



The Informer

October 2024 Edition

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

OTAGO POLYFEST CELEBRATES CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

This year, the Otago Polyfest, held from 9-13th September at the Edgar Centre, was a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity, talent, and community spirit, wowing audience members with beautiful waiata and talent from across the region. With participants from schools around Otago, the event showcased a stunning array of performances that highlighted the richness of Māori and Pasifika cultures.

Every school brought its own unique flavour to the festival, captivating the audience with their enthusiasm and pride. Each performance reminded attendees of the importance of cultural preservation and the role young people play in keeping these traditions alive.

One of the most moving moments came from young Mata from Concord School. Mata performed a deeply personal tribute to her brother, Enere, who tragically passed away earlier this year. Singing with raw emotion, she honoured

his memory in a way that resonated with everyone present. Mata's tribute was a poignant reminder of the strength that comes from family, community, and culture during times of loss. Her performance stood as a powerful testament to love and resilience, bringing many in the audience to tears.

The Otago Polyfest continues to be a highlight for the region, drawing people together to celebrate not only cultural diversity but also the shared values of community, unity, and support. Every school that took part played a vital role in making this year's event a success, leaving audiences inspired and proud of the incredible talent in our local communities.

Tamariki could be seen performing haka and singing in the school yard for days afterwards. They are excited to be able to take part in next years performance.



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SADDLEVIEW SCOUT GROUP

Saddle View Scouts is excited to be expanding and growing their presence in the local community. Currently, the group division runs sessions for Cubs (age 8-10) and Scouts (age 11-13) and are eager to build their Keas section for younger children aged 5-8. There are also exciting plans to restart the Venturers program for teenagers aged 14-18, where the youth will plan their own activities and adventures. Under the new leadership of Jan Robertson, who has recently taken over as Group Leader, the Saddle View Scouts are looking to make their mark. "We're really keen to grow the group and bring more young people into Scouts," said Jan. "We're also on the lookout for new leaders. It's not a huge commitment, and it's so much fun!"

The group is already planning for their next big adventure—a group camp next term at the popular Waiora Camp, a fantastic asset for outdoor activities. During the summer months, the Scouts venture out for off-site activities like scavenger hunts, pit fires with s'mores, and walks at Nicholls Creek. Recent activities such as the Pinewood Derby were a hit with children from Dunedin coming together to compete. To support their initiatives, the group is fundraising to improve their facilities, including a much-needed new floor for their hall.



Cossgrove Camp at Waiora Scout Camp

One of their unique fundraising efforts includes selling toilet paper! They also plan to have a stall at the Green Island Market Day, raising money for new group hoodies.

Saddle View Scouts is a fantastic opportunity for children and teens to experience adventure, learn new skills, and make lifelong friends. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining or becoming a leader, now is a great time to get involved. For more information on joining the Saddle View Scouts or supporting their fundraising efforts, please reach out to Jan Robertson at saddleview@group.scouts.nz.



Samantha & Brooklyn

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

Do you have a story or an experience you'd love to share with the Greater Green Island community? Whether it's a heart warming tale, an inspiring journey, or a local event you think everyone should know about, we want to hear from you!

Submit your stories to our Informer and be a part of something special. Let's keep our community connected and thriving by sharing what makes Greater Green Island unique!

Send your stories to informer@greatergreenisland.nz and let your voice be heard!



The Informer

 **Volunteer:** Lindsay Aitchison

 informer@greatergreenisland.nz

 1500 physical copies distributed a month

 Content Deadline: 15th of each month

 Newsletters available online at :

www.greatergreenisland.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 The Informer 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

TAMARIKI

ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL

Well done to the Year 3/4 girls' Rippa Team, who competed in the recent school tournament. The girls came second in their age group. Congratulations!



Maia Boereboom and Avaley Bambry competed as a duo in the NZCAF Regional Aerobics competition, representing Abbotsford School and Queens Aerobics. They placed second in the finals and made it to the National Championships. All the very best girls!



GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL



Above: Greater Green Island cross country runners

On Friday 23 August a group of runners from Green Island represented our school at our GGI interschool event, wearing our new sports tops for the very first time. Congratulations to all of those that competed. Special mention to the following students who placed in the top 10.

- Year 6 Girls - Zoe Warrington 7th, Tia Piho 10th
- Year 7 Girls - Annabelle Taylor 6th, Chloe Armishaw 8th
- Year 8 Girls - Maddie Kaewma 8th, Lena Walker 9th
- Year 8 Boys - Melvin Reddy 9th

CONCORD SCHOOL

Cooking with Andrea In the past we have been making things in the kitchen. Here are some things that we've cooked. We made soup, scones, oreos and donuts. We had fun and we have been learning lots of new things like how to use measuring cups, teaspoons and tablespoons. We thank Andrea for finding the recipes, they are easy and simple. By Orla, Luca and Emily.

COMMUNITY KÖRERO - JULIE WALKER

FIRST AID SOLUTIONS

Welcome to community Kōrero, where the informer chats with a local identity. This month, we welcome Julie Walker from First Aid Solutions. In our community, keeping whanau safe and promoting health and safety for organisations is always a priority.

Born and raised in Dunedin, Julie began her career as a chef but later found her passion in first aid and has been with First Aid Solutions for 18 years. She became dedicated to helping people understand the importance of first aid knowledge and health and safety. "We were formally Meditrain Otago and now have joined the enthusiastic team at Practical Training Solutions," she explains. Julies' training and staff are knowledgable and kind in guiding their clients that best suits them with little to no medical background, to help them gain more confidence in an urgent situation and take away that fear when an emergency does strike. In an emergency, every moment matters. Whether at work, home or an unexpected situation, having

the ability to act quickly and effectively can make all the difference. this is where First Aid Solutions steps in, offering essential skills and knowledge that can save lives and prevent further harm. One of the key challenges First Aid Solutions aims to overcome is taking the fear out of learning basic first aid. whether it's how to use a defibrillator, perform CPR, execute the heimlich manoeuvre, or stop bleeding, the goal is to build confidence in beginners. You never know when an emergency might happen, but First Aid Solutions can help you feel prepared and manage your response effectively.



Above: Julie and Arnie at First Aid Solutions

with demand for first aid training constantly increasing, now is the perfect time to learn more. if you're interested in first aid kits, CPR, defibrillators, or want to take a course, visit, First Aid Solutions website: <https://www.firstaidsolutions.co.nz> or drop by their office at 213 Main South Road, Green

Island, Dunedin.

ANNUAL AFFORDABLE ART EXHIBITION

Green Island Art Group



Fantastic variety of art available at **GREAT** prices by some of the most amazing Otago Artists. Call in anytime over the four days we are exhibiting and chat to our team about the art, and also learn about the artists.

OCTOBER
THURSDAY 17TH
TO SUNDAY 20TH

AT THE MERIDIAN MALL

Any queries, call Bev on 021 1754646



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Hello
WE ARE HIRING

Community Development Role
 at Greater Green Island
 Community Network

Please send a letter of interest
 along with your CV to:

ben@greenergreenisland.nz

We are seeking the right person and have a range of projects that prioritise skills over experience! If you believe you could contribute to our mission, we want to hear from you!

Join Our Team at
 GGICN: Make a
 Difference!

Passionate about building stronger communities? The Greater Green Island Community Network (GGICN) is looking for enthusiastic individuals to help create a more connected neighbourhood. Whether you excel in relationship-building, administration, social media, sports, event management, or community development, we want to hear from you. Flexible opportunities are available, and we support professional development. Send your CV and letter of interest to GGICN Manager Ben McKenzie at ben@greenergreenisland.nz and be part of something impactful!

WE WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT THIS LOT:



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 TRUST**

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Community Trust

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 ISLAND TOWN AND
 COUNTRY CLUB



DUNEDIN | kaunihera
 CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o
 Ōtepoti



✉ admin@greenergreenisland.nz

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/GreaterGreenIsland>

📷 @ggicn_dunedin

📞 03 425 7719

📍 Green Island Police Station, 198 Main South Road

🌐 www.greenergreenisland.nz

🏠 P.O. Box 13006, Green Island, Dunedin 9062

The Greater Green Island Community Network is a registered charitable organisation aiming to 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..



Fairfield School



Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ōtepoti



Abbotsford School



Green Island School



Concord School



St Peter Chanel School

NEW MCDONALD'S COMING TO GREEN ISLAND: UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION



The much-anticipated McDonald's in Green Island is set to bring exciting changes to the area. Originally scheduled for completion in December 2024, the project faced unexpected delays after items of archaeological significance were discovered on-site. Thankfully, these matters have been resolved, and construction is now back on track. The new estimated completion date is May or June 2025.

Once finished, the restaurant will boost local shops and retail, contributing to the beautification of the area. A playground designed specifically for children under five will be included, making it a family-friendly destination. With an easy location near the motorway, the new restaurant will bring travellers through Green Island, creating a great place for visitors to break their journey.

When we raised concerns around the potential impacts to traffic we were assured by the DCC Road Safety that an independent traffic report showed no major impact to traffic flow in the area.



Are you a Green Island Business Owner?

We invite you to join the **GREEN ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION** a team of business owners dedicated to making our community better.

We support each other, aim to increase business and help with community projects.

We have been involved with our iconic Green Island Christmas Market Day for over 30 years with commitment to support local projects, our latest being the Memorial Gardens playground, stage and BBQ.

We are a down to earth group of locals who meet once a month over a relaxed breakfast or dinner, we welcome your concerns and ideas.

If meetings aren't for you, you can still join for \$30 for your first year, you will be entitled to 25% discount on advertising in the Informer Newsletter and will receive the meeting minutes via email.

Let's work together and continue to build the Green Island Community Spirit.

Contact info@greatergreenisland.nz for the next meeting date and time.

For Updates or questions please Contact or Follow us on **Facebook: Green Island Business Association.**

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Our well-being is greatly impacted by our mental health, which also impacts our thoughts, feelings, and social interactions. Many members of our community suffer from stress, worry, or feelings of loneliness in today's fast-paced environment. It's critical to understand that preserving mental health involves deliberate attention and is just as vital as maintaining physical health. Little things like getting enough sleep, exercising, maintaining relationships with loved ones, and practicing mindfulness can have a tremendous impact.

If you or someone you know needs support, there are local resources in Green Island, such as counsellors, support groups, and medical professionals. Seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness, and can pave the way for a brighter, stronger future. By fostering resilience, reducing stigma, and encouraging open conversations, we can build a more supportive and healthier community where mental health is a priority. Remember, to live a full life, you must take care of your mental health. It's not a luxury, it's essential. For support, don't hesitate to reach out to a loved one, your local GP, or a support line.



Can You Help?

VOLUNTEER FOR GREEN ISLAND MARKET

**SATURDAY, MAIN SOUTH RD
7 DECEMBER GREEN ISLAND
10:00AM - 1:00PM**

Organised by:  **100+ STALLS**

CAN YOU HELP TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS - JOIN US FOR THE CHRISTMAS MARKET DAY!
WHAT SKILLS CAN YOU BRING TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY! HELP WANTED WITH STALL
HOLDERS SET UP BEFOREHAND / PACK-UP STALLS AFTERWARDS / ADMIN WITH
REGISTRATION AND MUCH MORE!

IF INTERESTED PLEASE GET IN CONTACT WITH US:
BY PHONE: **03 425 7719** EMAIL: EVENTS@GREATERGREENISLAND.COM.NZ
OR FACEBOOK: GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY

YOUR MONTHLY **Harcourts** MARKET REVIEW

Upwards and onwards in real estate. August was a month of increased activity across our Dunedin real estate sector, with approximately 160 property sales.

The median house price remained stable at \$570,000, showing little change from previous months which is what we had suspected would continue to happen. While the number of days properties stayed on the market increased slightly to an average of 54 days, this trend is attributed to broader economic conditions rather than local market weakness.

Overall, Dunedin's real estate market remains resilient, with consistent demand, especially for residential and rental properties.

As a reflection of this, our open home visitor numbers have risen in many of the properties that have recently launched to the market. Our Dunedin Harcourts team are also seeing some renewed interest in existing stock, and we are actively back in the days of getting multi offers and multiple bidders at auction who have done their homework and are ready to move forward.

With interest rates continuing to be tweaked downwards supporting confidence in buyers and more investors looking to what property is available it is a time to be quietly optimistic.

There are opportunities abound, in both selling or buying so now is a great time to reach out to your local Harcourts agent if you need a hand with anything in real estate.

GREATER GREEN ISLAND

STATS **AUGUST**

Average Dwelling Price

\$711,411

Number of sales

17

DUNEDIN

STATS **AUGUST**

Median Dwelling Price

\$570,000

Number of sales

160

Carissa

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Harcourts

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TOOTS' COLUMN

Greetings people,

Just giving you fair warning, I will be bringing up that "word" that should not be spoken of this early in the year, at the end of this section.

You may have seen me parked up early in the morning monitoring your driving behaviour. Generally, things are good and most people are behaving themselves, but..... There are one or two issues that need to be addressed. There seems to be a number of vehicles with their rego on hold and WOF's out of date, driving about. Wee tip here, it's cheaper to get the rego/WOF than it is to get a fine for not having one and then to compound things, you still have to pay for the rego/WOF.

The other matter is driving behaviour around schools in the morning. Please don't do U-turns after you've dropped off your pride and joy at the school. You don't want to hurt someone else's child because you didn't see them! Just take an alternative route. We'll all appreciate the extra effort you put in.

On the plus side, the majority of driving behaviour has been excellent, and everyone is driving to the conditions. Thanks.

A wee reminder that the "Market Day" is on Saturday the 7th of December. It's a great day out and the food is Fantastic. See you there.

Right then, that word, CHRISTMAS is coming and that means "can appeal" time. It will be happening on the 2nd of December. Bags will be available and as soon as I get the details of how to get them, I will let you know. It doesn't have to be cans only, you can donate toiletries, cleaning products, basically anything you can put in a bag. Your generosity is very much appreciated by one and all.

Stay safe.

Toots



Senior Constable Mark "Toots" Tuten

ORBUS KINDNESS CAMPAIGN

Otago Regional Council has launched a bus safety campaign aimed at encouraging respect and kindness among bus users. Posters will be put up in buses and around the city reminding bus users that "It's cool to be kind". The campaign encourages bus users to report any problems by calling Orbus on 0800 672 8736, or 111 in an emergency, or 105 for a non-emergency.

ORC continues to work closely with Police and the community on a range of initiatives to improve bus safety.



JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL



GREEN ISLAND MARKET

SATURDAY, MAIN SOUTH RD
7 DECEMBER GREEN ISLAND
10:00AM - 1:00PM

FREE ENTRY

Events
Over 100 stalls, School performances, Candy Floss, Bouncy Castle, Food Truck, Arts & Craft, Games, Competitions, Santa's Grotto

A family fun day out

For more information:
email events@greenergreenisland.nz

Organised by:

 GREATER GREEN ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

GET READY TO

Shake Out

24th OCTOBER 9.30AM

OUR NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE DRILL AND TSUNAMI HIKOI

SIGN UP AT SHAKEOUT.GOVT.NZ

DROP COVER HOLD



SIGN UP!



Harcourts

GUMBOOT FRIDAY

JOIN US FOR A FUN FAMILY FRIENDLY AFTERNOON & SUPPORT AN AMAZING CAUSE!

FRIDAY 1ST NOV, 2024
3PM - 5PM

LUCKY DIPS FACE PAINTING
GUESS THE LOLLIES IN THE LOLLY JAR
GUMBOOT THROWING RAFFLES
DECORATE GINGERBREAD PEOPLE
PLUS LOADS MORE!
**Gold coin donation for all the activities*

HELD AT THE GREEN ISLAND MEMORIAL GARDENS NEXT TO FRESH CHOICE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO GUMBOOT FRIDAY WHICH SUPPORTS FREE COUNSELLING FOR ALL YOUNG KIWIS.



FREE AUSAGE SIZZLE

FACEPAINTING & KIDS ACTIVITIES

JOIN US FOR OUR SHOCKTOBER OPEN DAY!

CALLING 111

STARTING CPR

HOW TO USE AN AED

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
A FUN FAMILY EVENT AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO (RE)LEARN SOME NEW SKILLS

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER
12PM - 2PM
GREEN ISLAND MEMORIAL PARK





Hato Hone St John