

## YOUTH ACTION GROUP READY TO GET STARTED

Thursday 22nd May 2025 saw the launch of something pretty special in the Greater Green Island area – the very first Greater Green Island Youth Action Group (YAG), kicked off with a gathering at St Mark's. It was a down-to-earth, good vibes kind of evening, filled with whānau, food, and fun – and the start of what we reckon will be some awesome mahi from our local young people.

This new initiative, with support from local schools and the community, is all about giving young people a genuine chance to get involved with the real stuff going on around here. It's about action – not just talking, but doing. What stood out in the interviews was how keen these young people are to work with their community, not separate from it.

Out of 31 impressive applications from Year 6 upwards, we've brought together 16 young legends who are keen to roll up their sleeves and help make Greater Green Island even better. One participant asked, "Can we be involved in those events like the Christmas Market? Because those are awesome." That's the energy we love.

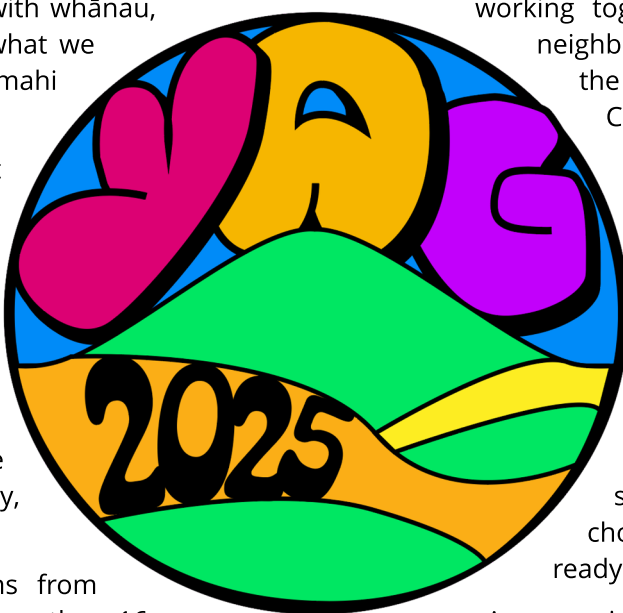
The group will meet regularly at the GGICN base to brainstorm ideas, plan projects, and help shape the community spaces and events we all enjoy. And it's not just about "youth stuff" – the whole kaupapa is about all ages working together to do great things for our neighbourhood. The project is overseen by

the team at the Greater Green Island Community Network and made possible through support from the Otago Community Trust as part of the Wheako project and a special shout out to the Mosgiel Foodbank for helping with catering.

At the launch, the group and their whānau got stuck into some team-building activities, shared their hopes for the future, and showed exactly why they were chosen – passionate, full of ideas, and ready to pitch in.

As we said on the night – communities that back their young people help them thrive. We're proud to be backing this group, and can't wait to see where they take things next.

Watch this space – the YAG crew is just getting started.



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# MCDONALDS OPENS ITS DOORS IN GREEN ISLAND!

Green Island is now officially home to New Zealand's 173rd McDonald's restaurant – and what a fantastic first week it's been! The restaurant opened its doors on Tuesday 13th May, and since then, the response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

This is the first new build for local owners Justin and Eterei Stonelake, who have invested a massive \$10 million into the project – \$2 million on land, \$5 million for the build, and \$3 million in equipment. And it's a big one – the biggest restaurant McDonald's will now build, with around 80 seats, an extended dual-laned drive-through, and a drive-through McCafé, and top-of-the-line equipment and systems now all up and running. The PlayPlace is still on the way, with an expected opening in mid-June.

Over 100 people were involved in bringing this project to life, with a strong focus on local expertise and support. A huge thank you to Hadley Fletcher from McIntosh – his calm, "get it done" attitude under pressure made a massive difference. Other key players included: Alan Taylor from Adams Plumbing, Mark Preston and Jack Maffey from Adams Electrical, Dave Smith and Glen van der Vliet from Adams Drainage, and Chris McLeod from Hall Bros Civil Works. Justin gave a special shout-out to Katie Sheffield, the Operations Manager, who was instrumental behind the scenes in preparing staff and systems.

Justin and Eterei couldn't be happier with how things have gone. "We're incredibly proud of our restaurant team – they've been working so hard, and this has been one of the best McDonald's openings in the past 20 years," says Justin. "The response from the community has been amazing, and people have been incredibly supportive, patient, and really excited to have McDonald's local."

The support from locals has truly stood out – people are

happy not to have to drive into town, and they've been kind and understanding with the new youth staff as they find their feet. Night-time trade is already booming, traffic flow is smooth, and McDelivery through Uber Eats and DoorDash is launching soon – fantastic news for surrounding suburbs.

The restaurant has already exceeded expectations, ranking in the top 20 McDonald's restaurants nationwide for sales. Friday night was their busiest yet – and they're now hiring 30 more staff to meet the demand! So far, over 60 people

have been employed this year, including locals from Green Island, Kaikorai Valley and Mosgiel – and looking to employ at least another 30 due to the overwhelming community support.

McDonald's remains one of New Zealand's biggest youth employers and is deeply committed to supporting local communities. Here in Green Island, that support is easy to see – from the crew proudly wearing

Green Island Rugby Club caps, to covering the cost of St. Peter Chanel School's swimming lessons last year. Their commitment also extends nationally, as the number one fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities, which is now set to open a facility right here in Dunedin.

It's safe to say McDonald's Green Island is off to a golden start – and the future is looking bright.



McDonalds Green Island opened mid-May!



Eterei and Justin Stonelake on opening day



## The Informer

**Informer Editor:** Rachelle Williamson

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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



# CONCORD INN REBUILD BRINGS A FRESH COMMUNITY FOCUS

The team at the Concord Inn is hard at work, not just rebuilding walls and updating layouts, but strengthening their commitment to the local community. The much-loved local spot is undergoing a thoughtful renovation aimed at making it even more welcoming for families, friends, and regulars who already know it as the place to go for good food and great company.

Owner Jane Downing sums it up simply: "We're just wanting to make it a better place for families to come and enjoy a meal, a nice atmosphere, and enjoy good quality pub meals at a reasonable price."

And it's not just talk. Known for their award-winning pub meals — some of the best in Dunedin — the Concord Inn is staying true to its roots with affordable, hearty dishes that locals rave about. The rebuild is designed with the customer in mind: expanding the restaurant area for a



Concord Inn front facade - rebuild almost complete

more spacious and comfortable dining experience, opening up the outdoor area for year-round use, and even adding a new bar space for functions and events.

Importantly, the inn remains open throughout the renovation. Construction crews are working in the early hours to avoid disrupting guests, and visitors can already enjoy the revamped outdoor seating area.

Future plans include expanding the kitchen to better serve the growing number of patrons — a longer-term project they hope to complete within the next year.

At the heart of it all is a simple goal: to create a space where the community can come together, eat well, and feel right at home. And that's exactly what the Concord Inn continues to offer — one meal, one gathering, and one upgrade at a time.

## CARDS & COMMUNITY AT THE GREEN ISLAND FIRESIDE CLUB

The Green Island Fireside Club recently wrapped up its highly anticipated Euchre Championship for 2024, with congratulations going to Isabelle King and Wayne Facer, proud winners of this year's trophy after several weeks of friendly competition.

Held every Thursday from 1 to 3pm at the Janet Cameron Hall, the club – which has been around for over 70 years - provides a warm, welcoming space for local seniors to connect, unwind, and enjoy themselves. While Euchre and 500 remain firm favourites among the regulars, others opt for jigsaw puzzles or simply catching up over a cup of tea.

In addition to games and conversation, the club

occasionally organises group outings, offering members the chance to explore and enjoy new experiences together.

As one of Green Island's valued community groups, the Fireside Club plays an important role in supporting older adults to stay socially connected. New members are always welcome.

For more information, contact Hazel or Ewi on 0275 811 988.



Wayne Facer & Isabelle King

## A MASSIVE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



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

*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

With the weather not making up its mind as to whether it wants to treat us with sun or bring a cold wind, we have still seen plenty of home buyers out and about. There remains a lot of choice for these buyers, which then impacts on the number of days properties are on the market before selling. This hasn't impacted on the median sale price though, which at \$600,000 is slightly higher than the same period last year.

The listings in Dunedin remain high compared to the previous year, providing buyers with a wide range of options.

Interesting to note, with the engaged buyer activity there are many who are hesitant to make the decision to commit to their next home. We can help with that by giving guidance around banks time frames for getting approvals. If a buyer has an agreed offer or is wanting to bid at auction / submit a tender, then they go the top on the banks 'to do' list. Great motivation for auction and tender properties.

The average home value for Dunedin is sitting at \$646,378, this has remained virtually unchanged year-on-year.

Steady demand continues in areas like Mosgiel – as always continuing to top the list of online property searches as a suburb, then Māori Hill, and St Clair. We are seeing more searches for outlying areas though – Karitane, Warrington, along the coast.

It would seem Dunedin's property market is expected to remain stable in the near term. Buyers have the advantage of choice, while sellers are encouraged to ensure they work with their agents to ensure they meet the market so they too can make their next move.

## GREATER GREEN ISLAND

STATS **APRIL**

Average Dwelling Price

**\$734,772**

Number of sales

**22**

## DUNEDIN

STATS **APRIL**

Median Dwelling Price

**\$600,000**

Number of sales

**221**



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Our newsletter is delivered to thousands of readers each month, both in print and online. If you're interested in advertising with us, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch via the email below to learn about current pricing and explore how we can support your advertising needs.

Please email: [informer@greenergreenisland.nz](mailto:informer@greenergreenisland.nz)

## Talking Café



Greater Green Island Community Network

4 Howden Street

Green Island

(behind Larson's Pharmacy in the former medical centre building)



### JOIN US!

Our Talking Café welcomes seniors to join for a relaxed cuppa, kai, and chat.

Come and 'spice up your life' - share life experiences and memories, enabling you to keep your mind active and connect with others.

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
starting 3 June

1 - 3pm

### For further information:

Age Concern Otago

P 03 479 3054

E [hp@ageconcernotago.co.nz](mailto:hp@ageconcernotago.co.nz)

Greater Green Island Community Network

P 021 228 6934

E [admin@greenergreenisland.nz](mailto:admin@greenergreenisland.nz)



[ageconcernotago.com](http://ageconcernotago.com)

## MATARIKI WHANAU HUI

Connect, enjoy some kai, celebrate, remember, look ahead and learn together.

Friends & whanau,  
Everyone is welcome!

**SATURDAY  
21ST JUNE  
3PM-5.30PM**



There is no cost for this event but please bring a koha (food or money) for the Dunedin foodbank

DUNEDIN CITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
19 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, CONCORD



# YOUTH YAPS - GREEN ISLAND SCHOOL'S ZOMBIE OUTBREAK

*This is a youth yaps article written by some young people in your community (with a little help from Bri). This week's article is brought to you by Eli Beer-Williams and Jordan Naicker.*

Hi, my name is Jordan and my name is Eli, and one month ago there was a zombie outbreak at Green Island school. On Saturday the 5th of April we had a fundraiser to raise money to build a new sandpit at school. The zombie fun run is when over 250 kids, adults and teenagers came to Green Island school to enjoy the event. The event had food trucks, a lollie stand, a bouncy castle, and a coffee truck. The school bottom field looked like a war zone as the year 7 and 8s dressed up as zombies and got to scare people who were running through all the obstacles. The obstacles that were there were the foam pit, water slide, maze, gravestones and a bunch of tyres.



Youth getting ready to run away from zombies



Eli (middle), Jordan (right) dressed as zombies

My (Eli) favourite thing at the fun run was scaring people and chugging fizzy. My (Jordan) favourite part was the water slide. The kids favourite food trucks were the sausages. We had so much fun and were so grateful even while we were huffing and puffing chasing all the kids around.

## PUAKA MATARIKI: HONOURING THE PAST, WELCOMING THE NEW

*This month we have the privilege of a section written by a local member of our community, Waiariki Parata-Taiapa.*

Ko Waiariki Parata-Taiapa tōhoku ikoa  
Nō Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Hine

Tihei Mauri ora!

Puaka / Matariki

Puaka (Puanga) - Rigel

Matariki - Pilates

Puaka (Kāi Tahu dialect), known by many as Puanga, is the Māori word for the star, Rigel. Puaka (Rigel), is a blue supergiant star in the constellation of Orion, rising in our southern sky about an hour before Matariki. Puaka rises before the sun in early winter, marking the Māori New Year for iwi like Kāi Tahu, Rēkohu and others who don't follow Matariki as a marker to signal the new year. Puaka and Matariki also signal a time for reflection, remembrance, and renewal. Whānau come together to honour those who have passed, share kai, and set intentions for the year ahead.

This year, the Puaka Matariki Festival will be running from 14th June – 12th July. Be sure to look out for these events throughout Ōtepoti Dunedin.

Puaka Matariki Festival - Dunedin City Council



## GREEN ISLAND TAEKWONDO SHINES AT BUDO SOUTH OPEN

A small but mighty team of four headed up to Tauranga recently to represent Green Island Taekwondo at the Budo South Open - and they did us proud. It was the first time



Ava Barnes, Isabella Begley, Elijah Mullen

coaching for Master Vanessa Begley, and her team delivered strong performances all around.

Ava Barnes competed in her very first tournament and came home with a well-earned Silver after a close fight. Isabella Begley, in just her second tournament, took home a well-fought Gold medal. Elijah Mullens also attended his second tournament and proudly returned with Bronze. Seasoned competitor Noah Clarke-Barnes took on two divisions and came away with two Silver medals — a fantastic result, especially as he faced members of New Zealand's Junior team. We are so proud of all of them!

Next up, Green Island Taekwondo is looking forward to the Taekwondo New Zealand Kukkiwon Cup International Open in Christchurch this June, where a team of 13 will compete.

We're also excited to be hosting the I LOVE TAEKWONDO tournament this July at our Dojang in Green Island. This event is designed for students new to competition (with fewer than three tournaments under their belt), giving them a chance to give it a go in a supportive environment. More experienced students will have the chance to officiate and learn the ropes of tournament operations. Exciting times ahead for the Green Island Taekwondo club!



# AROHA KAIKORAI VALLEY AIR QUALITY PROJECT UNDERWAY



Travis Baird (Unifone) and Joshua Smith (Aroha Kaikorai Valley)

restoration—and now, thanks to a new project, they're also monitoring the air we breathe. The idea came from Joshua Smith, who first became curious about air quality after installing a monitor at home. "I started wondering what was happening just down the street," he said. He raised the idea with the AKV team, and it quickly took off.

With support from international company Air Gradient, AKV received eight air quality monitors. Monitors were installed at local businesses, such as Turboweb & Foleys, and are now live at sites including Unifone, near Mercy Hospital, and several residential addresses. More are on the way, including placements in North East Valley, and at Otago Polytechnic and the University.

These outdoor monitors measure PM2.5 (fine particulate matter), and chemical compounds, such as carbon dioxide (CO2). The data gives a clearer picture of local air quality and can help identify pollution sources, especially during winter

Kaikorai Valley is a place full of natural beauty, but like many urban areas, it faces environmental challenges. Aroha Kaikorai Valley (AKV), a local grassroots initiative, is helping tackle those challenges through community-led

when home heating increases. To view current air quality levels on the Air Gradient map, visit: <https://www.airgradient.com/map/>.

Joshua has taken the lead on the project. "It started as something small, but it's been awesome to meet people and use my skills for something meaningful," he says. AKV hopes to eventually display the data live on their website, giving residents real-time access to local air conditions. Understanding air quality matters because poor air can make conditions like asthma and other respiratory issues worse, especially for tamariki and older adults.

This project reflects the wider work of AKV, whose mission is to restore the valley's health through five focus areas: people, plants, predators, water, and birds. They're replanting natives, improving water quality, reducing pests, and building a future where the Kaikorai Stream runs clear and native birds like tūi and kererū return in greater numbers. This is great for all neighbouring regions, too! One major challenge is pest control. Rats, stoats, and possums are common, especially with the nearby refuse station. AKV uses targeted trapping—not poison—to protect pets, people, and native wildlife.

Whether it's monitoring the air, planting trees, or setting traps, AKV believes in community action for long-term change. To get involved or learn more, contact: [connect@akv.nz](mailto:connect@akv.nz) | 03 474 5953 | [www.akv.nz](http://www.akv.nz)

## NEW KĀINGA ORA HOMES ON BURGESS STREET READY TO WELCOME FAMILIES

Kāinga Ora has recently completed four new homes in Burgess Street, Green Island. One older family home was demolished and replaced with four new warm dry homes: There are two bedroom homes to the front of the site, with two single storey accessible homes at the rear. These are warm, dry, well insulated homes.

An open day was held on 15 May for neighbours and local housing agencies. Fire and Emergency Services staff from Lookout Point attended to familiarise themselves with the layout of the properties. The occupants of the new homes have moved in over the past week. Nadine Simpson from Ingrid Leary's office praised the ample storage and disability access features.

A further eight new homes are under construction at 16-18 Brighton Road, replacing two older homes. These new homes comprise 7 two bedroom (two storey ) homes and one

single storey one bedroom home. These homes are scheduled for completion in September 2025. Members of the community will be invited to see through these properties once they are completed. The date will be notified on Kāinga Ora's online engagement platform:

<https://letstalk.kaingaora.govt.nz/dunedin/map>



Above & right: Burgess Street Kāinga Ora homes





DOORS OPEN  
6.30PM

## ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL QUIZ NIGHT

TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025  
GREEN ISLAND RUGBY CLUB



### JUST Listed

**164 MAIN SOUTH ROAD** Green Island  
DEADLINE SALE 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY

1086sqm

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# BLOOM BOUTIQUE BEAUTY CELEBRATES ONE YEAR



Katrina Kleeber - Bloom Beauty

Nestled in peaceful, green island Derby Street, Bloom Boutique Beauty has quickly become a cherished sanctuary for clients seeking expert skin and beauty treatments in a private, serene setting. The boutique clinic, tucked away in a cosy cabin on the property of owner and seasoned beauty

therapist Katrina, has just celebrated its first birthday—marking a year of growth, glowing skin, and grateful clients.

What began as a passion project alongside Katrina’s long-standing career in beauty therapy has now blossomed into a thriving full-time business. With over 20 years of hands-on experience in multiple beauty salons around Dunedin, management roles and sales support and training, Katrina brings expertise and genuine care to every treatment, offering clients not just results, but a place to truly relax and feel at home.

Bloom Boutique Beauty specialises in advanced skin treatments including skin peels and skin needling, along with their signature natural lash and brow enhancements. Clients rave about the intimate, uninterrupted service, the convenience of easy parking, and the comfort of seeing the same experienced therapist at every visit.

Now operating full-time with two late-night evenings, Bloom has also expanded its offerings to include mobile tanning—bringing this glow directly to clients’ doors.

At Bloom, it’s not just about beauty - it’s about creating space to reconnect, unwind, and bloom in your own skin.

# THE BOWLING CLUB NOW DELIVERING MEALS TO GREEN ISLAND, FAIRFIELD & BRIGHTON



Bowling Club team member Bex

The Bowling Club isn’t a bowling alley or a sports club, instead it’s one of Dunedin’s most heart-filled community eateries, and it’s now delivering hot meals right here to Green Island, Fairfield and Brighton.

Based in Caversham, The Bowling Club has been serving up affordable, wholesome kai since 2022. Meals are offered on a pay-as-you-feel basis, with suggested prices between \$4 and \$7, and anyone needing a bit of extra support can request a free meal code. It’s all about making good food accessible for everyone.

The meals themselves are hearty, homestyle, and packed with flavour. Think creamy chicken, leek and bacon stew, slow-cooked lentil curries, stuffed roast kumara croquettes, macaroni cheese, and more. There are always vegetarian and meat-based options, plus tasty extras like roast vege sides for \$2.50, desserts for \$3.50, and freshly baked artisan bread for \$6 a loaf.

And now, thanks to a growing team of local volunteers, The Bowling Club is delivering meals twice a week – every Tuesday and Thursday – to collection points in Green Island, Fairfield, and Brighton. Orders need to be placed online by 12pm on the day of delivery, and meals are dropped off in the afternoon. There’s a small \$0.50 charge per item to help cover the cost of packaging and admin, and meals must be collected within 1 hour of drop-off for food safety reasons.



It’s a fantastic option for anyone looking for a low-cost, nutritious dinner – or for those who want to support a social enterprise doing good things in our city.

To order, volunteer, or request a discount code, head to [thebowlingclub.co.nz](http://thebowlingclub.co.nz) or email [admin@thebowlingclub.co.nz](mailto:admin@thebowlingclub.co.nz).

## Saddle View Health Centre - We're Enrolling!

We're pleased to welcome new patients. Our purpose-built health centre is easily accessible with great onsite parking.

Our experienced team of practitioners, nurses, health professionals and admins are happy to help you and your whānau.

Head to our website to find out more about us, our services, our fees and our team.

To enrol scan the QR code and complete your enrolment online

[www.saddleview.health](http://www.saddleview.health)

Scan Me!

## CAFE WEDNESDAY

Sharing the hope and love of Christ

**Wednesdays 10am-11.30am  
during the term**

Free Kai & Hot Drinks  
Easy Parking  
Everyone Welcome

Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord



**The Greater Green  
Island Community  
Wants to Hear From  
You!**



## **THE GREATER GREEN ISLAND COMMUNITY SURVEY IS NOW OPEN**

Help share your views on the community

- What do you love?
- What do we need?
- What could be better?

Take a few minutes to have your say and be part of building a better community.



**WIN 2x PRIZES OF \$100**  
at your choice of Greater  
Green Island business

Scan here to  
complete survey!

