD

# CAROLS ON THE LAWN

A family friendly event!

11AM SUNDAY  
14TH DECEMBER

Bring your picnic blanket & celebrate Christmas with us



Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord

Free  
Sausage  
Sizzle

Carol  
Singing

Lawn  
Games



## DUNEDIN COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER AT TOWN HALL

The Dunedin Community Christmas Dinner returns this Christmas Day, offering a free festive meal with delicious food, entertainment, and plenty of holiday cheer.

Everyone is welcome, but early booking is recommended as it's always a popular event.

How to book:

- ▶ Fill out the form at: [christmas.org.nz/dinner-invite](http://christmas.org.nz/dinner-invite)
- ▶ Email: [merry@christmas.org.nz](mailto:merry@christmas.org.nz)
- ▶ Phone: 03 477 9242 and leave a message for our volunteers.



A festive crowd enjoying Christmas Dinner at last year's event.  
Photo: Martyn Buyck

After more than a decade of wonderful work by the Acts of Kindness Charitable Trust, the newly formed Dunedin Christmas Charitable Trust is now carrying the tradition forward with trustees Andrew Whiley, Esther Gilbert, and Rob Riddell Tigeir.

The 2025 dinner will be held at the Dunedin Town Hall, 11.30am, December 25. Offering the same warm, welcoming experience locals know and love and keeping it simple with Christmas dinner: crackers, turkey, and community connection.

The Trust welcomes volunteers, including those who can assist before Christmas, and donations or offers of food supplies to help make the day special for everyone.

To donate, volunteer, or book your place, visit:  
[www.christmas.org.nz](http://www.christmas.org.nz).

## UNLEASH YOUR INNER WARRIOR AT COMBAT ZONE PAINTBALL

Did you know there's a paintball field right here in our own backyard?



Combat Zone Paintball in Abbotsford has been delivering adrenaline-fuelled fun to locals for 20 years! Many people don't even realise it's there, but it's been a favourite spot for action, laughter, and friendly competition since 2005.

Whether you're planning a birthday party, stag do, team-building event, or just want an unforgettable day out with friends, Combat Zone is the perfect place to unleash your inner warrior. Each session is tailored to your group, with exciting game scenarios designed to get your heart racing and your team spirit firing.

Safety comes first- all gear is provided, and every game starts with a full safety briefing so you can focus on the fun. From fast-paced skirmishes to tactical missions, the custom-built fields offer varied terrain, obstacles, and non-stop excitement.

Founded by thrill-seekers Brian and Gaye Thornley, Combat Zone was created from a passion for adventure and community fun. With Brian's years of experience in competitive play, the team knows exactly how to deliver an epic day you'll be talking about for weeks.

Getting started is simple: choose your package, pick a date, and let the Combat Zone crew take care of the rest. They'll tailor your games to suit your group and make sure everyone walks away buzzing.

So grab your friends, gear up, and head down to Abbotsford's own Combat Zone Paintball- the ultimate local adventure spot that's been hiding in plain sight!

Combat Zone Paintball Ltd, 11 Christie Street, Abbotsford, Check out the website for more info: [www.combatzonepaintball.co.nz](http://www.combatzonepaintball.co.nz)



## CELEBRATE SAFELY – FIREWORKS FUN OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

As families and friends gather to celebrate Christmas and New Year, a few simple safety steps can help make sure the fun goes off with a sparkle, not a scare.

### Top Tips for a Safe Fireworks Night:

- ★ Buy from trusted sellers – only use fireworks that meet safety standards and follow the instructions carefully.
- ★ Pick a safe spot – set up in a wide, open area away from trees, houses, dry grass, and power lines.
- ★ Keep water handy – have a bucket or hose nearby, just in case.
- ★ One at a time – light fireworks one by one, and never relight a dud!
- ★ Stand back – once lit, move away quickly and keep children and spectators at a safe distance.
- ★ Care for pets – animals can get frightened by loud bangs, so keep them indoors and calm.
- ★ Be a good neighbour – let people nearby know if you're planning a display, especially those with pets or small children.

Let's celebrate safely! Please be responsible and enjoy a bright, happy start to the festive season and the New Year!



Photo: AFP / NurPhoto

## GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY THANKS OUR SPONSORS:



### Contact us:

- ✉ [info@greenergreenisland.nz](mailto:info@greenergreenisland.nz)
- 📘 <https://www.facebook.com/GreenerGreenIsland>
- 📷 @ggicn\_dunedin

8 i 03 425 7719

*The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charity aiming for 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.*

## FRESHLY REPAINTED LILLIPUT LIBRARY IN CONCORD



Concord has welcomed a new burst of colour and literacy with the arrival of its latest Lilliput Library - proudly situated at 56 Mulford Street. This Lilliput is perfectly positioned next to the bus stop- offering those waiting for the bus an ideal chance to browse the books on offer.

This little library has a big story behind it. Once the very first Lilliput Library ever built, it has now been lovingly upcycled, repainted, and given a new life thanks to the efforts of Guardians Rata and Annalise.

The pair enlisted local artist Sig Peters, of The Pink Galah, whose stunning artwork has transformed the library into a true neighbourhood treasure.



But the most meaningful touch is the special tribute painted on the back - a nod to longtime Mulford Street resident Lindsay Hepburn, who passed away recently. Lindsay had lived on the street since 1976 and was known for his kindness, always helping neighbours with lawns, hedges, and anything else that needed doing. His generosity left an imprint on the whole community.



To honour his memory, and celebrate the installation of this Lilliput Library, neighbours gathered for an informal ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Around 20 people came along, including some of Lindsay's family, who expressed their gratitude for the thoughtful tribute.



Guardians Rata and Annalise say "We're so excited to bring our community together." "Sig has done a beautiful job, and having a tribute to Lindsay feels really special. He was always there for people in our community."

## WHATS ON FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES IN THE HOLIDAYS

- ★ Green Island Market Day – Saturday 6 December, 10am – 1pm
- ★ Free Kids Christmas Concert, Tūhura Otago Museum – Saturday 6 December, 10:30am
- ★ Alice in Wonderland: A Pantomime – 4 – 14 December, The Globe Theatre, Dunedin
- ★ Pixie Town & Christmas Crafts, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum – 10am – 4:30pm
  - Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 December
  - Saturday 13 – Sunday 14 December
  - Friday 19 – Tuesday 23 December
- ★ Decorate a Christmas Gnome, Tūhura Otago Museum – Saturday 13 December, 12pm
- ★ Christmas Lights Heritage Bus Trip – Mosgiel Saturday 13 & Tuesday 16 December, 11am From 33 Reid Ave, Mosgiel
- ★ Create a Snow Globe, Tūhura Otago Museum – Saturday 20 December, 12pm
- ★ Visit Santa in the Transport Gallery at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum
  - Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 December
  - Saturday 13 – Sunday 14 December
  - Friday 19 – Tuesday 23 December
- ★ Dunedin Christmas Carols Celebration – Saturday 20 December, 2:30pm, Dunedin Botanic Garden Bandstand
- ★ The Christmas Festival Dunedin – Saturday 20 December from 2pm, Kensington Oval
- ★ Walk the newly re-opened Tunnel Beach Track!



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**128a Gordon Road, Mosgiel**  
[info@knoxpodiatry.co.nz](mailto:info@knoxpodiatry.co.nz)

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

# GREEN ISLAND FAREWELLS MUCH-LOVED BOUTIQUE PHARMACY

After nearly a decade of care and connection, Green Island Boutique Pharmacy officially closed its doors for the final time on Friday, 28 November 2025- bringing an end to a chapter marked by dedication, personal service, and strong community relationships.

Owners Shweta and Hayley say the decision to close was incredibly difficult but ultimately necessary.

Like many small independent pharmacies around the country, they faced increasing funding pressures that made it challenging to remain sustainable while continuing to provide the personalised, high-quality care that defined their practice.

On top of this, both were juggling the demands of being working mums- balancing school runs, rising daycare costs, and the constant pull between business responsibilities and family life.

Despite the challenges, the pair look back on their nine years with immense gratitude.

"Getting to know our customers, caring for families, and doing pharmacy our way- in a relaxed, safe space- has been

the heart of everything." "We absolutely love this community, and we will miss everyone dearly."

All repeat prescriptions have now been securely transferred to Larson's Pharmacy, ensuring patients experience no interruption to their medicines or care.

This summer marks the first time since opening that Shweta and Hayley will be able to enjoy a holiday season without the responsibilities of running a pharmacy.

They are looking forward to spending time with their young families and taking time to refocus before exploring new directions in pharmacy and beyond.

"It was truly a privilege to be part of your lives. Thank you for letting us care for you, laugh with you, and share in your everyday moments. This community will always hold a special place in our hearts."

Though the Green Island Boutique Pharmacy has closed, the relationships built over nine years will continue to be felt across the community it served so warmly- and Shweta and Hayley joke they'll probably still bump into many of you at The Food Room or Moyles!



*Shweta and Hayley are deeply grateful for the loyalty, kindness and support the Green Island community has shown them.*

# WELCOME TO DIESEL TRANSPORT SERVICES: NEW OWNERS, FRESH LOOK, SAME TRUSTED SERVICE

Originally established in 2011 as a family-owned workshop with five employees, Diesel Transport Services was sold in 2024 to existing employees to keep the dream alive.

Now with fifteen heavy diesel technicians, two auto electricians, three parts staff and four office whizzes to keep everyone in line, we are proud to support the same loyal customers and always welcome new ones.

You may have noticed over recent weeks the building getting a fresh coat of paint and new signage as we endeavour to keep up with changing times.

Many people don't know we have an on-site CoF testing station that runs on a booking system to eliminate excessive waiting times. If you have a campervan, small truck or heavy vehicle, don't wait to get them COF'd, serviced and repaired! Especially with Christmas and holidays fast approaching.

Whether you have one truck or a whole fleet of them, we will do our absolute best to keep you on the road. And the real satisfaction doesn't just come from keeping trucks and trailers moving. It comes from giving people chances, to watch them grow and flourish not just within the company, but the industry and their own lives as well.

We pride ourselves on giving back to our industry and community by taking on an apprentice almost every year the business has been operating, and guiding them through their learnings and into a recognized trade qualification.

The owners humbly describe the company as "just a local business run by local people, supporting other locals."

Our business runs on the strength of our team, and we're truly grateful for the players we have.



**DIESEL TRANSPORT SERVICES**

53 Main South Road,  
Burnside, Dunedin

Monday - Friday 8am -5.30pm,  
Saturday 8am -12pm

Ph: 03 488 5043



# GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY NETWORK – 2025 ROUND-UP

What a year! Through successes and challenges, new faces, inevitable changes, and the occasional curveball, we've spent a full year strengthening our community and staying resilient. We've picked out a few highlights below...

## Community Wins Worth Celebrating



Our Community Garden took home a Keep Dunedin Beautiful Award, a well-deserved acknowledgement of the years of hard mahi poured in by volunteers and everyone who quietly keeps the garden humming. Marion and Joe have been incredible, guiding a team of dedicated volunteers who give the garden its heart.

## Advocacy & Listening to the Community

We've continued to advocate strongly for local issues with Council and partner agencies, and a big part of that is hearing from you. Our Community Survey has been a major focus this year. The feedback has been thoughtful, honest, and incredibly useful. We'll share the full results early next year, and they will directly shape what we do next.

We remain persistent in advocacy for installing a public toilet in the Memorial Gardens and continue to petition to see improvements to the Burnside underpass.

It will also be essential to have a strong local voice in the development of the new bike trail through Abbotsford, ensuring there are meaningful benefits for Green Island, Concord, and our local business community.

Seeing this track eventually link all the way out to Brighton and our coastal communities would be a dream for many in our area.

## Big Changes on Our Patch

You may have noticed that McDonald's arrived with fanfare in March. While this new community asset has definitely shifted the rhythm for some of our local eateries, with a few feeling the drop in custom, we've also seen our businesses adapt, hold fast, and continue serving great kai to loyal locals. McDonald's has also brought more job opportunities to the area, which has been a welcome boost. Remember to continue to support local.

## Behind-the-Scenes Mahi: Morning Education

One of the quieter, but deeply meaningful pieces of mahi this year has been our morning education programme, Ako. We've been working with a small group of incredible rangatahi who needed something a bit different from the traditional classroom, more relational, more hands-on, more human. We are proud of them, it's been steady, grounded work, and the growth we've seen has been massive. Not many people know this mahi is happening, but it's been one of our real highlights of the year.



## Wheako Youth Work & Community Events

We're now engaging with more than 200 young people each week, which still blows our minds a little!

► *Youth Workers Bri and Noah with Fairfield School Wheako group on a recent planting day at Brighton's Ōtokia Creek and Marsh Habitat.*

## Some stand-out moments:

- *Talking Café*, our regular kōrero space powered by caffeine, biscuits, and decent company for those in the older age bracket.
- *Youth Action Group (YAG)*, this crew continues to step up with leadership, ideas, and mischief!
- *Brighton Beach Clean-Up Day*, many hands, many bags of rubbish, many laughs. This one was proudly organised by YAG.
- *The Brighton Pump Track Project* gains momentum.
- *The Get Together*, always a favourite. Despite winds and power outages, more than 1,000 people showed up to celebrate our community and connect.
- *Market Day*, coming up fast... and likely completed (and successful!) by the time you're reading this!

## Our Mighty Team: The People Behind the Mahi

We can't talk about the year without acknowledging the team who show up, care, adapt, and offer far more than anyone sees.



- Lee-Anne became a grandmother.
- Rachele successfully completed her final social work placement and her qualification, congrats!
- Bri finished her Certificate in Youth Work and is heading into her Diploma next year.
- Ilai, the Tokelauan titan, moves into a full-time youth work role with our Greater Green Island Community Network next year.
- Sacha finishes up with us, we're grateful for the care, stability, and calm presence she's offered our rangatahi.

## A Big Farewell to Noah

We also say farewell to Noah Scott, who started with us part-time in 2023. Noah has become a trusted and well-loved youth worker - practically a celebrity for the local schoolkids! He's built strong relationships at Concord, Green Island, Abbotsford, and Fairfield schools, and co-designed some of our best youth initiatives with young people and the community. He'll be greatly missed next year as he heads to Christchurch and into married life.

A little-known fact: Noah is a clean freak. He's the reason our office stays



spotless. We are genuinely concerned about what the place will look like once he leaves!

## Thank You, Community & Funders

To our funders, partners, volunteers, businesses, schools, parents, families, rangatahi, churches and neighbours - thank you so much for your support.

Your belief in locally led mahi keeps this whole thing moving. We couldn't do it without you.

*Here's to another year of doing good things together.*

Join us at the annual

# GREEN ISLAND MARKET

**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**10:00AM - 1:00PM**

MAIN SOUTH RD, GREEN ISLAND

**100+ STALLS**

School performances, Candy Floss, Inflatables, Food Trucks,  
 Arts & Craft, Games, Competitions, Santa's Grotto

**A family fun day out!**

Christmas-themed

# Bingo Beats

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025**  
**Doors open at 6pm and first song 7:00pm**

How it works:  
 Hear the song → Mark your card → Shout BINGO!  
 Prizes · Singalongs · Guaranteed fun!

Tickets \$20 pp - Limited seats so book early!!!!  
 Door sales available or email to reserve your tickets on  
 gibc@xtra.co.nz

Venue: GIBC, 183 Main South Road, Green Island

**Best festive costume wins a prize!!!**

two fat Ladies  
**Bingo Beats**

Hosted by

GREEN ISLAND BOWLING CLUB

# BRIGHTON GALA DAY

**18 January 2026**  
**10am - 5pm BRIGHTON DOMAIN**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

[www.brightongaladay.co.nz](http://www.brightongaladay.co.nz)