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THE ROTHESAY NEWS

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Once Upon a Harbour

Poems by Fiona Farrell, Illustrations by David Elliot

"The book is really a quirky celebration of our wonderful West Harbour," says local illustrator, David Elliot.

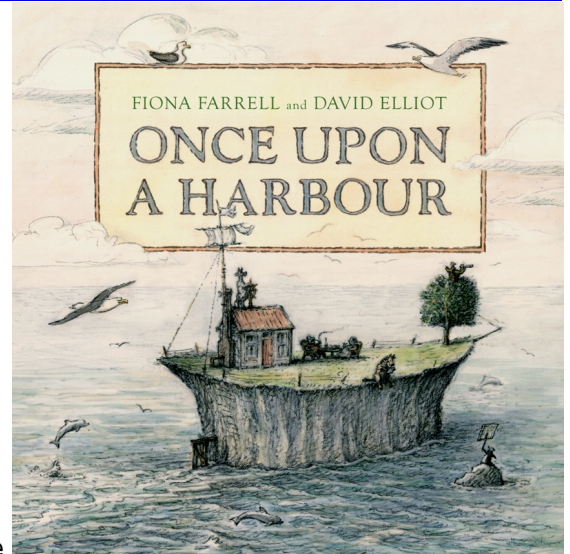
Once Upon a Harbour began life as a series of drawings of characters and places that David collected during Covid. Some of these were real, like the fat brown rat he saw scuttle under a boatshed at Back Beach, and some were historical, like 'Piggy Bill' who let his pigs run wild on the sand dunes at Te Ngaru.

Some were imaginary, like the 'Drizzles' above Mount Cargill or the sea monster that lurks in the cave at Long Beach. Others were more evocative, like the little Lewis cottage in Deborah Bay or the pine trees that 'march' across the hillsides. "They were really just things that intrigued me and made me laugh, not stories as such," says David.

It wasn't until he met Fiona Farrell and read her wonderful poetry that he realised her sense of humour might be just the thing to bring these characters and places to life. "And I was right!" says David, "Fiona's wonderful rhymes have added just the right blend of wit and silliness to the book. She has woven those places and characters into universal stories that should appeal to anyone

who lives by, and loves, the seashore. Still, the delight of our own West Harbour remains at its core and we hope *Rothsay* readers will recognise their home between the pages. *Once Upon a Harbour* will be released on September 15. Copies will be available at The Flying Whale and all good bookshops.

Publication will be marked by two free public events at the Dunedin Public Library with the assistance of UNESCO Dunedin City of Literature. The authors will give an illustrated talk for adults at 5.30pm, 1 October. a on 3 October, there will be a workshop for children where David and Fiona will help them write poems and draw illustrations about places they know and love. (Prior bookings required. Enquire at the Children's Section of the Library.)



This Issue

Once upon a Harbour pg 1.

150 Years 1876 - 2026 pg 1.

Physio Update pg 2.

From the Chef pg 3.

Pioneer Hall pg 4.

Dusting Off pg 4.

Trades & Services pgs 6 & 7.

Sawyers Bay Garden Club pg 8.

10 Questions with Marian pg 10.

What's On... pg 11.

Port Otago News pg 12.

Still Burning Brightly

Port Chalmers Volunteer Fire Brigade, 150 Years On 1876 - 2026. Port Chalmers Volunteer Fire Brigade is proud to celebrate another historic milestone, by marking 150 years of service to the community.

The occasion will start on Friday evening, 2 October with an informal gathering at the Station for current and former members, along with invited guests. The Port Chalmers Fire Station on Beach Street will be open to the public from 10:00am to 2:00pm on Saturday, 3 October.

Come along and see how the Brigade has adapted to support the changing needs of our local and wider communities. The Station, Fire Appliance and Support Ute stand as a testament to the pride, care, and commitment our members bring to serving and protecting the community. Wander round the Station, see the Restoration Society Fire Appliance Display and enjoy meeting our team at the Sausage Sizzle. The Port Chalmers Maritime Museum are putting together a special display in conjunction with the Brigades 150th. It shows early history and includes those leaders who have shaped the Brigade from 1876 to 1976.

The Museum will also have a Restoration Society Fire Appliance on display and will be open from 10am to 4pm that Saturday the 3 of October. On the Saturday evening at the Port Chalmers Town Hall, we host a Dinner and Presentations for our past members their partners and invited guests.



Gordon Bootten



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Hi All,

And just like that, spring is here!

Spring tends to be a very active time in real estate, so the big question is: what will spring look like for us this year?

If you were to follow the nationwide real estate reports, with things being a bit grim in Wellington and Auckland, you could think, "Not so good!" Actually, Dunedin has been going along nicely, with sensibly priced, well-presented homes proving very popular.

The fantastic thing about our amazing part of the world is that, compared to a lot of other parts of the country, things are going well in terms of activity around the city. I am still seeing good numbers of buyers who are new to town, which is really exciting.

Leading up to an election, sometimes sellers want to wait to "see what happens." This can mean there is a bit of a shortage of homes for buyers to choose from, which can work in the sellers' favour.



Hamish McDonald

A LIFETIME IN REAL ESTATE



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Harbour Physio Matters - Progress Isn't always measured by Pain

When pain lingers throughout the rehabilitation process, it can be difficult to feel like you're making progress, especially when you've experienced similar levels of pain for several weeks.

It's important to remember that recovery takes time, and improvement doesn't always mean the pain disappears straight away.

One of the best indicators of progress when pain persists is your functional ability.

As you work through your rehabilitation journey, you may notice that you're able to complete movements or activities that you previously couldn't. For example, you might be able to walk up the stairs, carry the groceries, or return to an activity that was previously too difficult.

Even if pain is still present, being able to do more is progress. Over time, you'll often find that the pain gradually reduces as your strength, confidence and tolerance improve. You'll be able to do more, move more freely, and return to the activities you enjoy.

For some people, pain may completely disappear. For others, it may occasionally flare up or make an appearance from time to time. That is a normal part of the rehabilitation journey.

So, if progress feels slow, don't be discouraged. Look beyond the pain and notice what you can do now that you couldn't do before. Stay the course and trust the process.

Contact: harbourphysio@gmail.com, 027 631 0476 or www.facebook.com/harbourphysio for further information.

Krystal Cameron



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Back Beach Incident

The community may be aware of what Stuff NZ has dubbed as the "small town crime wave" that occurred on the morning of Friday the 31 of July. This began with a vehicle being driven into the water at Back Beach and ended with the arrest of a 28-year-old man outside Port Otago. He is currently remanded in custody facing multiple charges. Police would like to thank the community for their assistance with its inquiries and apprehending the offender.

However, it is also a timely reminder that any use of force in apprehending an offender must be **reasonable, proportionate and necessary** in the circumstances. Section 62 of the Crimes Act 1961 states: "Every one authorised by law to use force is criminally responsible for any excess, according to the nature and quality of the act that constitutes the excess." In plain language, this means that any force used that is deemed unreasonable or excessive in the circumstances can lead to criminal charges, even if used for a lawful purpose such as self-defence or preventing escape of an offender.

Amendments to the Crimes Act

On that note, several amendments to the Crimes Act 1961 came into force on 11 August 2026 regarding attacks on first responders, coward punches, tougher penalties for retail crime and expanded citizen's arrest powers. More information can be obtained at <https://www.1news.co.nz/2026/08/06/new-assault-shoplifting-and-citizens-arrest-laws-pass-into-law/>

The expanded citizen's arrest powers include the ability to arrest an offender if an offence against the Crimes Act has been committed and the citizen believes on reasonable grounds that the person is the offender. Reasonable force may be used, including physical and mechanical restraint.

Again, extreme caution should be used when considering a citizen's arrest and the preferred approach is always to call 111.

Crypto Currency Scam

Police are aware of incidents where scammers are targeting people with cryptocurrency wallets and accounts, by impersonating police officers and cryptocurrency company representatives.

Remember:

- Police will never make unsolicited requests for details about your crypto wallets, bank cards, PIN, seed phrases, or passwords on a phone call.
- Trust your instincts - if something doesn't feel right, or is too good to be true, it probably isn't.
- If you are contacted by someone conducting a 'Police investigation' into cryptocurrency, check in with a trusted friend or relative.
- Be aware scammers can 'spoof' legitimate Police phone numbers and email addresses, so this is not a reliable way to check who's contacting you.
- If you are still uncertain or confused, ask for the officer's details, hang up, contact 105 and request that officer call you back.

Never give out your seed phrase.

If you believe you are in the unfortunate position of being a victim of a scam or feel this situation may be familiar, please report the matter to Police.

Here is some advice from Own Your Online, National Cyber Security Centre:

- Do not follow instructions to share your details online, especially in your seed phrase.
- Be wary of calls from unknown numbers. Look out for the following:

Police Continued on page 3

From the chef....

Beef meatballs with mustard & mushroom cream sauce

This comforting wintery dish is packed full of flavour for those cooler nights. Try serving with a crusty baguette or some creamy mashed potatoes.

You will need:

500g beef mince
1 x sachet [Wild Fennel Co. Beef seasoning](#)
1 x egg
1 x cup panko crumb
1/2 brown onion, diced
4 x cloves crushed garlic
2 x tbsp Dijon mustard
300g mushrooms (any kind)
200ml cream
Oil for frying
Celery leaf and sea salt for serving

To make:

Mix the beef, panko, egg and seasoning together with your hands. Roll into golf ball sized balls (run your hands under cold water first to prevent sticking). Fry the meatballs in a non-stick pan or skillet in oil on a medium to high heat, caramelise on all sides. Add the mushrooms, diced onion and crushed garlic. Once they're browned, add the mustard and cream, and stir to combine. Reduce the heat to low-medium, put a lid on the pan and allow to simmer for 10-15 minutes. Remove the lid, give everything a stir, and serve garnished with celery leaf and a sprinkle of sea salt.

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The Rothesay News October 2026 Issue

**Copy deadline
is 10 September 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

Monday evening at 6 and 7 pm, Thursday morning at 9.30 and 10.30. No walk ins, enquiries welcome. Please contact Hayley Davey 021 183 5352

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Police Continued from page 3

- An unexpected call from an organisation
- A sense of urgency to act now
- A request to download software, transfer money, or provide access to devices or accounts.

If you're victim to a scam or fraud-related incident, report this to Police through 105, either online or over the phone.

Traffic Matters

I continue to receive reports of poor driving in and around the West Harbour area. However, many of these are too vague to be actionable.

For any action to be taken, I require at a minimum:

- Date and time of the incident
- Vehicle Registration or failing this, make and model.
- Driver description

Ideally, dash camera or CCTV footage should be made available too.

Firearms Matters/Enquiries

Port Chalmers Station is considered a Tier 3 Station, meaning it is not equipped for the storage and administration of firearms matters. Therefore, all firearms matters, including licensing, should be directed to the Firearms safety authority based at Dunedin Central Police Station. na mihi

Liam Guthrie, Constable, Port Chalmers, Southern District Police,

P +64 3 472 8822, liam.guthrie@police.govt.nz

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Pioneer Hall

The weather has often been so cold this past month but the Hall remains a toasty place to be, with regular classes and sessions well attended.

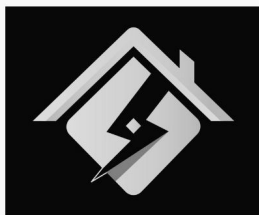
We have a huge diverse range of things happening at the Hall, including Pilates, Zumba, Kirtan, Guitar lessons, breathwork sessions and offerings and dance movement sessions. Please contact the Hall or see our Facebook page for further information if you would like to be involved.

We would like to congratulate the local youth bands on their various successes recently. They put in hours of practice and are constantly performing and developing. We are very proud to support them.

We have our fabulous Pioneer Hall T-shirts for sale if you would like to support the Hall. They are \$45, made from organic cotton and printed with sustainable ink from the Print Room. We can deliver to you locally and payment can be by bank transfer or cash. If you have an interest or special skill set that you would like to share with the wider community, we would love to hear from you. pcpioneerhall@gmail.com or 022 369 6807 and leave a message.



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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 from 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

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Port Chalmers Maritime Museum

We are looking forward to an upcoming exhibition celebrating the work of our dedicated Port Chalmers volunteer Fire Brigade as they celebrate the historic milestone of 150 years of service to the community. Shirley Jack been busy curating the display at the Museum that focuses on the early years of the service.

At that time the provision of an community-wide Fire Brigade service in Port Chalmers was made difficult by the lack of access to a reliable supply of water. Slow progress in the provision and upgrading of pipelines and the building of reservoirs meant that the resulting loss of houses and property was a significant blow to the community, and a challenge to the firefighters themselves.

In addition, one of the unique responsibilities for the Port Chalmers Brigade was the provision of firefighting on board ships, an immense additional task at that time. You can find out more about this important work on display at the Museum.

The local focus of the Fire Service celebrations is the weekend of 2 and 3 October. On Saturday 3 October the Port Chalmers Fire Station will be open to the public from 10am. to 2.00pm.

Here you will be able to see, among other things the Restoration Fire Appliance Display, and meet the firefighting team at the Sausage Sizzle. You can find more about all the Brigade's weekend celebrations on their Facebook page.

Also, on Saturday 3rd October The Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society will be present at the Museum during the special opening hours that are from 10am. until 4p.m.

Later this year the Ravensbourne Volunteer Brigade will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary. Here in West Harbour, we are protected and well cared for by these two Brigades of skilful, hardworking volunteer firefighters.

The Museum's normal hours are Monday to Friday 10am. to 3pm. Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 1pm. to 4pm.

Pat Caswell

Harbourside Table Tennis

There have been really positive results for the club since my last report!

Our A grade team not only won their first match but followed up with a second win the following week! Well done to these players for sticking at it and finally showing that they belong in the top section.

Our B grade team narrowly missed out on making the B grade final and our C grade team notched their first win of the season! There is just one week of interclub to go where teams play for their final positions, and to shine and show their improvement.

The Otago Table Tennis Association have an exciting proposal for a new venue which will be permanently set up. This should help lift the profile of the sport in Dunedin as at the moment it is set up periodically at the Edgar Centre.

If you'd like to join our not so little club please come along.

Ian Landreth



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

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

The Rothesay News Committee welcomes your donations, our bank account is:
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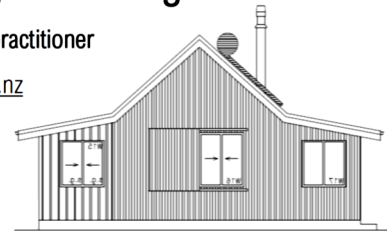
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Pūrakaunui



Backyard Medicine

It's technically Spring, and a great time to read about Cleavers-Galium aparine to be exact, also called sticky weed and goosegrass. If it's warm enough, cleavers will be attempting to take over your garden and be easy to spot.

As herbal medicine it is used both internally and externally in the treatment of a wide range of ailments. It has also been used as a general detoxifying agent, and it's probably the mild laxative effect cleavers has that aids the 'clear out'.

Stimulating the lymphatic system is another way cleavers aids detoxification. The fresh plant or juice of cleavers herb was used as a poultice for wounds, ulcers and many other skin problems in years gone by. An infusion is a good way to keep bladders and kidneys at optimal function. Cold cleavers infusion is a great Spring clean. Collect up enough fresh, clean cleavers (you might need gloves!) to fill a 1 litre glass jar. Pour over enough cold filtered water to cover, and leave it with a lid on overnight on the bench. In the morning, strain the liquid into a jug, and drink a 200mL glass each morning for 3 days only, before you eat or drink anything. Store the remaining infusion in the fridge.

Cleavers Succus is a wonderful way to keep your throat happy and is made by juicing fresh cleavers and mixing it into an equal measure of runny honey. Eat a teaspoon at a time, 4 hours apart.

Please note: you **must** positively identify the plant before you try anything with it! If you are on any medications at all, **do not** use without first consulting your healthcare professional.

Francisca Griffin, Naturopath



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Sawyers Bay Garden Club

Come and celebrate Spring!

The Sawyers Bay Garden Club is holding the West Harbour Garden Trail and Spring Flower Show on Saturday 3 October 2026. Tickets include a Devonshire Tea, the Spring Flower Show, and the chance to buy some plants and produce from the Plant and Produce stall.

Tickets are \$25 and will be on sale from 10am on Saturday 3 October, at the Emmanuel Church Hall, Station Road, Sawyers Bay.

Garden Trails and Spring Flower Shows are about showcasing the skills of local gardeners and celebrating plants and the joy of Spring. With a warming soil it's a great time to get your hands in the soil and get into your garden. Remember 'If you want to be happy and healthy for a life time, plant a garden'.



Port Chalmers Women's Institute

Greetings to all on the West Harbour. Our group met on 14 July for a soup, savouries and sandwiches mid-winter gathering. It is always lovely to share food together, chat together and enjoy each other's company. We also planned a Harbourside Competition Day in November for the Eastern Otago Women's group.

We held our August meeting on Tuesday the 11th in the Chalmers Lounge. Final decisions were made for the Harbourside Gathering in November. Following this we enjoyed an extremely interesting and informative talk by Betty Mason-Parker. Betty is involved with the Ocho Chocolate Factory and Shop and told us of its history and formation and where the cacao beans are sourced.

The beans are ethically harvested in Papua New Guinea, the Solomons and Vanuatu, bagged and then shipped to Auckland to be distributed. An outcome for the surrounding villages is much improved lifestyles.

Betty described the process from bean to packet and she gave us bean-shaped samples of chocolate from the different countries.

We were surprised at the range of taste experiences, including citrus, blackberry and hazelnut depending the origin of the bean's. Thank you, Betty, for such an interesting talk. We will be visiting the factory and shop for a Chocolate Experience soon!

Our next meeting will be held at 7pm in the Chalmers Lounge on 8 September if you would like to join our friendly group call Mary on 021259 2417.

Mary Fahey

Port Chalmers Seafarers Centre

The most recent meeting of the Otago Seafarers Charity Trust was held in the Seafarers' Centre on Sunday 12 July 2026.

An important item of business was the receiving and approval of the Statement of Service Performance for the year ending 31 March 2026, making it available now for the work of the auditor.

It has been a busy year of activity. Our Centre is well maintained and ready for the seafarers/crew members of visiting vessels as they take a break from their duties.

Thought and discussion was given to how to better communicate the Centre's presence and what it offers these maritime workers visiting Port Chalmers.

Some Trust members are continuing to receive positive comments on our building's repaint colour scheme of earlier 2026. Have you noticed it yet?

Ken Fahey

D U S T I N G O F F

Centenary of King George Hall, St Leonards

In March 1911 a meeting chaired by Mr Isaac Stevenson held in the local school, elected a committee to look into local improvements. W.H. Trimble was elected as chairman and G.W. Carrington (Schoolmaster) as secretary.

A meeting of nearly all residents met at the school on 5 July and considered raising £250 locally so that the Government King George V Coronation Grant of pound for pound to the value of £250 could be raised.

In the space of a few minutes the whole amount was guaranteed. Mr Isaac Stevenson agreed to act as guarantor, but the amount of £500 was not seen as enough to build the hall as planned.

The West Harbour Borough Council was approached by St Leonards Ward councillors, F Statham and W Trimble, to borrow £1000 for road and footpath improvements with £250 of this amount to be for further funding for the hall. This was duly passed and St Leonards residents were polled on 7 September 1911 with the ballot result being 65 for the loan and 17 against.

The Education Board agreed to swap a section with the West Harbour Borough Council to enable the hall to be built beside the school.



Tenders were called on 4 October 1911 with Mr Shaw Crosland, a local builder, being successful. The building was completed in late December 1911 and the official opening was held on 10 February 1912.

The above photo shows some of the crowd at the opening. Over the past 100 years, the building has been well utilised by many varied groups. Although it is owned by the DCC, it is controlled by a locally elected hall committee. **Ian Coutts**

SITE isite Volunteers wanted

We are looking for some knowledgeable locals to assist us with the busy cruise ship season inside the Port Chalmers cruise terminal to help us with greeting cruise passengers as they disembark the ship and provide them with maps and information on things they can do during their visit.

We are also looking for volunteers for the city isite if that would suit you better. If this sounds like you, please get in touch with us at 03 474 3300 or visitor_centre@dcc.govt.nz





St Leonards School

Kia ora West Harbour friends.

Here are some updates from a few of our tamariki:

Aspire Values: Respect

At St Leonards School we love to learn about manners and to learn about how people feel when you say thank you and you're welcome. You should use your manners at home and at school. It feels very good to say thank you and to receive it.

By Rina

Talk for Writing

At school we have been reading a story called "A Quilt for Kiri". We thought we could make a quilt to put up on our classroom wall. We coloured in paper shapes and made a beautiful quilt for our classroom.

By Colin.

Active August

We are doing Active August at school. We get given a card which gets stamped each time we bike, go on the bus, walk or scooter to school. If we get 10 stamps we get to choose a prize

By Sophie.

Year 5 Book Club

All of the year 5s have started a book club. Recently we read the *City of Ember*. We think it is a really good book. It is about citizens in a HUMUNGOUS light bulb. The main characters are Lina and Doon, and they try to escape. In chapter 14 Lina and Doon find a boat but they don't know what it is. The book has 20 chapters.

Every Friday we go up to the library and we all agree how many chapters we read, and then we have the week to read them. Sometimes, when people are sick, we don't do it. We ask questions to each other about what we have read during the week. It's kind of like a test but it's really really fun.

By Freyja Hill



Coming up this Spring

On Saturday 19 September, we are looking forward to joining in with the King George St Leonards Hall Spring Market!

It will be open between 11am and 2pm. We are also hosting another Preschool Playgroup on 11 October, where tamariki will plant and take away their own Egg Plant Gardens! And don't forget to drop into our Pop-Up Op-Shop on the

18 October. For more details and updates, check out our Facebook page. Happy Spring!

Sarah Thompson Tumuaki



Port Chalmers Golf Club

Twilight golf is a casual, 9-hole evening competition held during daylight saving months (October to March). Local clubs around New Zealand, including the Port Chalmers Golf Club run this social competition as a fun but competitive way to enjoy a round of golf.

The format of the competitions varies from club to club but the Port Chalmers competition is run as a Stableford. Teams of four play nine holes and then the best scores of three of the four team members is totalled and entered for that week's competition. The scores are then aggregated over the full number of weeks the competition runs to determine which team is the overall winner. So, there are opportunities to win both the weekly competition and the overall competition.

Twilight begins on 21 October and runs until 9 December. Players can enter a team or play individually in any team that needs additional players.

You do not have to be an experienced golfer or a member of any golf club to play Twilight Golf. It is a great way to meet new people, walk one of the most picturesque golf courses and have some fun.

If you are interested in playing, please contact Brent Jackson, Club Captain of Port Chalmers Golf Club by emailing pcgc.clubcaptain@gmail.com or text 027 572 8810.

Fiona Matapo

Orokonui - Getting to know... Louise Havill, Horopito Café

We're looking for a new Chef / Second in Charge at Horopito Café (see our advert on page 5 so we caught up with Executive Chef Louise Havill (pictured) about her experience at Orokonui Ecosanctuary.



Q. Favourite dish to cook?

A. Our new loaded salad - hearty, lots of plant-based ingredients, with free-range chicken. And for baking, the blackcurrant tart.

Q. Best part of working at Orokonui?

A. Knowing you're contributing to something bigger - being part of a conservation project few people get to experience, especially in a hospitality position.

Q. What would surprise people about running a café inside an ecosanctuary?

A. The range of people you meet - café and sanctuary staff, volunteers, and genuinely lovely customers.

Q. What's a typical day like?

A. Busy, and varied - baking one moment, making coffees the next, plus juggling functions and events. No two days are the same.

Q. Was there anything you were unsure about before starting?

A. Front-of-house wasn't my strength, but I learned on the job with help from our lovely customers.

Q. Advice for someone thinking about applying?

A. Just apply. Have a chat and tell us about yourself. Missing a skill? Talk to us, we may be able to help you develop it.

Q. Favourite native bird or moment at Orokonui?

A. Night walks - seeing baby kiwi and hearing the wild kiwi population moving through the bush.

Fancy joining Louise's team? Send your cover letter and CV to louise@orokonui.nz.



Sawyers Bay Garden Club
West Harbour
Garden Trail and Spring Flower Show
10 am – 4pm
Saturday 3 October 2026
Emmanuel Church Hall, Station Rd
Sawyers Bay



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 DCC Library & Service centre

CRAFTernoon - Get crafty at the library! Join us on the third Thursday of every month for a **free crafternoon** session. Thursday 17 September 1.30 to 2.30pm. All materials supplied.

Tech Help 1-2-1 (Drop-in sessions)

From apps and smartphones to digital photos and editing. Help is available for a range of tech needs Free, first Wednesday of the month, 2 to 3pm

Wi-Fi, printing and scanning

Port Chalmers Library provides: **FREE WIFI** via the Aotearoa People's Network Kaharoa (APNK), available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, inside and outside of the building.

A4 black & white or colour printing available including print from your own device (Charge Applies).

FREE scanning to a USB or email.

Library Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5.30pm

Late night Thursday until 8pm

Saturday 11am to 2pm.

The Port Library Team



Port Chalmers & District Lions

Port Chalmers & District Lions Club is having a Bingo evening at the Harbour Hawks Rugby Clubroom on Friday 18 September starting at 6.15 pm. Bingo booklets \$20 each. Refreshments and food are available for purchase. Raffle tickets are also available.

Look out on our Facebook page for sales of lily bulbs which is another of our fundraising projects.

If you have any unwanted prescription glasses or sunglasses tucked away in a drawer, give these a new life by dropping them into the Port Chalmers Pharmacy and DigiArt. Our Lions Club will collect them to help someone see the world more clearly.

We are recruiting new members and would love to host you at one of our dinner meetings – they are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month with the next one on Wednesday 23 September from 6.30pm at the Port Chalmers Town Hall. Don't be shy, phone Lion Merv Read on 03 472 8939 or email portlions.president@lionsclubs.org.nz to book a meal.

The wood raffle was won by Shirley Cameron.

The Waitati market will be on Sunday 4 October and BINGO on Friday 18 September

For any information or inquiries on our activities or about joining the club, please contact **Club President Lion Merv Read for more information.**

Email: portlions.president@lionsclubs.org.nz

Juay Lim Club Administrator/Media Coordinator



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

10 Questions...with Marian Poole



Each month we ask a West Harbour local to answer the same ten questions.

This month is Marian Poole (pictured). Tēnā Koutou, He tauwi tenei, e noho oku tupuna ki Waihopai, ināinā e noho au ki Kaparukahaha, Koputai.

My people were settlers from England, Cornwall and Ireland who set up businesses in Auckland, Karamea and Invercargill.

I and poet Rob Allan have lived and raised three sons in Deborah Bay enjoying our precious bush and shoreline and surfing at Aramoana.

The Arts in all their forms have provided me with endless entertainment and a career teaching, writing, and researching music and the Arts in Aotearoa NZ.

Permaculture gardening has provided a steady second stream of income and exercise, food for my table and for our birds. My Irish heritage and my commitment to this place could be attributed to my ongoing activism for the health of our political and natural environment, kicking off from the Save Aramoana Campaign of the 1970s. My other passion is cold water swimming.

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

A. Michael Joseph Savage, Kate Sheppard and Fiona Farrell.

Q. What are your three favourite movies?

A. Anything with Tilda Swinton but particularly 'Only Lovers left Alive', 'Hunt for the Wilderpeople' starring Sam Neill, and 'The Chills, The Triumph and Tragedy of Martin Phillips'.

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

A. VW Beetle, Tesla.

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

A. I'd be too angry to eat anything, so would donate the meal to a homeless person. Instead, I would spend my time writing to all my loved ones telling them to continue the fight in my name.

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

A. Antarctica, Auckland Islands and Howe Island.

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

A. Journalist and music critic.

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

A. The wheel.

Q. What is the best book you have read?

A. As a past employee of UBS that's a really hard question: Fiction - anything by Fiona Farrell. Non-fiction- any Aotearoa precolonial history.

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

A. Also a hard question - each era has had its trials but for cultural excitement, I'd toss a coin between Persia in the classical era or Vienna 1920s.

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

A. a machete, flint, fishing hooks, a good tent and survival clothing. Also a book on local edible flora. Other necessities of life such as music, poetry and storytelling I could make up as I went along.

Ange McErlane



Composting - the heat is in the centre of the heap!



What's on this month on the West Harbour

**Sawyers Bay Garden Club
West Harbour Garden Trail and
Spring Flower Show**

10am to 4pm Saturday 3 October
2026, Emmanuel Church Hall,
Station Rd, Sawyers Bay.

- Dunedin Brain Sing - for anyone
with a neurocognitive condition, their
carers or supporters, A fun and casual
singing group for people affected by
brain injury. Tuesdays, Caversham
Baptist Church, 239 South Road,
10.30am to 11.30am, Gold Coin Do-
nation. For information and to
register contact:
manager.dunedin@brain-injury.org.nz
Brain Injury Otago phone: 03 471
6156

- Waitati Gallery - Pull up a glass of
bubbles at the gorgeous swing and
jazz chords of the band Paper Moon
at Blueskin Gallery, Waitati
on Wednesday 30th September,
7pm.

**- 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 and Thursday from
6.00pm to 7.00pm at Port Town Hall,
\$50 term or \$75 a family. Drop in and
see us in term time.

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

- 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 Saturdays. 2pm to 4pm
(excluding school/public holidays) 2
Athol Place, Ravensbourne (just off
Ravensbourne Road). New members
welcome. Look for the yellow sign
during opening hours and for the
yellow sign on Ravensbourne Road.

- Senior Citizens Meet each
Tuesday at 1pm in the Port Chalmers
Bowling Club, Albertson Avenue. Easy
parking, open to all seniors
Harbourside. Information contact
Margaret Hedges 472 7233.

- Port Chalmers Women's Institute.
Meets upstairs in the Chalmers
lounge, Port Chalmers Town Hall, on
the second Tuesday of each month at
7.00pm. For information contact Mary
Fahey 021 259 2417. Come join us.

- Holy Trinity Port Chalmers. Main
Service - 10am, Sunday. Family
Service first Sunday of the month.

**- St Mary's Star of the Sea,
Magnetic St, Port Chalmers.** Mass
5pm 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 second
and fourth Sundays. All welcome.

**- Bookshare @ Port Chalmers
Library** - first Friday of the month at
11am.

- Sawyers Bay Garden Club - meets
at Emmanuel Church Hall, Sawyers
Bay, at 7pm on the second Monday
of the month. For information contact
Secretary Karliina 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 26 September
2026 see our
website quarantineisland.org.nz

**- 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
Mervyn Read on
president@lionsclubs.org.nz:

- All fibre handcrafts e.g. knitting,
crochet, patchwork, embroidery and
spinning. Monday 14 and 28
11am or 1pm. Emmanuel Church
Hall, Sawyers Bay. 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.
We welcome 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 Thursdays
Cubs (ages 8-11) 6.00pm - 7.30p
Tuesdays; Scouts (ages 11-14) 6pm
to 8pm Thursdays. Venturers (ages 14
-18) 6pm to 8pm Thursday; meeting at
Ravensbourne Scout Hall contact Skip
(Tom) for more information at terrano-va@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.

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

**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

**Port Chalmers
Swimming Pool**

Opens Monday
21 September 2026

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

Please note: during the week
the pool may be open for
swimming at times outside of
those listed above, Please
phone the pool (03 471 9780)
or check the whiteboard at
reception for availability.

Albertson Avenue
Port Chalmers

Masthead Photo
Sunrise 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

**West Harbour
Community Board**

Jarrod Hodson - Chairperson
021 0825 9761
trainplanecar@gmail.com

Barbara Olah
Deputy Chairperson
021 068 1699
barbara.olah@gmail.com

Ange McErlane
027 438 0601
ange@angemc.nz

Duncan Eddy
021 1740 400
duncaneddy@yahoo.com

Marian Poole
021 0842 5948
marian.p96@gmail.com

Wayne Sefton (Blackdog)
027 437 6578

**West Harbour Community
Board Meeting**

Next meeting
21 October 2026 6.00pm

Any inquires or to submit
information or participate in next
public forum contact Lauren Riddle-
Dunedin City Council 477 4000.

The Rothesay News community September 2026. Circulation 2,540, Ravensbourne to
Aramoana. Copy deadline 10th of the month prior. Copy should be submitted as a virus-free
email 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.



ISSN 1171-0950

Kapuka is on schedule to wind her way up the harbour to Port Chalmers in December.



Introducing the new dredge, *Kapuka*

Te Rūnaka o Ōtākou has gifted the name *Kapuka* to the new \$36m trailing suction hopper dredge owned by Napier Port and Port Otago and due to arrive in Port Chalmers in December.

Kapuka means “to scoop out with both hands together”.

Te Rūnaka o Ōtākou Upoko Edward Ellison says the name was derived from an ancient legend. “In our traditions, the Ōtākou Harbour was gouged out – or scooped out – by an amazing taniwha named Matamata – from the Taiaroa Head right up to Dunedin.

“At a later stage, Matamata was looking for its master, a Ngāti Māmoe chief named Rakitauneke, who went inland. The taniwha lost sight of Rakitauneke, so he started slithering down the Taieri Plains looking for his master and that is how people describe the Lower Taieri – the winds and turns of the river.

“Eventually Matamata reposed where Saddle Hill is now, hence those two peaks, in our tradition, are part of that taniwha.

“It’s quite a descriptive korero – fitting to the Ōtākou Harbour, akin to the work that the new dredge *Kapuka* will do in the harbour to keep the channel open.”

Build progress

At 58.7m long and 12.2m beam, *Kapuka* a monster piece of kit. (Spot the tiny cyclist, bottom left, in the photo!)

The build in Hai Phong (Vietnam) is progressing to schedule and *Kapuka* is now afloat alongside its build yard. The starboard dredging system install is complete and outfitting and piping work continues in the engine rooms, pump room and auxiliary spaces.

In preparation for sea trials, the next phase is commissioning each system, one by one, at the quayside.

Specs

- Model: TSHD-1000
- Capacity: 1000m³
- Depth at mid length point: 4.5m
- Deadweight: 1400 tonnes
- Speed: approx 10 knots
- Pump performance: approx 2000m³/hour

BRIEFS

Award-winning fence

Locals may have noticed our lovely new boundary fence along Macandrew Road, towards Careys Bay. We think the contractors, Custom Fencing, did a super job and, it turns out, so do their peers. The team won the Fencing Contractors Association of New Zealand Large Project of the Year award at the weekend. It’s well-deserved recognition, that reflects the time and care the Custom Fencing team put into the job.

Supporting Orokonui

We’ve committed to supporting Orokonui Ecosanctuary - Te Korowai o Mihiwaka for another three years. Helping the ecosanctuary team’s work with native flora and fauna is a practical way for us to boost the positive impact Orokonui is having on our immediate neighbourhood’s natural environment. We’ve committed \$20,000 annually towards Orokonui’s conservation programmes – specifically, biodiversity restoration initiatives at the sanctuary that will help wildlife thrive within Orokonui and out into the community. Keep up the good work.