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THE ROTHESAY NEWS

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Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Kia ora koutou katoa. Our wonderful Island Keeper, Jon Clark, (pictured) died unexpectedly in the Cottage from a sudden brain hemorrhage, and was found by members of the QI/KT Community on 29 November.

Jon is deeply missed, both as a wonderful keeper, and as a friend to many QI/KT Community members, volunteers, and returning lodge guests. Special thanks to local Police officer, Liam Guthrie, and his team, and Coastguard Dunedin for their compassionate care and support during an extremely difficult and stressful time for seven members of the QI/KT Community who were present. Special thanks also Hoani Langsbury for leading a karakia whakawātea to bless the Cottage, and to Rob Emmett, *Otago Water Taxis & Tours*, for all his support after Jon's death getting us to and from the Island. It took a great deal of stress off the shoulders of the community as we grieved this loss.

Jon had a long and deep connection with the island and spent many days as a young adult with his mother Pamela and father, Charles Clark, members of the *St. Martin Island Community*. Jon lived on the island in 1985-1986 and helped Rev. Dave Wilson (the first SMIC resident keeper who lived on the island for 10 years) care for the animals, maintain fences and buildings, and welcome groups. Jon also assisted his father in replacing the piles and timbers on the jetty. Jon returned to the Island as our keeper in 2023 and loved living in, what he described as, paradise. Rest in peace, Jon.



In other news there were a number of lodge guests and day visitors who enjoyed some 'Island-time' in late November, December and early January. Lodge guests included students from an Australian school hosted by Travelwell, groups of family and friends, former Syrian refugees hosted by Kirsteen McLay, and a wedding was held in the Married Quarters in early January. Day visitors included students from St Joseph Cathedral School, North East Valley Normal School Nature Club, and members of St John Youth, Blue Light Venture and Dunedin 60 Plus Club - Ramblers.

Some of these groups hired the Married Quarters building during their visit and used the QI/KTC *Treasure Hunt Teachers Guide* and Zine. Heinke Sommer-Matheson, (St Martin Island Community member) and Iona Community friends made a special visit to the Island in November.

Our next Community Welcome Days is planned for Saturday 28 February. To join us complete the booking quarantineisland.org.nz Events page, or like our Facebook and Instagram pages to hear about all events and opportunities to join us. We thank Otago Water Taxis & Tours and Port To Port Cruises & Wildlife Tours for boat transfers. To arrange a day visit or stay in St Martin Lodge, or workshop venue, hui, celebration or retreat you can find information on our or contact the island Keeper, Jon, on 021 082 58619 or email quarantineisland@gmail.com

Claire Hagglund

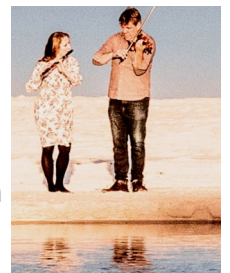
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Traditional Irish music & new music from the South West Concert in Port Chalmers, Sunday 8 February

Robert Zielinski and Manuela Centanni are pleased to be able to present a concert of traditional Irish music and Robert's original compositions of new music from the South West of Western Australia. Including excerpts from his award winning album *Kiangardarup*, at the Port Chalmers Pioneer Hall on Sunday 8 February 2026, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Pioneer Hall is at 45 George Street, Port Chalmers and you can purchase your ticket at the door for only \$25.00.

Robert and Manuela are known for their unique tone, harmonies and arrangements, and together they will take you on a musical journey from Ireland to Australia. Robert has received numerous awards for his album including three silver medals at the global Music Awards, a win at the Intercontinental Music Awards, Instrumentalist of the Year at the Australian Folk Music Awards, and String Player of the Year at the West Australian Music Awards.



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Hi all,

And just like that, it's February! At the time of writing, 2026 has got off to the kind of start you would expect, with lower interest rates and the usual influx of buyers we see at this time of year.

It's hard to say exactly how 2026 will unfold in real estate, but I expect the market will continue to swing more in favour of sellers. At the same time, lower interest rates and easing lending rules are making things a little easier for buyers, allowing more people to enter the market. This typically means more buyers at open homes, more offers, and a bit of FOMO creeping in, all of which can lead to higher sale prices.

As always, we can predict the market all we like, but achieving the best possible price comes down to how your home presents to buyers, how and where it is promoted, and the skill and experience of the agent selling it, these factors make all the difference.

If you're thinking about selling, feel free to get in touch and I can pop around for a chat, along with details on our big cash giveaway promotion.



Hamish McDonald

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Harbour Physio Matters - Shoulders

The shoulder is a complex joint (consisting of the humerus, scapula, and clavicle), where pain can develop from a wide range of causes. The shoulder complex rests on the rib cage and sits in close proximity to the cervical spine. Therefore, regardless of the source of shoulder pain, it is important that all these structures are moving and functioning as effectively as possible.

The shoulder relies heavily on soft-tissue structures for stability, as the bony surfaces provide relatively little joint stability compared to joints such as the hip. This design allows for excellent range of motion.

The rotator cuff consists of four muscles that work together to provide joint compression and control throughout movement. Depending on the position and movement of the arm, each rotator cuff muscle may take on a primary role.

Proper shoulder function also depends on muscles activating, or 'firing,' in the correct sequence during arm movement. Often, certain muscle groups can become hyperactive (too dominant), which disrupts normal movement patterns within the shoulder complex. This imbalance may also be linked to weakness in other muscles and compensatory overuse elsewhere. Common muscles that tend to be hyperactive include the pectorals (chest), levator scapulae (neck), and latissimus dorsi (a large trunk muscle).

If you have shoulder pain and would like it assessed contact your physiotherapist today. Please phone 027 631 0476, or email harbourphysio@gmail.com to make a booking. **Krystal Cameron**



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Community Constable

If there is a car outside the Port Station (possibly 8am-4pm Monday to Friday) that will mean Liam is about, so feel welcome to go to the counter, or call 03 472 8822.



Backyard Medicine

Elder, *Sambucus nigra*. Focusing on the berries this month, which are ripening as I type. A word of caution first - both the unripe berries and the leaves of the Elder are poisonous, so do ensure that your berries are well ripe before you pick them - dark dark indigo.

Elderberries contain organic pigments, tannin, amino acids, carotenoids, sugar, rutin, viburnic acid, vitamin A and B and a large amount of vitamin C.

Elderberries are very high in anthocyanins, which give the berries their rich indigo hue. This and quercetin, are just 2 of several flavonoids present in Elderberries that are very powerful antioxidants.

Elderberry is good for your vision, and helps to keep good cholesterol levels.

A syrup made from Elderberries can be taken daily in the autumn and winter as support for your respiratory and immune systems.

If you aren't a fan of sugar, try using honey. Or, you could simply dry your ripe berries, and use them in your daily winter teas.

Of course the Vitamin C is all but destroyed by the cooking - but that's OK, because it's the anthocyanins that are supporting your immune system.

Elderberry Cordial

- Elderberries
- Granulated sugar or honey
- Cloves (some recipes I found also used ginger, cinnamon quills, and even chili!)
- Cut the Elderberries just below the stalks.
- Use a fork to remove the Elderberries from the stalks into a bowl.
- Place the Elderberries in a saucepan with enough water to cover them.
- Simmer for 20 minutes.
- Strain the Elderberry mixture through a muslin or straining bag, squeezing to make sure you get all the juice out.

For each 500 ml of juice you get, add 400g granulated sugar/300g honey and 12 cloves. (if you wish to use cinnamon quills, dried ginger or chili, add them here)

Boil the mixture for 10 minutes.

- Allow the Elderberry mixture to cool, and then bottle in sterilized glass bottles, making sure that the caps have a plastic or rubber seal.
- Add an equal amount of the cloves to each bottle you make up.

The Elderberry cordial syrup will last up to two years.

If you are on any medications or have any concerns about this mix & you, talk to your healthcare practitioner first.

Francisca Griffin, Naturopath



When using the Shared Path, keep left, and use your bell to alert other users you are coming.

From the chef... this recipe is courtesy of Wild Fennel.

Pan-fried Salmon in Mustard Cream Sauce

Here's a little winter warmer to satisfy those taste buds! A lovely creamy salmon dish using our sweet paprika, dill and coriander [Salmon seasoning](#).

You will need

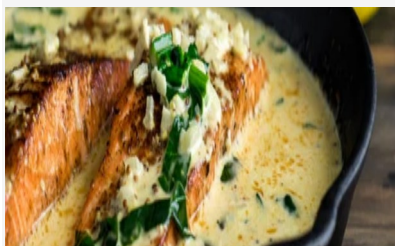
2 fillets salmon
2 cloves crushed garlic
½ diced white onion
Handful chopped spinach
1 tbsp wholegrain mustard
1 glass white wine
200mL cream
Salt for seasoning
10g Wild Fennel Co. [Salmon seasoning](#)
Olive oil
Sourdough and butter for serving

To make

Remove any bones from your salmon, and rub all over with the seasoning. Fry the salmon on a medium heat in a deep frying pan, once all sides are caramelised put the salmon is skin side down. Now add the garlic and onion to the pan, cook until soft.

Deglaze the pan with the white wine and reduce until almost evaporated. Add the cream and bring to the boil.

Stir in the mustard and reduce heat to a simmer for 5-10 minutes. Add chopped spinach, allow to wilt. Season with salt to taste and serve with a crunchy buttered sourdough.



The Rothesay News March 2026 Issue

**Copy deadline
is 10 February 2026**

**Landscape photos for the
Masthead needed, send your
photos in!**

Please make sure you have your activities and events with dates, times, location and any other information, **in by the deadline above.**

Forward your stories (max. 280 words) photos, news,

upcoming events, or if you have not received the *Rothesay News* to:

editor.rothesaynews@hotmail.com

West Harbour Weekly Exercise Classes

Zumba with Grace

Every Tuesday night 5.45pm - 6.45pm @ Pioneer Hall, \$5.00. Everyone welcome. For Information, contact Grace on 027 241 1885.

Yoga @ Port Chalmers Town Hall

Wednesday - Yoga4Life at 10.00am at Chalmers Lounge, Port Town Hall, upstairs.
Lisa@ayurveda.yoga4life.co.nz
www.elementallife.co.nz
027 437 0779.

Steady as you Go -

Port Chalmers

Falls prevention programme for men and women, Port Chalmers Town Hall Wednesdays 10am. \$3 per class.

Long Beach

Falls prevention exercises for women and men. Wednesdays 1.30pm \$3.00 per class. McCurdie Grimmon Hall Driver St, Long Beach.

Ravensbourne

Steady as you go exercise class to be held at Ravensbourne Hall, Wanaka St Mondays 2.00pm till 3.00pm \$3.00 per class. All welcome.

Pilates with Hayley Davey

Last class Thursday 18 December, restarting 19 Jan 2026. Private lessons available from Jan 12 2026. For more information contact Hayley Davey, 021 183 5352, hayleybeer@hotmail.com

Port Fit Express

Workouts. Suits all fitness levels, 10 classes, \$100 per term. Enrol now.

Cruise Ship Season 2025 - 2026

02	February 2026	Viking Venus
06	February 2026	Noordam
07	February 2026	Celebrity Edge
11	February 2026	Viking Orion
14	February 2026	Crown Princess
16	February 2026	Viking Venus
16	February 2026	Norwegian Spirit
18	February 2026	Seabourn Sojourn
19	February 2026	Viking Orion
22	February 2026	Carnival Splendour
23	February 2026	Azamara Onward
		Noordam
24	February 2026	Azamara Onward
		Discovery Princess
25	February 2026	Crown Princess
26	February 2026	Norwegian Spirit
		Celebrity Edge
27	February 2026	Arcadia

Timetable correct at the time of printing, for any updates, please check www.portotago.co.nz
Ange McErlane

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Did you know ?

If you need a Justice of the Peace there is a Service Desk at the Port Library on Friday morning at 11am - 1pm? It's free.

There are also several Justices in the West Harbour area. You can search for a JP at www.justiceofthepeace.org.nz

Rachel Brooking MP for Dunedin

Rachel.BrookingMP@parliament.govt.nz

1 King Street, Dunedin

f/RachelBrookingMP



Authorised by Rachel Brooking MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Port Chalmers Women's Institute

Members of the Port Chalmers Women's Institute gathered in the Chalmers Lounge of the Port Chalmers Town Hall on Tuesday 9 December 2025 for their final meeting for the year. The meeting commenced with the president reading a tribute to long-time member Annette Currie who had passed away recently and members stood for minute's silence in her memory. Our thoughts were also with our member Pauline whose husband had also passed away. A Christmas lunch had been enjoyed by all at the Village Green Restaurant at Green Island and it was therefore appropriate that our motto for the evening was, "Think of the plum, don't worry about the trifle". Our gifts for the less fortunate collected at our previous meeting had been delivered to the Women's Refuge and gratefully received. Christmas cards had been exchanged with our WI Link in Morcombe United Kingdom and the letter received had been read. Discussion took place on where and when to celebrate our 75th birthday in March next year.

Members then enjoyed a social time of games and quizzes and a lot of laughs were held when trying to spoon snowballs (cotton wool buds) from one bowl to another blindfolded. Members then enjoyed a delicious supper and a chat.

Our first meeting for 2026 will be on 10 February 2026 at the earlier time of 7pm. If you would like to join our friendly group call Mary on 021 259 2417.

Alison Moodie

St Leonards School

Kia ora West Harbour Community. The School Gate Greens.

The kids at St Leonards School grow and harvest the produce for our stall named School Gate Greens. It is at the front of the school by the mail box. School Gate Greens is somewhere to get produce like herbs, mint and peas. We will also sell potatoes when they are ready. We sell dried herbs and seeds. The kids from the school harvest things from the garden to sell.

Andy from Cook Brothers Construction made the shelter for School Gate Greens out of some recycled and scrap building materials. The year sixes painted the new stall at the end of last year.

School Gate Greens is good because it is a local fundraiser and it also encourages people to eat healthy and local things. The money we raise from it will help us get new chickens and take care of them.

We would like to thank Andy for making the new stall for us. School Gate Greens is open every day of the week but Friday is our restock day. Drop in and check it out! **By Freyja (9)**

Sarah Thompson (Tumuaki)

COMING UP

at St Leonards

21 FEB

POP UP OP SHOP

11AM-2PM

1 MAR

FRESHCOOL FAMILY COFFEE AND PLAY

10-11:30

28 MAR

EASTER MARKET + POP UP OP SHOP

11AM-2PM

15-17 APR

WILD DUNEDIN ORIENTEERING

TIME TBC

CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS



Port Chalmers Golf Club

Pai tū pai hinga nā wai, nā oti! Celebrating the successes and the failures but all of that has now come to an end.

The Port Chalmers Golf Club closed their 2025 season on Saturday 13 December with an Ambrose Golf competition, a festive meal and a prize giving.

There have been many things to celebrate over the year with around 40 cups and trophies awarded to those who played well enough to triumph in the 2025 season.

Life Member Beverlee Forgie presented the recipients with their spoils and we truly appreciated having Bev back in the clubhouse with us. It is important to always remember those who contributed so much in the time they were active members of the club ensuring the legacy of the 110 year old Port Chalmers Golf Club endures.



One highlight of the night was the inaugural awarding of the Sinclair Trophy for the Club 'Person of the Year'. This trophy was gifted to the Club by the Sinclair family in recognition of their son Mathew, a former member of the Club who passed away 26 years ago.

The trophy was awarded posthumously to Phil Glassey, Club President, who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly from a heart attack in October. The trophy was received on his behalf by Phil's son Benton and stepson Liam.

Alongside the awarding of prizes was the acknowledgement of the many people who give their time and energy to the myriad of jobs and projects the Club undertakes - Spring into Golf, Twilight Golf and She Loves Golf to name a few.

It is only right to also thank all the volunteers who work tirelessly to present our wonderful golf course for the enjoyment (and pain) of those who come to play.

Mā pango mā whero ka oti pai ngā mahi.

If you would like any information about the Port Chalmers Golf Club please contact Club Captain Brent Jackson pcgc.clubcaptain@gmail.com or 0275 72 8810. **Fiona Matapo**

Blueskin A & P Show

Bland park was gifted in a will to the Waitati community by the late Mr Bland, for sporting and leisure activities.

The Blueskin Agricultural & Pastoral society (A&P) committee manages the maintenance, and facilitates the use of the park.

The committee is a not-for-profit, incorporated society comprising a great bunch of local volunteers and we always welcome new members. Individuals, community groups and organisations utilise Bland Park throughout the year for sporting, arts and cultural shows including midweek training and Saturday games during football season, tennis and cricket matches, rugby training and matches, athletics training, birthday parties, picnics, school Matariki celebrations, music festivals, dog walking and the popular annual Blueskin community show.

There is currently a skate park, tennis courts, baseball hoop area and a children's play park on the grounds. Our current project is to upgrade the toilet facilities and improve accessibility. We have a plan and costings and now we are grant writing and fundraising, so come to the show and buy heaps of raffle tickets! Next committee meeting is Tuesday 17 February 7.00pm at the Waitati Hall.

Show day: Sunday 29 March 2026

All day – lots of family fun - rides, music, food & drinks.

- Food stalls – Warrington School cooking up a storm on the BBQ.
- Waitati School is on Cafe, with homemade cakes, sweets & tea.
- Purakanui School are making apple donuts & candy floss, also a selection of food trucks & ice creams.

Lots of kid's activities including the Noddy Train, entertainment with Jay the Juggler & balloons, pony rides, and a bouncy castle.

Live music from Tiny Little Pieces of 8.

The inaugural Blueskin Show Mullet Competition. If you have a business and want to be part of the show please get in touch- Businesses and Food trucks must be registered before the event (no turn ups on the day!!)

Car boot Sale

Large 4 metre x 4 metre sites.

No booking required. Gates open at 8.30am for setup.

Car boot site \$10.00 includes gate entry for 1 person (pay cash on arrival).

Extra persons \$5 gate charge.

Local businesses and food stalls

Commercial area – businesses/companies on show

\$25.00 includes 2 gate entries./ Businesses selling product e.g. food vendors \$50.00 includes gate entries.

The committee of the Blueskin A & P Society would like to thank you for your support.

To book in your business or food truck:

Phil Kelly philip.kelly@otago.ac.nz, Katie Peppercorn

katie.peppercorn@otago.ac.nz

Sally Brown sally@blueskinnurseries.co.nz



Blueskin A and P Society President Katie Peppercorn



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2026 Port Chalmers Marine Lodge Bursary

In December Geordie Stephenson from Port Chalmers was chosen as the recipient of the 2026 Port Chalmers Marine Lodge Bursary.

Geordie (pictured) has recently completed his final year at Logan Park High School and early in 2026 will move to University of Canterbury to commence a Conjoint Bachelor of Engineering and Computer Science Degree.

He has always been interested in solving problems so the degree will dovetail nicely with this as it combines Maths, Physics and Computer Sciences and focuses on creative and analytical thinking.

To quote Geordie, "I knew I wanted to pursue Mechatronics and had a strong interest in Computer Science, so combining them made perfect sense. It opens the door to working not just with robotics, but also in fields like artificial intelligence to create solutions that make a real difference."

Outside of school Geordie has interests in Chess, and playing Bridge.

The Port Chalmers Marine Lodge Bursary has been awarded annually since 2006 and therefore even though the Lodge no longer meets in Port Chalmers, its legacy lives on, benefiting the community of which it was part of for over 100 years.

Grant Watson



The Halo Project Source to Sea Team are working hard to identify the location of 6 pest plants within the Mihiwaka-Kāpuka-Taumāhaka/Mt Cargill area this year and they need your help! Thanks to

funding from the Otago Regional Council the team are surveying this landscape to remove these plants:



Site-Led Programme Activities

Leith Saddle - Mihiwaka



Mihiwaka - Kāpuka-Taumāhaka is a taoka landscape supporting the health and happiness of the humans and wildlife who call our area home. Locals enjoy walking the network of tracks, from the Organ Pipes to

Sullivan's Dam, and the impressive Mihiwaka crag is well loved by climbers!

This ngahere/bush provides food and habitat for species spilling over the ecosanctuary fence. Many native invertebrates in Aotearoa have evolved in close relationship with specific native plants, relying on them for food, shelter, and to complete their life cycles. When those host plants are lost or outcompeted, the invertebrates that depend on them disappear as well.

Each of the target pest plants can dominate the habitat in which they grow, causing our native plants to be outcompeted and reducing the habitat available to our native animals. Driving between Waitete/Waitati and Kōputai/Port Chalmers one need only glance out the window momentarily to see the thousands of sycamores taking over the landscape at the Centenary lookout. Working together, we can ensure this issue is contained!

The Halo Project Source to Sea Team will be surveying the roadsides and tracks in this area for these plants in the coming months. Keep an eye out, and if you see these plants at your place the team are happy to visit and help you with a management plan!

To learn more about or report the location of the target pest plants, head to www.haloproject.org.nz/mihiwaka or visit iNaturalist.org. To learn more about environmental weeds and how to control them, check out: www.weedbusters.org.nz.

Please include the map attached with the caption: 'Mihiwaka - Kāpuka-Taumāhaka/Mt Cargill Site-Led Programme Boundary'. Please also include the photo of the pest plants if you can!

The Halo Team

The Bowling Club Eatery

Easy dinner option for Port residents!

The Bowling Club* in Caversham provides Dunedin with low-cost meals. There's no reason to go without a comforting bowl of something nice from the Bowling Club, and it gets delivered right to Port Chalmers Library four days a week!

Mon-Thurs menus have a couple of mains options – both veg and meaty – curries, pastas, stews etc. usually with a salad, plus yummy dessert. Prices range from around \$5-\$8 for a main, \$3 for desserts, \$6 for a bag of delicious muesli, plus bread, sauce, jams... There is also free kai for those times when needed, no questions asked. Please email us: at admin@thebowlingclub.co.nz for a discount code.

Meals can be dine in, takeaway, or delivered to Port Chalmers Library foyer. Delivery started out with two days but near the end of the year expanded to four, Monday through Thursday.

How do you order?

Online, at thebowlingclub.co.nz – easy to set up, order and pay online, and food gets delivered to the library foyer usually around 4.30pm (Monday-Thursday).

Volunteer drivers needed!

This volunteer work involves collecting orders from the Bowling Club and delivering them to the Library – usually collecting 3.30-4.00pm and delivered half an hour later.

Drivers get to order dinner for free. It's up to you how many days you can do – one day a week is amazing, but even a day a fortnight is really helpful. Interested? please contact admin@thebowlingclub.co.nz.

*Bowling Club, because when they first started out of a mobile trailer, people would bring their bowl to fill (and you can still do that!).

Barbara Corcoran



D U S T I N G O F F



Children playing outside the new kindy 1950s

Port Chalmers Kindergarten: 69 years of early childhood education in the West Harbour

Port Chalmers Kindergarten is a warm heart in our community which has provided fun, friendship and learning for children and their whanau for the past 69 years. People have fond memories of the times they had as children, the support given and relationships created as parents and as we move through the generations ex-Port kindergarteners are now dropping off grandchildren.

Beginnings and change

Dunedin was home to the first kindergarten in New Zealand in 1889 through the work of educationalist Learmonth White Dalrymple, a resident of Port Chalmers. West Harbour locals in the 1950s rallied together and brought to life the need for a kindergarten here and on 3 February 1957 the kindergarten was opened by Mayoress Constance Thorn at 30B Albertson Avenue. In 2011 a brand new

building was opened on the same site; everyone was accommodated for about 6 months during the re-build at 50 Albertson Ave.

Both the kindergarten and the Hocken Library are the keepers of precious photographs and correspondence spanning the last 6 decades telling stories of the times and changes which have taken place. The programme and activities offered over this time; sand, paint and playdough, remain much the same but in the 50s and 60s we see the children playing on equipment placed on concrete and the surrounding fences are low to the ground. The responsibilities of teachers set out in 1970 include; empty own ashtrays, Harpic the toilets weekly and dead blooms to be disposed of from vases. The kindergarten saw its morning and afternoon sessional hours change in the late 90s to the option we have now where children can attend either for the morning or 8.30am-2.30pm.

The Mother's Club

The teachers and kindergarten are supported by a hardworking committee who raise funds and maintain the kindy equipment and environment, this was previously called the Mother's Club; their first meeting was on June 10 1957.

In these early meeting minutes, we can see many names familiar in this area today. We learn the kindergarten had a pet rabbit, they were entertained at the second ever meeting by the Port Chalmers Ladies Harmonica Band and they learned the Holger Neilson method of resuscitation.

The Mother's Club meetings included two invited members from different kindergartens, practical presentations such as floral arranging, a hair colour demonstration, rug making and Chinese cooking, to name just a few. There were regular speakers who talked about a range of things including road safety, overseas trips, T.V and stereo-phonics sound and aviation. The principal of the Kindergarten Training College often came and gave talks about different aspects of 'learning through play'. The club was also a social group outside of the home environment for these young women.

Fundraising efforts included; crochet lessons offered for 50cents, Mr Goddard donated potatoes to sell, there was a combined kindergarten fundraising talent show where Mrs Hudson from Port Chalmers offered to teach 12 members a poi dance.

There were also friendly competition events at meetings such as clay modelling and hair setting. If the kindergarten teachers expressed a need the Mother's club members did their best by reminding others to pin a handkerchief on their child, making dolls clothes, and sewing sugar sacks into painting aprons.

Traditions which many will remember were kept alive such as the restored Mickey Mouse Chair for 'graduating' students and the trolley which children have pushed and pulled each other around in for 40 years, picnicking at Aramoana and Christmas Carol singing in Currie Street.

We can see the great Gum tree, now a feature of the Port Chalmers skyline, planted to commemorate the kindergarten's 20th birthday.

Sapph Prentice 2017



Demolition of the old Kindergarten 2011



The new Kindergarten

**Using the bus to get to school**

If you haven't caught a bus before, check out information at www.orc.govt.nz/bus101

It's a good idea to look at the bus timetables in advance and plan your route.

Bus fares in Dunedin are \$1.50 for children and youth aged from 5 to 18 with a registered Bee Card, for a single trip. Bee Cards can be purchased for \$5 with a minimum \$5 top up, either at www.beecard.co.nz or at a local [Bee Card retailer](#) listed here www.orc.govt.nz/bee-card. For up to the minute alerts on bus disruptions on specific routes on your mobile, go to www.orc.govt.nz/public-transport/notifications-and-alerts and for real-time tracking of the bus download the Transit app.

Bus Etiquette

- Don't forget vaping, alcohol and eating aren't allowed on the bus
- You can bring your non-alcoholic drink if your container has a lid
- You can carry your skateboard or scooter on the bus
- You can put your bike on the bike rack on the outside of the bus if there's space Wave down your bus if you're waiting at the bus stop.

Paying for your bus fare: You can only use a Bee Card or cash to pay for your bus fare. Bank and credit cards cannot be used on buses to pay for a bus fare.

Age group	Bee Card fares	Cash
Under 5	Free	Free
Child 5-12 years	\$1.50	\$3
Youth (13-18 years)	\$1.50	\$3
Adult (19+)	\$2.50	\$3
Community Connect	\$1.25	\$3
SuperGold (65+)	Peak: \$2.50 Off-peak: Free with SuperGold concession loaded onto a registered Bee Card	\$3



Port Chalmers DCC Library & Service centre

School is back in February!

AnyQuestions?

Did you know that school kids can get homework help from the AnyQuestions website?

AnyQuestions is staffed by librarians from all around New Zealand and is open 10am-3pm weekdays.

Check it out here: www.anyquestions.govt.nz

The Dunedin Libraries website also have great homework resources here:

www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/youth/tamariki-pre-school-year-8/homework-help

And of course, you can also ask our Port Chalmers Librarians for quality information on your homework topics.

Regular programmes restarting:

Our regular programmes are starting up again in February:

Stories & rhymes for preschoolers - Wednesdays at 10:30am.

Lego Fun for Kids - Fridays 3:30pm-4:30pm.

Book share - first session - Friday 13 Feb at 11am.

Waitangi Day

Friday 6 February. All libraries and book buses closed.

JP Service Desk - Fridays 11am – 1pm. No need to book.

Library opening hours:

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 5.30pm

Late night Thursday - 8.00pm

Saturdays 11.00am - 2.00pm

Service Centre opening hours:

Monday - Friday: 9.30am - 5.00pm

The Port Library Team

**The Rothesay News Committee
welcomes your donations,
our bank account is:
11-8427- 0421556-11**



The Rothesay News acknowledges Otago Community Trust and the Dunedin City Council for the colour printing of this issue.

88 Drive responsibly on the highway, observe signs, be safe and reach your destination.

When using the Shared Path, keep left, and use your bell to alert other users you are coming.

10 Questions...

with Grant Robertson

Each month we ask a West Harbour local to answer the same ten questions. This month is Grant Robertson (pictured).

Grant is the Vice Chancellor of the University of Otago, which is the historical name for what is effectively being the Chief Executive of the University.

Grant and his husband Alf have the pleasure of living at University Lodge in St Leonards, which they rent from the University.

They arrived just over eighteen months ago, and tell *The Rothesay News* that they absolutely love the West Harbour area.



Grant grew up in Dunedin but did not spend much time in this part of the city, so said it's has been great getting to know it. He particularly loves Te Ara Moana, the walk and cycle way alongside the Harbour.

Q. If you had the chance, which three people (alive or dead) would you invite for dinner?

A. Michael Joseph Savage, Desmond Tutu and Bobby Kennedy.

Q. What are your three favourite movies?

A. Withnall and I, Star Wars (my first trip to a cinema!) and Scarfies.

Q. What was your first car and if money was no object what car would you like to buy?

A. The first car I bought myself was a Datsun Sunny station wagon with particularly dodgy steering. I am not a huge car person so am swayed by the sleek look of Mercedes Benz or some such. Maybe with a soft top for all those sunny Dunedin days!

Q. If you were to face the guillotine in the morning, what would you choose as your last meal?

A. Steak and chips.

Q. Which three countries would you most like to visit?

A. I would love to see more of Spain and also go to a couple of places I have never been, such as Turkey and Croatia.

Q. When you were at school can you remember what you first wanted to be when you grew up?

A. I remember wanting to be a Police Officer when I was about eight years old. I think I liked the idea of helping people and/or telling them what to do!

Q. What do you think is the most useful invention of all time?

A. A three-way tie between the wheel, jet engine and the internet.

Q. What is the best book you have read?

A. Too hard to choose. My favourite New Zealand novel is *Owls Do Cry* by Janet Frame.

Q. If you had a time machine where in the past or future would you go?

A. Cavern Club, Liverpool, February 9. 1961.

Q. If you had to spend one month on a desert island, name three things you would take along?

A. My husband, Alf, coffee and at least 10 books.

Ange McErlane



What's on this month on the West Harbour (see page 9 for Open & Shut)

- **Long Beach McCurdy Grimman Hall** - our hall is available for hire, e-mail your contacts to longbeachhall@gmail.com for more details.

- **Port Chalmers Taekwondo** - we train Monday & Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm at Port Town Hall, \$50 term or \$75 a family. Drop in and see us in term time.

- **Euchre** is played at the Port Chalmers Bowling Club every Monday at 1.00pm. The cost is \$3.00. Everyone welcome. Info: 472 8755.

- **Ravensbourne Community Hub** meets at Ravensbourne School every Monday 9.00am - 10.30pm during school term for a chat and cuppa. All welcome. Please phone 471 0410 for more info.

- **Harbourside Table Tennis Club** - 7.30pm Thursday nights, cost \$3, coaching and gear provided, Iona Church Hall, Mount St.

- **The Murray McGeorge Toy Library**. Open Sat. 2.00-4.00pm (excl. school/public holidays). 2 Athol Place, Ravensbourne (just off Ravensbourne Road). New members welcome, look for the yellow sign during opening hours. Look out for the yellow sign on Ravensbourne Road.

- **Senior Citizens** Meet each Tuesday at 1.00pm in the Port Chalmers Bowling Club Albertson Avenue, easy parking, open to all seniors harbour-side. Information contact Margaret Hedges 472 7233.

- **Port Chalmers Women's Institute**. Meets upstairs in the Chalmers lounge, Port Chalmers Town Hall, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. For information contact Mary Fahey 021 259 2417. Come join us.

- **Holy Trinity Port Chalmers**. Main Service - 10.00am, Sunday. Family Service 1st Sunday of the month.

- **St Mary's Star of the Sea, Magnetic St, Port Chalmers**. Mass 5.00pm Saturday.

- **Emmanuel Church, Sawyers Bay** - There is a service at 10.00am on the first and third Sundays with an informal get-together on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. All welcome.

- **Bookshare @ Port Chalmers Library** - first Friday of the month at 11.00am.

- **Sawyers Bay Garden Club** - meets at Emmanuel Church Hall, Sawyers Bay, at 7.00pm on the 2nd Monday of the month. For information contact Secretary Karlina Jackson 472 8510.

- **Port Chalmers Maritime Museum** - normal hours: Monday to Friday 10.00am-3.00pm, Saturday, Sunday & public holidays 1.00 - 4.00pm. Also open by special appointment. Enquires 472 8233.

- **Quarantine Island** next welcome day is Saturday see website or contact island Keeper Jon on 021 082 58619 or: quarantineisland@gmail.com

- **Port Chalmers & District Lions Club, club night with dinner**. 4th Wednesday of the month. We welcome anyone who would like to get involved and help their community. For information contact President Lion Bruce Clark on president@lionsclubs.org.nz:

- **All fibre handcrafts** e.g. knitting, crochet, patchwork, embroidery, spinning. Monday 9 & 23 February Emmanuel Church. For info contact 472 8487.

- **Kirtan**. Last Friday of the month (except Dec) Pioneer Hall. 7.00pm-8.30pm. Chai and chat afterwards. Gold coin koha and bring a cushion. Contact Kate 022 690 8077.

- **Terra Nova Sea Scout Group** - Join the adventure West Harbour Youth, welcomes all adventure-seeking youth in West Harbour to join us. We have restarted our Venturer section. Scouts work towards their Kings Scout Award (formerly Queens Scout) at this level. Session times are: Keas (ages 5-8) 5.00pm Thurs; Cubs (ages 8-11) 6.00pm - 7.30p Tues; Scouts (ages 11-14) 6.00pm - 8.00pm Thurs. Venturers (ages 14-18) 6.00pm - 8.00pm Thurs; meeting at Ravensbourne Scout Hall contact Skip (Tom) for more information at terrano-group.scouts.nz or 027 343 5364

- **Port Chalmers Swim Club** Please contact Hazel Scoles (Secretary) for information on 021 217 1117 secretarypcswimclub@gmail.com

- **The Rothesay News** Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month, 7.00pm, Rolfe Room, Port Chalmers Town Hall. All welcome.

- **Story time at the Port Chalmers library**. Wednesdays at 10.30am.

- **Tuesday afternoon cuppa** Everyone is welcome to join us for afternoon tea in the hall or on the deck at Emmanuel (Sawyers Bay). Come any time after 2pm on Tuesday afternoons during the school term.

- **Guitar Lessons Pioneer Hall** Wednesdays at 5pm. Beginners to Intermediate. For more information contact Chris on 027 2065 035.

- **Iona Church, Port Chalmers** Iona is open from 10am - 2pm (or longer) when the larger cruise ships are in Port. All visitors are welcome. On 14 December the Lions will be presenting Carols at Iona. Everyone is welcome to this community event.

FOR FUNCTION HIRE

Port Chalmers Town Hall complex.

weddings - functions - meetings

For any enquiries contact the custodian

☎ 021 222 8878

Port Chalmers Pharmacy

We are open:
Monday - Friday
9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 3.00pm

We are now doing
vaccinations for both the flu
and COVID 19

Monday - Friday 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 3.00pm



Justice of the Peace Service Desk

Port Chalmers Library

Our friendly Justice of the Peace are available to assist you with documentation.

Our services

- Statutory declarations
- Witnessing of signatures
- Document certification
- Verification of identity and more ...

11.00am - 1.00pm every Friday.

Port Chalmers Swimming Pool

Hours School Term (1 & 4)

Lane Swimming only

Mon-Fri 6.00am - 9.00am
12 noon - 1.30pm

Tues & Thurs 5.30pm - 7.00pm
Sat & Sun - 10am - 11am

Leisure Swimming

Mon, Wed, Fri - 3pm - 7pm
Tues & Thurs 3pm - 4.30pm
Sat & Sun - 11am - 5pm

School Holiday Times

Lane Swimming only

Mon-Fri 9.30am - 11am
Sat & Sun - 10am - 11am

Leisure Swimming

Mon - Fri - 11.00am - 5pm
Sat & Sun 11am - 5pm

Masthead Photo

Morning Rowers
Chris Stevens



Column sponsored by the
West Harbour Community Board
Information

Port Chalmers Library & Service Centre
Ground floor
Town Hall,
Beach Street.
Ph. 474 3690

Hours:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri:
9.30am - 5.30pm

Thursday
9.30am - 8.00pm

Saturday
11.00am - 2.00pm

Service Centre hours:

Mon-Fri 9.30am - 5.00pm

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Wayne Sefton (Blackdog)
0274376578

West Harbour Community Board Meeting

Next Meeting
25 February 6.00pm

Any inquires or to submit
information or participate in next
public forum contact Wendy Collard
Dunedin City Council 477 4000.

The Rothesay News community newspaper is published by The Rothesay News Inc, 47 Wickliffe Terrace, Port Chalmers February 2026. Circulation 2,540, Ravensbourne to Aramoana. Copy deadline 10th of the month prior. Copy should be submitted as a virus-free emailed text document. Images should be greyscale with a minimum of 300 dpi in jpg format. Community News articles should be 100-280 words, and may be abridged at the editor's discretion. Any notices not submitted as paid advertisements are subject to space availability. Preference is given to news of interest to the wider community, and promoting future events. Photos to be captioned and named. Contributions to have a contact name and phone number. The views and opinions expressed by contributors and correspondents in printed articles, are not necessarily shared by the editor, or any member of The Rothesay News Committee.



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Tug Ōtepoti is on her way

Our brand new \$15m tug – Tug Ōtepoti – is on her way to Port Chalmers.

The 70-tonne Damen ASD 2312 tug departed Zhangjiagang (near Shanghai) under her own power on 8 January and is expected to take about two months to make her 10,000 nautical mile (18,500km) journey to the Otago harbour.

About the name

Port Otago has a habit of giving new marine fleet vessels the name of historical predecessors and, in the reflective spirit of Port Otago's 150-year anniversary, it felt right to again bring forth a name from the company's history.

Tug Ōtepoti is named after the Otago Harbour Board's Tug Dunedin, launched 111 years ago. Ōtepoti is the Māori name for the upper harbour area where Dunedin city was developed and, when our CE had a chat with Te Rūnaka o Ōtākou Upoko Edward Ellison, they thought using the Te Reo version was appropriate.

The original Tug Dunedin was steam-powered and unfortunately "blew her boiler" – so spectacularly that she was condemned and eventually sunk by the USS Mills, which used her as target practice fodder in 1964. Tug Ōtepoti should fare better, given she has no boiler to blow to pieces. She is instead powered by the latest Caterpillar 3512 engines.

What does Tug Ōtepoti's trip look like?

- Four crew from Damen are on board, right through until the official handover in Port Chalmers.
- She's expected to average 192 nautical miles per day, cruising at about 8 knots.
- There will be numerous stops along the way, for fuel and provisions, as weather and other variables dictate.



Tug Ōtepoti departing Zhangjiagang early last month.



Best spots to watch cruise ships

Here are the top spots to view ships coming and going from the Dunedin town wharves, as identified by our community (via Facebook):

- Prydes Corner, St Leonards (Roy Muir)
- Mornington lookout (Calvin)
- Portobello Road at Vauxhall (The Southern Compass)
- Otago Yacht Club (Michael)
- Ravensbourne Yacht Club, on the walkway or train bridge (Yvonne).

Enjoy!

Life jackets for littlies



The Burkes St Leonard Boat Club recently requested 20 children-sized (aged 8-17 years) life jackets and we were, of course, delighted to oblige and keep these little people safe out on the water. Thank you club secretary Trish for providing such a super photo and happy boating, tamariki.