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# portobello news

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OUR HOME BY THE OTAGO HARBOUR

MARCH-APRIL 2023



**NEW LOOK** – The information sign has returned and landscaping around the new waterfront area is taking shape as the road and cycleway works in Portobello near their expected completion later this month.



## **ANZAC DAY**

### COMMEMORATION

**TUESDAY 25 APRIL 9:30AM**

**OTAGO PENINSULA MUSEUM  
PORTOBELLO**

*Interested in volunteering? Please email [pbocomm.inc@gmail.com](mailto:pbocomm.inc@gmail.com)*

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**WILD DUNEDIN FESTIVAL 14–23 APRIL • MARKET DAY 21 MAY**

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# Portobello Community Inc. Update

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Kia orana,

With the arrival of April, we are seeing the weather suddenly cool down - some days more than others. It was good to see our new roads were resilient to the recent rain and gale force winds. It was also a timely reminder to make sure we're prepared for severe weather events, especially after seeing the ongoing impact of flooding in Northland since December. The best way to ensure our communities are resilient in emergency situations is by making sure our individual households are prepared. Visit [getready.govt.nz](http://getready.govt.nz) for some pointers about where to start, including advice on what to plan and what supplies you might need. And don't forget to connect with your neighbours - if not for the emergencies, they can be handy for the odd chat and/or cup of sugar.

In other news, the pump track build will be starting early April. We are working with mana whenua to give the track a name with local significance. After years of working with

funders and DCC, the build itself should only take about three weeks! Dan has managed to access some native seedlings that will be planted around the track once it's complete so if you're interested in helping on plant day, get in touch. Otherwise keep an eye on the Portobello Inc FB page and/or the Peninsula Pump track Project FB page for updates.

Don't forget to mark the Market Day on your calendars: May 21!

Meitaki ra,

*Stacey Kokaua*

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**portobello  
community inc.**

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Sandra Clearwater, Ruth Seeney,  
Richard Steentjes, Dan Parker,  
Craig Newton, Laura Shepard

*The views expressed in this newsletter are those of  
the contributors and not necessarily those of  
Portobello Community Inc.*

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**Portobello News is delivered in print  
to 500 letterboxes on the Peninsula,  
and read by another 250 people  
online. The cost of printing has  
skyrocketed recently, so your  
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going!**

	Single issue	Whole Year (6 issues)
Quarter page	\$ 35.00	\$ 120.00
Half page	\$ 60.00	\$ 170.00
Whole page	\$ 120.00	\$ 250.00

**Contact us at [pbocomm.inc@gmail.com](mailto:pbocomm.inc@gmail.com)**

# Otago Peninsula Community Board News

Kia ora tatou,

The mornings and evenings are a little darker as we move deeper into autumn towards winter. There has been that slightly cooler feel to the mornings after a long and glorious summer.

## CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

With the election of a new Mayor and Council the structure of some Council committees has been changed. A new committee for Board's to present their community's views has recently been created, and all members of the Peninsula Board attended. Our presentation concentrated some of the "nuts and bolts" issues facing our area such as:

- Getting things finished like the Otakou section of the Connection Project
- The lack of footpaths, decent drainage and repairs to sea walls
- Our tracks and public areas
- The time delays in getting simple things done like the Wellers Rock signage and parking.



## SCHOOL SPEED LIMITS

The City Council has proposed that school areas at Portobello, Broad Bay and Macandrew Bay have speed limits of 30 kmph. There were two options in the consultation process which included:

- Having the limits on permanently
- Having the limits during peak school times

The Board chose to submit that the limits should be during peak school operating times. It also raised with Council:

While speed limits may prove somewhat effective, many of our schools have no footpaths or safe crossing points to get children to school in the first place.

All townships need the digital speed signs to remind motorists of their speed.

## BOARD MEETING

Our next Community Board meeting is on 30th March 2023 10:00 am at the Portobello Bowling Club. This is our second meeting of 2023 and our agenda will no doubt be a busy one once again. The last three years seem to have flown by and has never been a dull moment. We have tackled many issues on behalf of the community and while not everything has fallen our way, we have worked hard to represent you to the best of our ability. That work will continue.

**Facebook:** Please take the opportunity to use it if you can and share information with your friends, neighbours and whanau: [facebook.com/pencomboard](https://facebook.com/pencomboard)

If you have any issues that you would like to raise or discuss please don't

hesitate to contact myself or your local Board member. We are here to help you and only a phone call away. Be patient and kind with your whanau and take care of your friends and neighbours in the community.

— Paul Pope, Otago Peninsula Community Board Chairman  
[paul.peninsula@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paul.peninsula@xtra.co.nz) (03) 4780630 or 0274668446

# Portobello Police Station

Tēnā koutou everyone

We are well into the first term of school, and I have been monitoring our schools at drop off and pick up times. A big thanks to the majority of you parents. I like what I have seen in relation to taking care, not parking in compromised positions and the general safety of our tamariki. Good job, keep it up.



Remember to use booster seats or capsules for your really little ones. These need to be fitted properly to have maximum effect should they be required to do their job properly.

Some issues on the school bus over the past few weeks. I am getting reports of older kids vaping, bullying, and generally playing up. If your child takes the bus, please remind them that this is a



privilege and a great asset to have to get to and from school. It certainly takes a lot of pressure off us parents in the mornings. Any nonsense will not be tolerated and will be dealt with accordingly in conjunction with the service provider and police (if it warrants our intervention). This may mean taking away the privilege of using this service if it is warranted. If you have reports or concerns around some of these behaviours I would like to know please.

With Autumn upon us I'm sure many of you are looking at getting prepared for winter. This will mean delivery of firewood for the upcoming winter. Once again, I remind people to put your firewood away quickly if it's dropped at your gate or on your driveway. This commodity which is not cheap like anything today is easy pickings for those who wish for you to pay for their warmth. Try and stack away out of sight from the road to avoid giving those who think it's ok to steal the opportunity to do so.

If any of our more mature community members find it difficult to or are unable to put it where it needs to go, shout out and I am sure, along with myself, we can get a small crew together to come and get it done for you. Please reach out if you need assistance.

In case you drive with your eyes closed (not recommended) you will have noticed a large round-a-bout has been built in

the Portobello village. This is nothing to be scared of. There are certain rules around your approach and exit of these round things. It is not difficult and if you can't remember or are confused, please feel free to go onto the LTNZ website and refresh your memory about your obligations as a driver when entering and exiting such round things. If this is still too complicated, come up to the station and I can talk you through it and even print you off a flier. Safety is paramount here and I am going to be monitoring it periodically.

Speed and impatient drivers continue to come to my attention. I'm not going to say much here apart from; take personal responsibility for your actions and I can categorically tell you that my finger wagging days and flicking of my lights in certain circumstances have well and truly been exhausted – (that's the grumpy me).

Remember if something is happening now and requires immediate police attendance, call 111. If something has already happened and is not so urgent call 105 to make a report.

Until next time take care of each other and remember my door is always open for advice or just for a cuppa and a chat. Let's have a really good year.

— Sr. Constable Aaron Smith

## Portobello School

### NEW PORTOBELLO SCHOOL VALUES

Our new school values were introduced to our community last year and this year we are working hard to unpack these in our classrooms. Our new values are: Whanaukataka, Manaakitaka, Kotahitaka, Pono, Whakatuputupu

### WALK 'N' WHEEL

We completed our Walk 'n' Wheel week with heaps of students taking the opportunity to walk or wheel to school some or all of the days. We had great parent help as well with many walking up to school with their children. We submitted our Walk 'n' Wheel data and await the outcome to see if we win a prize!



### JUST SWIM

The Just Swim lessons are now complete. The students gain a lot from these experts coming to our pool. Teachers also gain lots of tips on how to improve swimming technique. The cost of these lessons is covered by the Ministry of Education School Donations Scheme.

### CEMETERY ROAD

This small project is still ongoing. There seems to be continuous discoveries of soft patches beneath the surface which then need to be removed before a fresh layer of gravel can be laid and compacted. The end date is continuously moving but we are hopeful for completion by late March. Even though it is a small piece of roading, it is a really important one as it means staff can park beside the pool therefore freeing up space in the bottom carpark for whānau to drop off and pick up their

tamariki.

Playground installation

The contractors are making progress with this piece of playground equipment. The earthworks on the site are now complete and we await concreting of the main pole. Once this is complete, then the horizontal part is put on, then the finishing touches of wooden edging and bark chips. After that, it's all go! We are all looking forward to its completion.

## LED LIGHTING AND ACOUSTIC PANEL INSTALLATION

We recently had all of our lighting upgraded to LED lights. This was done over the period of a week. At the same time Room 5, Room 4, Room 3, Junior Whānau and the e-learning hub had acoustic panels installed. This has made a big difference to the atmosphere and sound in our classes. Thank you to Aotea and Southern Collective for their flexible attitude while these installs were taking place.

## KINDY

The Kindy are in the process of moving into their new premises next to the school. It will be great to have them as our neighbours and we are looking forward to strengthening our relationship with them, with many visits planned.

## MOLLYMAWKS

Mollymawks visits are all go! We are having a lovely time on Wednesday mornings, welcoming all our new Mollymawks

to the Junior Whānau. Eva, Ava, Huxley, Sonny and their whānau have been regular visitors to our class this term. We are excited to welcome Blossom and Manaia and their whānau who are starting their Mollymawks journeys with us next week. Mollymawks is a great way for our upcoming five year olds to become acquainted with school life. They get to experience what a morning is like in Junior Whānau, as well as getting to know their classmates and the teachers and other students within the school. We welcome any four year olds from around the community to join us for Mollymawks sessions from 9-10am every Wednesday. If you know of any four year olds that have not visited Portobello School for a walk around or have not attended any Mollymawks sessions, please email [candace@portobello.school.nz](mailto:candace@portobello.school.nz) or encourage them to call the school so we can arrange to meet them.

– Tom Hobbs, Acting Principal

# Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade

## FIRE SEASON

The recent dry weather has increased the risk of fires getting out of control and this is the reason why Fire and Emergency had a total fire ban in place. With the recent small amount of rain, some risk has been mitigated but we still need to be vigilant. Please call 111 if you see any signs of fire.

The Otago Peninsula is now in a Restricted fire season, which means a permit is required before lighting any outdoor fires.

If you want to apply for a permit or are unsure what activities are acceptable go to the website: [checkitsalright.nz](http://checkitsalright.nz)

## WAITANGI CELEBRATIONS

Our brigade was privileged to be invited to the celebrations at Ōtākou Marae. We had the Escape Challenge Maze set up for the kids and also a smoke alarm display. Several people signed up for a free Home Fire Safety visit and we will be out in our community completing these shortly.

If you would like a home fire safety visit, feel free to call either myself, Jamie 027 481-3075 or any member of the brigade.

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Daylight saving ends on Sunday 2nd of April. This is a good time to check your smoke alarms and replace batteries if required.

All domestic smoke alarms have a 10 year life and it's a good idea to check the manufacturer's date while testing them. Fire and Emergency recommend Long Life Photoelectric smoke alarms are installed.

## EMERGENCY ACCESS

In the past we have been unable to access properties due to overgrown vegetation on driveways.

We recommend that a path 4 metres wide by 4 metres high is maintained to allow us access for emergency vehicles.

Any delay in arriving at an emergency can be serious. If you are unsure about access to your property feel free to make contact.

## QUIZ NIGHT.

After a couple of years break, the brigade is going to be running our annual quiz in the Coronation Hall, Portobello. The date hasn't been finalised yet but we're looking at the end of September.

If anyone would like to donate any prizes, please contact Kellie 027 726-6212.

– Jamie Ramsay, Chief Fire Officer, Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade



# Otago Peninsula Museum

The last two Tuesday working bees have been hampered by the wet weather for getting outside jobs done, however there still seems to be plenty to do inside.

Visitors to the Museum have increased this year which is very pleasing. If you have not yet popped along to see what we have then please do so on a Sunday 12.30-3.30. Adults just \$2 and children free. We don't actually have to be open for you to come into the grounds and wander around to look at the outside exhibits.



**OTAGO PENINSULA MUSEUM  
& HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

17 Harrington Point Road, Portobello, Dunedin 9014

At present the Museum is in the process of getting a reprint of the Portobello book - **Portobello - A Brief History**. This continues to be a very popular buy for people. The price will probably increase a little since everything has gone up since we last had it done in 2017.

We also have a new book that is just about to go to print. It is called **Otago Peninsula - Then and Now**. We have used old photos from the Museum file and gone to the exact spot, or as close as, to take a Now photo. We started at Tairaroa Head and continued over the Peninsula to finish in

Andersons Bay. We hope to have a book launch in the near future - watch this space.

We have had several visitors visit the Museum who are wanting information on old Portobello families. Luckily for them we were able to help in a small way.

1. Captain Henry Stratford Ridley (Master Mariner), wife Violetta and son Henry Stratford Junior (aged 3) arrived in Dunedin on the Victory in 1848. In 1868 Captain Ridley and his 11 year old son Charles were drowned when their boat collided with another boat in the harbour during a severe squall. They are buried in the Old Port Chalmers Cemetery.

2. Captain William Leslie (Master Mariner) and his family arrived in Portobello with his family in 1861. Both William Senior and William Junior had their homes on Harbour Cone. William Senior died in 1894 and is buried alongside his wife Emma in the Portobello Cemetery. William Junior and his wife Mary had a family of 9 children. In 1908 they purchased a farm at Ahuriri Flat in the Owaka district.

See you on ANZAC Day at the Museum.

## *100 years ago this month... Storms washed out Portobello Road.*

### **HEAVY RAINS**

### **FLOODS IN TOWN AND COUNTRY**

Several City Streets Still Under Water

*Otago Daily Times, 24 April 1923  
(via Papers Past)*

The Lower road to Portobello has suffered severely, and the cost of repairing the damage will be very heavy. Between Dunedin and Macandrew's Bay probably more than a dozen landslides have taken place as a result of the water pouring down the hillsides. In most cases the clay has been washed down to a sufficient extent to cover the whole width of the road, but in some instances trees have also been dislodged and have fallen across the track, making a fairway absolutely impossible. Some falls have occurred between Macandrew's Bay and Portobello, beyond which further damage has been caused. Within some two miles of Portobello on the road to Otakou the road has been blocked in four places by land sliding, the debris in one case including a large kaio tree, which covers the whole width of the road.



## Otago Marine Studies Centre

Join a tour at the New Zealand Marine Studies Centre at Portobello, meet local marine species to find out what makes them special, vulnerable and resilient. Get behind the scenes and see current research and dive into the deep with our virtual submarine!

Our next tour is on May 21st (and runs once a month right through to December)

Join our morning or afternoon session (10:30am or 12:30pm), \$15 per adult and \$10 per child

Bookings and further information available [here](#).

Or visit the HUMANITIX webpage and enter 'Marine Encounters' into the search bar.

## Fresh art coming to Broad Bay bus shelters

Two new bus shelters in Broad Bay are about to get a fresh look.

Experienced local artists will soon paint colourful murals on the shelters as part of the Peninsula Connection project. Each shelter will feature the Te Reo Māori name for the area, Whaka Oho Rahi, along with the street name.

Thomas Hancock has painted the shelter at the corner of Matariki Street in a fresh, contemporary design that sets outlines of native fauna against local colours to evoke a feeling of harmony between land and sea.

The shelter at King George Street will be painted by Aaven Junior, whose bold, energetic work celebrates the lively spirit of Whaka Oho Rahi, with elements such as a teapot, gumboot and umbrella hidden in the design. In acknowledgement of Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou as mana whenua, Aaven's design will use "Ōtākou Red" as the key colour – this was also used on Ayesha Green's Octagon sculpture Kō te Tūhono.

Otago Peninsula Community Board Chair Paul Pope says, "The Peninsula Connection project has brought new opportunities to celebrate cultural and artistic aspects of our community that enrich the Peninsula and its stories."

"The new bus shelters are a welcome addition to the community, and to have new young artists involved is particularly exciting. The public painting of bus shelters has been a part of the Otago Peninsula since the first were painted by the late John Noakes. It's become a signature part of our landscape for locals and visitors alike."

The murals were selected by a panel with representatives from the Otago Peninsula Community Board and Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou in an open process.

The shelters will be closed when the artists are working on them, but the bus stops will continue to be used for picking up and dropping off passengers.

Work on the Broad Bay section of the Peninsula Connection is progressing well and is on track to finish around the middle of the year. Work in the Portobello township should be complete in April.



# STOP (Save The Otago Peninsula)

It is exciting to see trees planted in previous years now producing seed. Do take a walk around the Future Forest to admire the growth. The trees have enjoyed the recent rain.

Volunteers are now turning their attention to releasing trees planted in previous years to maximise their survival rate. This involves cutting away the grass that is blocking the light to the plant and digging out any grass roots that are competing with the plant for nutrition. Some volunteers are also cutting and pasting patches of currently flowering gorse that threaten to overtake plantings.



We have regular working bees with any necessary tools provided - meet at the end of Bacon St in Turnbolls Bay (the next bay past Broad Bay) every Tuesday and Sunday at 9.30am.

If you have a special birthday or anniversary coming up this year and would like to donate some trees to commemorate it (or invite your friends to contribute a tree), ask for information on how to do this.

*Email [stopincsoc@gmail.com](mailto:stopincsoc@gmail.com) or text (only) Lala 027 8756 020.*

# Invasive Weeds Update from SWAT

As we approach autumn after our long warm dry summer, any Chilean Flame Creeper (CFC) that flowered this season is now covered in rapidly ripening dark purple berries ready for the birds to gobble up and spread. We focussed on this weed over summer around the Pukehiki area and we hope to have prevented any seeds forming this year. Fortunately, CFC does not seem to be present yet in Portobello, but it has popped up just down the road in a couple of places in Broad Bay. Good surveillance is key to spotting a new pest plant before it has a chance to spread. So if you spot some CFC while out and about, please email us at [SWATweeds@gmail.com](mailto:SWATweeds@gmail.com)

We have just undertaken our annual visit to Goat Island / Rakiriri. This 4.5 hectare island is just across the main shipping channel from Quarantine Island / Kamau Taurua and is designated as a scenic reserve and historic area. Over the years,

considerable effort has been put into getting pest plants like Banana Passionfruit and Bomarea under control. This island is an important stepping stone for birds traversing



the harbour so it is important to keep the native trees there from being strangled by invasive vines. It was fantastic to see the hard work paying off with the predominant vines now being native clematis and parsonsia happily co-existing with the forest, instead of the rampant invaders. Only one fruiting vine was found and most of our time was spent removing small seedlings to prevent reinfestation.

Have you any invasive weed questions for us? Seen something suss and weedy on your block? Email us at [SWATweeds@gmail.com](mailto:SWATweeds@gmail.com) for help and advice!

– Cheers from SWAT

# NZ Penguin Initiative



Are there little penguins in your neighbourhood, or your favourite beach? Would you be interested in looking after them?

We are here to help. The New Zealand Penguin Initiative has created a network of community groups throughout NZ that are monitoring little penguins,

and we're always looking for more people to join the cause. We provide free support for monitoring, protection, and advocacy, to better understand penguin populations throughout NZ, and to improve conservation measures to protect them.

If you are interested, please get in touch either on our website [www.nzpi.nz/get-involved](http://www.nzpi.nz/get-involved) or e-mail us: [admin@nzpi.net](mailto:admin@nzpi.net)



# Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc.

Kia ora koutou,

It has been a busy couple of months on the motu with many day visitors and groups choosing to stay overnight in the Lodge enjoying some 'island time'. We have welcomed the recent rain after the extended dry spell, especially for the island's native seedlings and our water tanks. The bush, shore and seabirds have continued to be busy caring for nestlings and fledglings.

Two weddings were held in the Married Quarters building, and a wellness retreat used the building during their stay, and a couple of homeschool families held camps. Taieri College held a student residential course for Year 13 prefects, Salmond College held a student Residential Leaders camp, Bayfield School held a week-long camp, and Ahikā Consulting held their annual hui. Day visitors included Trinity Catholic College Year 11 History students, Elmgrove School Year 5 students, and a large group of staff members from Findex spent a day volunteering helping with weed control, releasing seedlings and grubbing thistles.

We've held a number of mahi volunteer days and our Welcome Day's have all been enjoyed by new visitors and regular volunteers/Community members. Mahi has included caring for seedlings, releasing and watering, weed control, monitoring predator traps and tracking tunnels, and leading groups, improvements to the Keeper's Cottage, moving, splitting and storing firewood, and replacing the jetty timber decking. Thanks to all our volunteers and Community members for their efforts on and off the island over the last few months.

On our Welcome Day on the 25th of February, a special event took place to celebrate the unveiling of a new Chapel plaque commissioned by the Chapel's architect, Bob

Oakley. Members of his whānau and former members of St. Martin Island Community (SMIC) attended including Charles Clark, Peter Matheson and our oldest Community member, Lyndall Hancock. Lyndall helped with the unveiling alongside Bob Oakley's son, Norman. Visitors were given a tour of the island following a shared potluck lunch.



Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc. Council would like to help with a small revised reprint of Lyndall Hancock's book Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua (St Martin Island)- A Short History. If you are interested in pre-ordering or donating towards printing costs please complete this Pre-order Form.



We are grateful to the Otago Peninsula Community Board for funding towards jetty decking timber, Otago Regional Council ECO Fund, and Rotary Club of Dunedin South for funds to help us to continue our regeneration project involving the wider community, and Port-To-Port Cruises and Wildlife Tours, and East Coast Charters who have provided boat transfers. Thanks also to arborist Hank Rebmann and Murray Grimwood for felling trees for firewood and Tony Pepers for mahi in the Keepers Cottage during his island stay.

Would you like to join our Volunteer Database? Complete our Volunteer Form here and read our Volunteer Information Sheet here for some ideas on how you could help and what to expect.

If you'd like to visit or stay on the island, as a family group, or a group of friends, or for a retreat or workshop venue, see our

website [quarantineisland.org.nz](http://quarantineisland.org.nz) for details.

You can also subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter to learn about island news, events and volunteer opportunities, or follow our Facebook page Quarantine Island Kamau Taurua (Quarantine Island) and/or Facebook Group QI/KT

Community Group, or contact the island Keeper (Resident Manager) on 03-478-0874 or email [quarantineisland@gmail.com](mailto:quarantineisland@gmail.com).

If you haven't visited before, we host a Community Welcome Day on the last weekend of each month. Just a short boat ride from Back Beach, Port Chalmers, or Portobello by arrangement. We organise boat transport. Details and registration forms for events are on our website or Facebook page.

There is something for everyone on Kamau Taurua/Quarantine Island. From relaxing and recharging in solitude amongst peaceful surroundings, to learning about

island history and ecology, volunteering, and experiencing what makes the island so special.

Friday 14th April- Sunday 23rd April- Tēnā koe te Whenua, Dear Earth, - Letters to the Land is an opportunity to share what whenua means to you while exploring beautiful Kamau Taurua Quarantine Island! (part of Wild Dunedin Ōtepoti Mohoao- NZ Festival of Nature)

Saturday 29th April 2023- Welcome Day Volunteer, relax or explore, or all three! Come for the day or stay overnight!

## Protection for Rutherford's Bush

Thanks to generous contributors, more native bush on the Hereweka Harbour Cone block is now protected. In January this year 5.7 hectares of forest on a steep slope and the adjacent shrubland were enclosed by a one kilometer fence.

The forest, informally known as Rutherford's Bush, is one of the few remaining old forests on the Otago Peninsula and has a high diversity of native plants.

31 tree and shrub species, 22 ferns and 11 climbers represent a significant seed source. In the absence of grazing by farm stock, young plants will thrive and natural regeneration will ensure the survival and long term health of the bush.

In time, the plant communities will expand to fill the available space within the fenced area, increasing valuable habitat for native birds and invertebrates.

Rutherford's Bush is adjacent to a neighbouring forest protected by a QEII covenant and within a short distance of forests on Peggy's Hill and Stewarts Creek that were fenced in 2009 and 2010. The proximity of Rutherford's Bush to three other protected forest areas greatly increases its value as part of a network of indigenous biodiversity in a mainly pastoral landscape.

Rutherford's Bush can be seen from the walking track (previously a road or driveway) to the original Rutherford's farmstead.

From Highcliff Road, starting at the double gates on either side of the road, it's a short walk following the yellow marker posts. You are welcome to explore the native bush. There is a stile for access where the fence drops down into the gully.

— *Moira Parker*



PART OF RUTHERFORD'S BUSH SEEN FROM THE HISTORIC RUTHERFORD ROAD WHICH IS NOW A WALKING TRACK. THE NEW FENCE IS VISIBLE ON THE STEEP SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE BUSH

# Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group

## PENINSULA RABBITS

A community meeting was held last week to discuss rabbits. The main topic was the use of Pindone laced carrots. If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to receive information about how to control growing rabbit populations, please get in touch.



Vauxhall. 95% have been possums seen at the town end of the peninsula but yesterday a resident informed us they saw one walking past the Biodiversity Hub on the way to the jetty! I am going to put out some chew cards and inform the properties close by to set their traps.

– Paula Cross, Community Coordinator  
([peninsula@opbg.nz](mailto:peninsula@opbg.nz) • ph 021 242 4944)

## PENINSULA POSSUMS

We receive a good number of notifications when people see or hear a possum, especially since the sign went up at

## Another Day In Paradise—from Olly's Pen

Kia ora everyone – gosh it's been pretty hot lately hasn't it. And it's so good to see quite a lot of people swimming in the different bays along the peninsula. Obviously the water's warm and refreshing. I watched a rather large seal glide along the water just outside our place. The sea around it was alive and rippling with the activities of small fish which it was obviously feeding on. And then its head disappeared momentarily. When it bobbed up again it had an octopus in its mouth which it flayed about until finally completely devouring it. Seeing the octopus and the large shoal of fish swimming so close to shore in shallow water, must mean our harbour water is pretty clean. I'm pleased about that and so must everyone else. The issue for me

though is - is it safe for me to swim in the same patch of water as the seals – after all, it is their turf. Friends invited me to join them at Weller's rock for a swim but when I arrived, I saw two rather large bull seals cruising close by so I opted to sun bathe instead – sipping on a bottle of cold lemonade. In my wisdom, I decided to respectfully wait for the seals to move somewhere else before I entered the cooling waters of Tangaroa. When I think about it though, opportunities like this are seldom experienced by others living elsewhere. So aren't I lucky to be living in such a paradise aye?

– Olly Ohlson

### MAURI HAUORA

Kia ora ano – I'm itching to get started again with our home studies in Mauri Hauora – the ancient Maori philosophy which wise elders used to bring ideas from the invisible world of potentiality across into this world of physical reality.

We will also cover basic conversational Te Reo. We can comfortably take up to six people at a time so let me know if you are interested asap. You will receive a MH workbook but you will need a notebook for Te Reo. Most of all be prepared to engage in open debate and te reo exercises.

Kia mau kia whakatina! Haumie! Hui e! Taiki e! (Whatever you desire, remain focused and know that whatever you think about, feel about and believe – you will achieve.)

**Kaiako: Matua Olly**

Tohunga Mauri Hauora  
Ngati Whare o Tuhoë, Ngati Porou, Ngati Kahungunu, Tainui & Ngapuhi.

[espi10@gmail.com](mailto:espi10@gmail.com) or 03 478 0220



## Otakou Golf Club

Dear golfers and others,

I am going to start by writing about cricket. Unlike golfers who play the whole year round cricketers only play for six months and then they hibernate. There is another species who only play once a year and that is the Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade. Their annual cricket match against the Ōtākou Golf Club took place last month. I will not keep you in suspense, it was the usual result with the Golf Club winning in what turned out to be a reasonably close game. So, undeterred, the Fire Brigade have committed to a repeat game on the Portobello Domain for the first Saturday after Waitangi Day next year. Put it in your diary now. And thanks to the organisers for the refreshments and sausage sizzle.



The Golf Club have been running their 9 hole Twilight Golf competition since October and it is now coming to the business end, the final date and prize giving being Wednesday the 29 March. We have half a dozen golfers in the running for the top prizes and I am sure they will be trying their best in these last few weeks. A couple of good scores now in the time remaining could make all the difference. The forward weather forecast for the next few weeks is good so there will be no reason to miss the season climax.

The course at present is playing pretty well with plenty of run on the hard ground and some handicaps have been coming down accordingly. But that is a good sign that your golf is improving. So come along and improve it some more. It is quite acceptable to put in 9 hole scores for handicap purposes. You do not have to play 18 holes all in one session. So make time to play nine.

You may be interested to know that a recent study published in the British Medical Journal produced by some Finnish researchers compared the effects of an 18 hole round of golf, 6 km of walking and 6 km of Nordic walking (that is the Finnish influence) on blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol. Whilst all exercises were good for the heart, golf seemed to be the best, despite being a lower- intensity exercise.

That may be because the duration of a golf game is longer and requires more energy overall.

There you are, you can tell your family that you were not goofing off at golf, it really was doing you good. So, with that information we hope to see you on the course more often. And bring a friend.

*Hit'em Straight!*

## Portobello Bowling Club

Situated 5 Sherwood Street. New Members are always welcome. Bar & kitchen facilities for all types of functions – full size billiard table

We have our regular club night for darts and snooker on a Tuesday. Thursday nights are reserved for Twilight Bowls which is proving very popular with our social members and it is a great way to learn the intricacies of the game. Through the week our bowlers participate in regular competitions, mainly as teams within the Dunedin Bowling Community.

We have just played our annual match with the MacAndrew Bay Bowling Club for the Annie Haggett Cup and I'm

pleased to say that we won - it was a lovely afternoon on the green. Next Sunday we are playing our annual match with the Karitāne Club.



We always welcome new members, any age group. If you are interested in joining or would like to know more then contact our Secretary, Brian Cameron. Feel free to come along on a Thursday, around 5-5.30pm and you can see for yourself what we are all about.

– Contact Secretary, Brian Cameron, 4780 816 or email [pbo26@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pbo26@xtra.co.nz) for further information.

# Portobello Presbyterian Church

## Programme of 2023 Church Services

*10am unless otherwise noted*

9th April – TBA – Communion

23rd April – TBA – Study Group

7th May – Jane Cox – Church Svc

21st May – TBA – Study Group

4th June – Jane Cox – Church Svc

18th June – TBA – Study Group

9th July – Jane Cox – Church Svc

23rd July – TBA – Study Group

6th August – Jane Cox – Church Svc

20th August – TBA – Study Group –

3rd September – Jane Cox – Church Svc

17th September – TBA – Communion

1st October – Jane Cox – Church Svc

15th October – TBA – Study Group

5th November – Jane Cox – Church Svc

19th November – TBA – Study Group

3rd December – TBA – Communion

17th December – Jane Cox – Church Svc

24th December – 19.00pm – Jane Cox – Xmas Carol Singing



Diane Dupres: Yoga & Wellness

YOGA CLASSES: WEDNESDAYS 6:30 P.M – 7:30 P.M

PORTOBELLO HALL



Therapeutic Massage available  
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*We thank you for your past support and look forward to seeing you all again this year!*

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Photo: Cath Smith

dunedin



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**Try our Latham Bay Burgers**

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*All fish and Chips are not salted but can be if you ask.*

*eftpos payWave available*

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Robert lives on the Peninsula and has an office in central Dunedin. Local appointments are welcome.

**Phone:** 03-470-1352 **Mobile:** 027-630-6263  
**Web:** [www.robertwilsonlaw.co.nz](http://www.robertwilsonlaw.co.nz)

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**The PUGs**  
The Peninsula Ukulele Group

**Mon**  
evenings  
between  
6.30pm - 7.30 pm

Are you a keen ukulele player looking for others to have a jam with? We're a group of enthusiastic uke players who meet at Broad Bay on the Otago Peninsula each week. You don't have to be an experienced player to join us - play as much or as little as you want. You don't even have to live on the peninsula - it's a lovely drive from Dunedin city! We are a friendly bunch and welcome new members and song suggestions!

**We meet at our group leader's house. Just contact us for the address:**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ThePUGsNZ/](https://www.facebook.com/ThePUGsNZ/)

Email: [thepugsnz@gmail.com](mailto:thepugsnz@gmail.com)



**PORT TO PORT CRUISES & WILDLIFE TOURS**

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Ad \$30, Ch \$16

Bicycle \$6/\$10  
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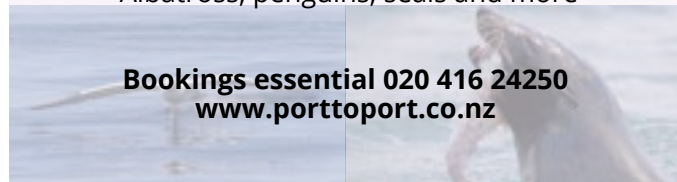
**Quarantine Island Treasure Hunt-**

Treasure map, birds, Quarantine Buildings, shipwrecks, treasure and chocolates!

Ad \$30, Ch \$18

**Albatross Wildlife and Harbour Tour (2 hours)-**

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# Otago Peninsula Massage

**Katherine Cooke**  
 Katherine is a very experienced therapist who has treated hundreds of people from all walks of life. She is passionate about helping people become pain free through massage therapy and will work with you to achieve your mobility goals.

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 Contact Christine 478-0878  
 Or Faye 478-0739



Supported by the Marjorie Barclay Trust

## RURAL SKIP DAYS Pop up Transfer Station

Portobello Domain | 18 June | 10am – 4pm

These are cash only collections.  
*(Waste must not be left at the site outside these times)*

**NO LARGE ITEMS:** i.e. engines, metals, tanks, metal drums, whiteware, demolition materials\*, or large items of vegetation\*\*

**NO UNACCEPTABLE WASTE:** i.e. hazardous waste, animal remedies, herbicides, medicines, medical waste, gas bottles, wire, asbestos or petrol tanks

**NO LIQUIDS:** i.e. liquids including oil

\* demolition materials – the maximum size of demolition material is 1m in any direction. Material is to be clean and contain no asbestos.  
 \*\* vegetation – no complete hedgerows or similar.

Fees apply. See website for details.



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**MAKE A PLAN** 

**NEVER HAPPENS? HAPPENS**

**GET READY GET THRU** 

*Want to help our little community be an even better place to live?*

# JOIN PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY INC!

We are looking for keen community-minded people to keep this long-standing group active and vibrant. Some of our wonderful projects have included:

- Heritage walk
- Bluestone kerbing, period streetlights, and flower boxes in the village centre
- Seasonal Market Days
- Paddock Pursuit
- Local clean-up days
- "Pirate Ship Playground" at Latham Park
- Major fundraising for the Jetty
- Installing a Defibrillator
- This newsletter
- *and more!*

We meet **7:30pm on the third Tuesday of each month** at Portobello Coronation Hall (Next meeting—18 April)

Everyone is welcome!

*Can't make the meetings but still keen to help? No worries! Contact us at [pbocomm.inc@gmail.com](mailto:pbocomm.inc@gmail.com)*

**Do you have surplus backyard fruit?  
We'll pick it and get it out to the community.**



### How it works:

- Just before your fruit is ripe (ideally!), contact our coordinator on **021-0273-1251** (or email [communityfruitotepoti@gmail.com](mailto:communityfruitotepoti@gmail.com)).
- We'll contact volunteer pickers near you and organise a good day & time to pick.
- Fruit will be given to Food Banks, street pātaka / pantries, or to organisations who process it into yummy baking and other goods which are then given away freely.

Please note we won't take damaged, rotting, or very small amounts of fruit. We can't pick fruit that is not reasonably safe to reach. We don't offer pruning.

**Want to help pick/preserve?  
Contact us: 021-0273-1251**

**Supported in NEV by the Valley Project**



## Peninsula Toy Library

**is looking for some new volunteers!**



After 5 years of service, our treasurer and president are moving on and we need people with an interest in our toy library and the interest of our younger community members to take over. If this sounds like you, come to our AGM

**7.30pm Thursday 1 June 2023  
at the Portobello Pub.**

# portobello area community resources

## BOOK A LOCAL HALL

- **Coronation Hall**, Portobello  
Wayne Cameron – 4780 424
- **Scott Hall**, Harwood  
Dave Rogers – 027 696 9657
- **Hoopers Inlet Hall**  
Jackie Clearwater – 4780 508
- **Broad Bay Community Centre**  
Zoë Fox – 027 285 4569 / zoefoxnz@gmail.com

## PORTOBELLO LIBRARY

The Library is open on Thursdays and Sundays, 11am–1pm. You can find the library in the Coronation Hall, Portobello. If you are wanting to join, it costs \$5.00 per family, and nothing thereafter except for 20 cents per book to take home.

## BOOK BUS

The Dunedin Public Library Book Bus visits the Peninsula every Wednesday. At Portobello School 9:45-10:15, in front of the pub 10:15-11, and at Broad Bay School at 11:15-11:45.

## PENINSULA TOY LIBRARY

Our Toy Library is open every Sunday morning from 10:30–12:30. We have a wide variety of toys, puzzles, games, dress-ups, and ride-on toys. At the Portobello Domain Pavilion, Allans Beach Road.

## PENINSULA MEDICAL CENTRE

12 Allans Beach Road, Portobello  
4780 880

## LOCAL PHONE BOOK

478 Local Phone Books are available for purchase at the Portobello Store for \$10.

## PORTOBELLO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

All are welcome to our friendly little church on the Peninsula. 22 Harington Point Road, Portobello. Services every other Sunday at 10:00am.

## BADMINTON CLUB

Badminton Club plays Sundays at 7:00pm, Coronation Hall. new members very welcome—come along and give it a try! We have club rackets for new players to use. Any enquiries phone Geoff on 0275 784 758.

## DEFIBRILLATOR

There are Automated External Defibrillators located outside Portobello Store (1 Harington Point Road) and the Broad Bay Boating Club (683 Portobello Road).



## HOT WATER URN RENTALS

We have two 20 litre Water Urns available for community use. If you wish to use these for an event, email pbocomm.inc@gmail.com. All we ask for is a donation.



# community calendar

14–23 April

### **Wild Dunedin Festival**

*Various locations across the Peninsula and elsewhere*

Tuesday 18 April

### **Portobello Community Inc monthly meeting**

*Coronation Hall, 7:30pm*

Tuesday 25 April

### **Anzac Day commemoration**

*Otago Peninsula Museum, 9am*

Tuesday 16 May

### **Portobello Community Inc monthly meeting**

*Coronation Hall, 7:30pm*

Sunday 21 May

### **Autumn Market Day**

*Coronation Hall*

Tuesdays & Sundays 9:30am

### **Hereweka Planting Bees**

*Bacon Street, Broad Bay*

Sundays 12:30-3:30pm

### **Peninsula Museum open**

*See inside for event details*