

portobello news

OUR HOME BY THE OTAGO HARBOUR

AUGUST 2023

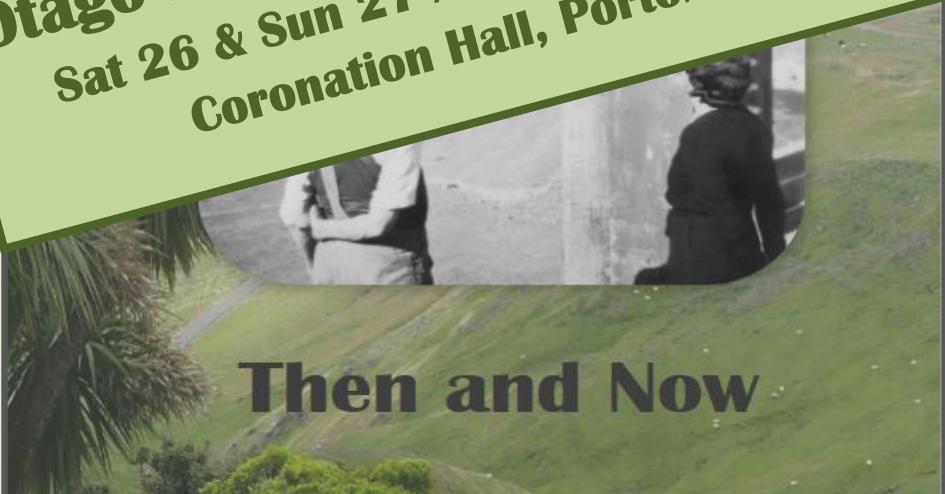


Otago Peninsula

**Photographic display of
Otago Peninsula – Then and Now**

Sat 26 & Sun 27 August, 11am – 3pm

Coronation Hall, Portobello



Then and Now

The Otago Peninsula Museum & Historical Society are hosting a display of photos from our collection. Our new book '*Otago Peninsula - Then and Now*' will be available for sale (\$30 cash only) Come along and see how much the Peninsula has changed over the years.

Portobello Community Inc. Update

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Tēnā koutou,

I hope you are all staying warm through the winter weather. It's my pleasure to greet you as the new chair of Portobello Community Inc.

Stacey Kokaua, who has led us for the past two years, decided to step down to concentrate on her lengthy list of other community commitments, including her role on the Otago Peninsula Community Board. Please join me on behalf of our membership in thanking Stacey for her excellent stewardship of the group, and we're grateful that she has decided to remain on the committee.

We formalised the switch in leadership at our recent Annual General Meeting, where we were delighted to see a few new faces. Amy McFadzien continues on as our stalwart treasurer this year, and we are joined by my co-newsletter-editor Laura Shepard, who has graciously stepped up into the role of secretary. Thank you to all who attended, and we look forward to working with you.

This has been a successful and busy year for Portobello Community Inc., with two standout highlights including the completion of the Pump Track at Portobello Domain and establishing ourselves as a registered charity. While we have "soft-launched" the Pump Track over the winter to let the plantings that surround it get established, it has already become a popular destination for kids (and a fair few adults). Thanks to all who donated plants, gifts, fixtures, tools, and above all their time to make this beautiful community amenity a reality. I would also once again like to specifically thank Dan Parker and Kitty Brown, who tirelessly pushed this project from idea to reality.

With that big project done, we've taken a bit of a breather over the winter and will return to our events and community projects in earnest, and we will continue our efforts to grow our membership. Planning is underway for a Spring Market Day (sign up to our mailing list for news!) and we welcome ideas for future fundraising events so that we can continue with our mission of ensuring that Portobello remains a great place to live.

Kā mihi,

— Michael Lascarides

portobello community inc.

President

Michael Lascarides

Treasurer

Amy McFadzien

Secretary

Laura Shepard

Newsletter Editors

Michael Lascarides & Laura Shepard

Committee

Sandra Clearwater, Stacey Kokaua, Ruth Seeney, Richard Steentjes, Dan Parker, David Large, Laura Shepard, Ryan Adams

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

ADVERTISE WITH US

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 advertising support helps us keep 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

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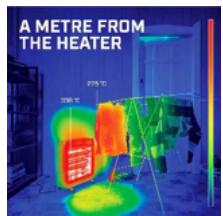
Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade

Well, we're well and truly in winter. Even though outside everything is wet and the fire danger is reduced, we still need to be vigilant around fire safety.

"Cool ash before you stash"

Our log burners will be getting used regularly now the temperatures have

dropped. You need to be careful when disposing of your ashes. Hot ashes can remain hot for five days and can spark a new fire. Always store ashes in a metal bucket and soak them with water before putting them in a wheelie bin.



"A metre from the heater"

We should all know the metre-heater rule by now, but it doesn't hurt to remind everyone. Fire and Emergency are still attending house fires caused by items left too close to a heat source.

"A clean dryer avoids a fire"

A poorly maintained clothes dryer can also cause a house fire. It is important to clean the lint filter every time the dryer is used. As most dryers draw a lot of current, do not plug them into a multi box, plug them directly into the wall socket.

"Check the heat before you sleep"

A faulty electric blanket is a fire waiting to happen. If you feel unusually hot patches in your electric blanket, replace it now. It is recommended that you get your

blanket checked annually and replace it if it is more than five years old. When storing an electric blanket, roll it up and never fold it.

Fire Season

The Otago Peninsula is still in an Open fire season, which means a permit is not required for outdoor fires, but you still need to do this safely.

If you are unsure, please go to the website WWW.checkitsalright.nz

Quiz night

I can now confirm that the Portobello Fire Brigade Quiz Night is going to be held on September 23rd. Keep this date free if you're interested in coming along.

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

Smoke Alarms

We have had a good response from our community around smoke alarms. We have carried out numerous home fire safety visits and fitted new smoke alarms where required.

Fire and Emergency recommends long life photoelectric smoke alarms.

If you are unsure, want some advice or would like a free home fire safety visit please give either Greg or myself a call.

CFO Jamie Ramsay 027 481-3075

DCFO Greg Dickson 0210 226-5233

Stay safe out there and if you see fire or smoke that you are unsure about, call 111.

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

Portobello Police Station

Tēnā koutou everyone

Things have been relatively quiet in and around the peninsula of late on the crime front which is pleasing. This doesn't mean we should become complacent around the everyday things we can do to keep us and our things safe. The simple things like locking vehicles, getting neighbours to watch over your place if you are away for a while, putting away easily accessible property that may be to the liking of the bad people and generally not giving anyone the opportunity to ruin your day.



To all of our firearms licence holders - you may or may not be aware that there is now a Firearms Registry which went live on the 23rd of June this year. What this means is that if you're a licence holder you are now required to provide information about certain arms items you have in your possession. This registry will give licence holders more confidence when selling or purchasing firearms. The registry will let you know if you are dealing with a current licence holder and importantly if you're purchasing one **if it is stolen**.

You have until the 24th of June 2028 to get this done but I am encouraging everyone to get it done as soon as able. There are some activating circumstances which require you to do this quicker and they are also online. It is a relatively simple process, just go to firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz and click on My Firearms. You then follow the prompts to register the arms you have. There is a list of what needs to be registered on the website. If you need any assistance around this, please pop in and I can help. There is no charge for this registry. Let's do our bit to support this.

It's great to see the new pump track is getting well used by a wide range of the community. I've even had a quiet blast around it myself, being careful not to do myself a mischief as I'm not getting any younger. I can see this as a real meeting point for all in the nicer months to come.

Impairment is my focus in relation to Road Policing for the next while. There is no excuse for getting behind the wheel of a motor vehicle if you are impaired. This could be either by alcohol or drugs. If you take that risk and run that gauntlet, then the buck stops with you. Too many lives are lost each year because of impaired driving, and one should not be so selfish to think they have the right to place other

road users at risk because of their actions. Don't be that person.

A couple of occasions lately I have had reports of dogs rushing out of properties in an aggressive way towards walkers or cyclists passing by innocently. These have been reported to Dog Control at the Council. We know the devastating results that can occur in such instances so please be responsible and take care to ensure something like this can not happen.

I say this a bit and have had a couple of situations lately where people who have my cell number have rung (which is never an issue) but couldn't contact me for certain reasons. One of these situations was a prime example of calling 111. If I don't answer or reply relatively quickly it could be I'm away or not available. Please, if I don't answer or reply initially and the situation needs police attention, call 111 if urgent or 105 if not. If not urgent your details will be taken, and a message sent to me to follow up with you when able.

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 – the new heat pump is on in the station.

– *Sr. Constable Aaron Smith*

Portobello School

Matariki Breakfast

Portobello school celebrated Matariki with a Matariki breakfast on Friday 30th of June. Students presented their learning about the Matariki star cluster. We also named our new playground pendulum swing - Te Manahau – signifying exhilaration and enjoyment.

Bravery and 100% awards

The 100% and Bravery awards were presented at the final assembly of term two. Congratulations to Ethan who received the 100% award, and to Jordan who was presented with the Bravery award. Both well deserved boys, tino pai.

High visibility vests

Portobello School has a new supply of high visibility vests for our students. We have named these and given them to our tamariki. This will ensure they are seen on those dark mornings.



New students to Portobello School

We welcome two new students to the Junior Whānau. Liam Crowley-Thom and Blossom Demant started school. Welcome to Portobello School Liam and Blossom and to Blossom's parents, Sophie and Sam, we are looking forward to getting to know you.

Wearable Arts

Our main topic for term three is based around wearable arts. We are linking this with our cultures and will be working on creating pieces that reflect our cultural heritage. We have flags in the library and hui room reflecting as many cultures as we could gather from whānau. The topic involves many aspects of the curriculum and will culminate in a Wearable Arts show at the Coronation Hall on Friday 8th September from 1pm. All are welcome.

Kā mihi,

– *Tom Hobbs, Acting Principal*

CAR WASH & Sausage Sizzle — Saturday 2 September 11-2
Portobello Domain • Fundraiser for Portobello School

Otago Peninsula Massage

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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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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).
- 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



Tai Chi



Starting Wed, August 23rd @ 9:30am

Broad Bay Hall, Clearwater Street

Tai Chi improves:

- Balance, Muscle strength & Flexibility
- General fitness & Wellbeing
- Relaxation & Immunity

Tai Chi is also beneficial for back pain, arthritis, diabetes, breathing and stamina.

\$3 per class



For more information

Margaret P: 04 479 3052
Diane P: 022 037 6547

ageconcernotago.com



RURAL SKIP DAYS Pop up Transfer Station

Portobello Domain | 29 October | 10am – 5pm

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.



03 477 4000
www.dunedin.govt.nz

Otago Peninsula Museum

AGM - Thanks to those who came along to our Annual General Meeting recently. Our Committee has stayed the same but we have good support around us.

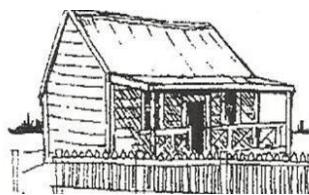
BOOK - You will notice that we are starting to advertise the sale of our latest book - Otago Peninsula Then and Now. This will be available on the weekend of 26 & 27 August from 11am till 3pm at the Coronation Hall in Portobello.

There will also be a photographic display of many of the photos that did not make the book so come along and learn a bit about the Peninsula history. Books are \$30 and cash only please. Our Portobello - A Brief History book will also be for sale.

Our Tuesday working bees continue to be very busy fixing and improving things. One project is to make the fence between the Barn and the paddock tidier. Our thanks to Richard who has been a great help over the past few months. He leaves to help more at the Mens Shed in town.

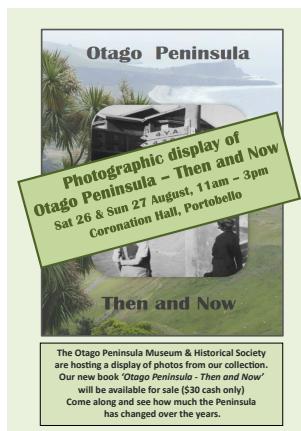
We do get some interesting visitors and one recently was a descendant of the Weller Family. Matthew Weller visited from the UK and the Weller Brothers, who became Whalers in Otago, were part of his family. The photo shows Matthew beside the Weller medicine chest which is held at the Museum.

Joseph Weller (1766-1857) was one of the sons of William Weller (1728-1802), founder of the brewing dynasty, and Joseph, like his brothers John and William, initially became a brewer. However, he suffered from consumption (tuberculosis) and was advised to move to a warmer, coastal climate. Joseph married Mary Brooks in 1801 and his first two sons, Joseph Brooks Weller and George Weller were



OTAGO PENINSULA MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

17 Harington Point Road, Portobello, Dunedin 9014



baptised in Amersham, but by 1807 when his first (surviving) daughter, Mary Brooks Weller, was baptised, he was living in Folkestone. His brothers, John Weller (1760-1843) and William Weller (1763-1843) bought out his share of the brewery.

Joseph's ill health continued and he was advised to go on a long sea voyage. His two elder sons, Joseph Brooks and George, made separate reconnaissance trips to

Australia in the 1820s and after returning to England seem to have persuaded the whole family to emigrate there. Joseph Brooks and Edward went first in 1829 and were followed in 1830 by brother George, with his new wife Eliza Barwise, his father and his wife and George's two surviving sisters. Joseph had sold his estates in the UK and he took his money to Australia in sacks containing 12,000 sovereigns. Since 1817, a gold sovereign has weighed 7.988 g so the sacks would have been just under 100 kg and in 2017 the money would be worth a little over £800,000. On arrival in New South Wales, part of the money was invested in land but part in setting up a

shipping and whaling business in Sydney which became very successful. A year later, in 1831, the younger sons Joseph Brooks and Edward set off in their whaler, the Lucy Ann, for New Zealand to set up a whaling business near what later developed into the city of Dunedin. They landed at what became known as Weller's Rock and became very successful, employing over eighty people, not just there but in six other whaling stations, and in farming and selling supplies to visiting ships.

We are open Sundays 12.30-3.30. For other times you can contact Warren on 0274885107 or Faye on 4780-739

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 or e-mail us: admin@nzpi.net

STOP (Save The Otago Peninsula)

The 1,000 trees donated by 'Trees That Count' to mark the FIFA Women's World Cup using funding from Te Uru Rakau NZ Forest Service, have almost all been planted at the top of the Second Tributary in the Smiths Creek Catchment, together with a further 300 plus donated by Corrections and local residents.

Two weekend community working bees were advertised to encourage people to come and plant some of the FIFA trees. However most of the planting and the releasing (which is an essential component for high survival), is done at regular working bees, which meet at the end of Bacon Street in Turnbells Bay (the next bay past Broad Bay) every Tuesday and Sunday at 9.30am. Any necessary tools are provided. We always welcome new volunteers for these.



While over 50% of the work on the Future Forest in Smiths Creek is done by the regular working bees, larger groups such as A'Rocha, the Polytechnic Horticulture students and businesses are the other contributors, and we can cope with a busload of up to 50 volunteers.

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 or text (only) Lala 027 8756 020.

Another Day In Paradise—from Olly's Pen

I just so appreciate looking out of my upstairs window at the harbour – at the many birds that congregate there feeding on the abundance of foods it offers up to them. At the dredge; boats, yachts and cargo ships pass in and out of it. And, if I'm lucky enough to see them, the odd seal, shark, orca or stingray that surges high enough above the water line in pursuit of some tasty morsel. And I think to myself, how lucky am I. Seeing the fish and the birds feeding the way they do tells me that the harbour water must be good enough to support an abundance of life – and that makes me feel good. I remember saying at the Mid-Winter Carnival how Matariki is a time when we humans are reminded about how important growing things is – our vegetables, plants and fruit. And how important it is for us to look after one another – our children, ourselves, our parents, our relations and our friends. After all, we are all involved in one another's growth in some way – through the mere fact that our thoughts and feelings travel throughout

the atmosphere and our old cells drop off us wherever we go. Which means that we are all breathing in one another's cells every day. As for feelings and thoughts, they will have an effect on our moods without us being aware. Different communities and homes as well as businesses have different atmospheres – we've all felt that at different times. And what I've learned so far is this: if I want my children and grandchildren to have a happy and rewarding life, then it makes sense that I create and leave atmospheres which are positive, creative and full of happy vibes so when they pass through wherever I've been, they get affected in a good uplifting way. It's so easy to do. And being happy is free. As a matter of fact, all the great things in life are free, when you think about it. Like looking appreciatively out at the harbour waters, on a bright sunny day – how wonderful is that aye! Oh yes – it's so good to spend another day in paradise!

— Olly Ohlson

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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

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Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc.

Kia ora koutou,

We have welcomed Jon Clark, our current relieving Keeper (Resident Manager) until we are more able to advertise for a more permanent Keeper, as we continue on upgrading the Keeper's Cottage and other necessary maintenance. Jon has 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 from 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 is very excited to be back and we are grateful to have him!

During the colder months of Matariki, continued rain has been especially good for the motu's native seedlings and our water tanks, ensuring our sheep have grass to eat and water to drink. There have been some stunning dawn, dusk and night skies over this time. The bush, shore and seabirds have continued to be busy keeping warm and fed, and the pūkeko youngsters and their parents seem to be here to stay!

July has been our quietest month for Lodge bookings and visitors on the motu with a reduction of day visitors and groups choosing to stay overnight in the Lodge enjoying some 'island time' in the colder winter months. However, students taking part in the NZ Marine Studies Centre residential programmes, Dunedin City Council executive team and Waitati School teachers held well-being workshops using the Lodge, and a couple of other groups enjoyed celebrating a birthday or a family/friends reunion.

Musselburgh Church held a youth group retreat/camp and A.A.P.E.S (Animal Aquatic Plants Ecological Society) Otago students returned to enjoy a welcome break from study, connecting with one

another, whilst helping us with native tree planting and weed control, exploring and kayaking! The Department of Conservation funded a two-night stay with local and regional DoC team members, and an archeology team, whilst undertaking a cemetery ground penetrating radar project. The results of the survey hope to provide us with information to help us better establish the cemetery's boundaries and help us to ensure that it is well looked after. A couple of our Community members were able to attend the day's mahi.

We've held a number of mahi volunteer days and our Welcome days have all been enjoyed by new visitors and regular volunteers/community members. Mahi has included planting and caring for seedlings, releasing, weed control, monitoring predator traps and tracking tunnels, leading groups, and improvements to the Keeper's cottage and other building maintenance. Thanks to all our volunteers and community members for their efforts on and off the island over the last few months. We also thank Janina Nakajima Castro, science communication postgraduate/masters student at the University of Otago, and a birder from the Philippines, who completed her internship with us this month. Janina has created a wonderful QI/KTC treasure hunt education resource for schools, and compiled many informative wildlife postings and advertised events on our Facebook page/group.

On our monthly Welcome day's, held on 24th of June & 29th of July, a number of newbies enjoyed a first time island visit. They learnt about the history of the island and the QI/KT Community, enjoyed a guided tour of the bush track and our biodiversity project, and helped with planting and releasing native seedlings. We also held our AGM in the Married Quarters building on the 23rd of July.

We still have a small number of copies left of the revised reprint of Lyndall Hancock's book Quarantine Island/ Kamau Taurua (St Martin Island)- A

Short History. If you are interested in buying your own



copy at \$35 each, please contact secretary.quarantineisland@gmail.com

We are grateful to The Sargood Bequest and Otago Peninsula Community Board for funding for jetty decking timber, Otago Regional Council ECOFund, and Rotary Club of Dunedin South for funds to help us to continue our regeneration project involving the wider community, Lottery Otago/Southland Community Fund for contributing to funds towards the Keepers salary, Rotary Club of Dunedin for funding towards a new boat motor, and Port-To-Port Cruises and Wildlife Tours, East Coast Charters and Otago Water Taxis & Tours who have provided boat transfers. Thanks also to Paul Clements for all his continued mahi and management of the Keepers cottage upgrade, to Patsy Mason, Hugh Forsyth and Brendan Penwarden for all their fundraising mahi, and to Adrienne Dearnley for her treasurer mahi.

Would you like to join our volunteer database? Complete our volunteer form here and read our volunteer information sheet here for some ideas of how you could help and what to expect.

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

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 posted on our Facebook page.

There is something for everyone on Kamau Taurua/Quarantine Island - from relaxing and recharging in solitude and peaceful surroundings, to learning about island history and ecology, as well as volunteering and experiencing what makes the island so special.

Mahi volunteer days in August/September—to be confirmed. Volunteer, weed control, planting and caring for native seedlings, and other mahi. Boat subsidies available for those helping with our biodiversity project.

Saturday 26th August 2023- Welcome Day

Saturday 30th September 2023- Welcome Day

Volunteer, relax or explore, or all three! Come for the day or stay overnight!

Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Spotlight on Possums event last month! There was only one backyard possum sighting on the peninsula, from the Cove to the Headland, which is largely thanks to the efforts of our wonderful volunteer trappers. We know there are still a few lurking about in non-residential hot-spots and they're on the move. Winter is our best time to try and get them—the autumn fruit is gone and the spring bounty has yet to arrive, so they're hungry. If you have a backyard trap, now is the time to set it and regularly check it. If you have a Trapinator and you notice the bait is disappearing, you likely have a rodent problem so please get in touch and we can help you sort it. For cage traps, try using pumpkin since our team has had great



success with it.

Our goal is to be possum free over the whole Peninsula by September 2024. We've had a big possum mop-up from the town-end of the peninsula towards Portobello with great success at lowering numbers. Thank you to all the landowners who continue to be very supportive and helpful in allowing us to continue with the big goal of eradication. We would like to keep working with our community to achieve eradication and continue to benefit from increased native birdlife and healthy native vegetation.

— Maggie Evans

peninsula@opbg.nz / 021 2424 944

predatorfreepeninsula.nz

Dunedin Readers & Writers Festival

Mark your calendars - the Dunedin Writers & Readers Festival is coming up in October and the Peninsula is well and truly in the spotlight! We begin the festival at Ōtākou Marae, where Te awa Ōtākou (the river) meets Te moana nui-a-kiwa (the sea). Helmed by locals Kitty Brown and Jen Stokes, the festival includes many friendly and familiar

Peninsula faces including Neville Peat, Paddy Richardson and Moana Wesley (to name a few), as well as the Caselberg Trust October Resident.

Sign up to our newsletter at dunedinwritersfestival.co.nz to have the full line up delivered to your inbox in early September.



FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
13, 14 & 15 OCTOBER
2023

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Page 11

Otakou Golf Club

Dear Golfers and Friends,

The July weather has not been kind to us down at Ōtākou. Our Sunday club days have been variously described as “on a day only fit for ducks” and “contending with driving wind and snow” and you, the reader (and some of us players too), might wonder why we do it. Could it be for the love of the game, for companionship, or the resuscitation at the 19th hole. I do not have a complete answer and can only suggest that you come down and give it a try yourself. Check us out at our facebook page, there is always the promise of better weather to come.

And mention of the 19th hole reminds me of why in this decimal age we play 18 holes for the game and not 10 or 20. Well the history goes back to 1858 at the home of golf, St Andrews, in Scotland when there was no uniformity and a course in those early days had what it considered appropriate for its location and terrain such that some courses had 7 or 13 and in the extreme case of Montrose, 25 holes. There was some debate about what constituted a round of the links to be considered a match. There was no agreement until a distinguished gentleman gave his opinion based on his experience. He allegedly said, “It has long been my custom to start out for a game with a full bottle of Scotch whisky in my bag – not for any reason except that the inclemency of our local climate makes it expedient for me to have a small medicinal nip on



each tee. Naturally I find it pleasant to play golf so long as there is a drink left in the bottle. On the other hand it would be unhealthy for me to continue my game when the bottle is empty. I have found that one bottle will fill my glass just 18 times so it has become my custom to play 18 holes each afternoon, no more, no less”. There was no opposition to this logic and that is why it was agreed that golf courses should thereafter have 18 holes. I should add that we have adopted the 18 holes but the whisky practice is not mandatory at Ōtākou.

And it is not just golf that happens at Ōtākou links. Last month I advised you that Athletics Otago held their cross country cup on the perimeter of the course. There were more than 70 competitors of all age groups and their supporters - a busy, busy day. And they were very complimentary of the undulating course.

Similarly Disc Golf Dunedin will be holding a repeat of their Mid Winter Classic on the Ōtākou course on 19 August. Golf balls and frisbees do not mix well so we will need to close the course for that day again. This is part of a three match competition for them and they move on to Chisholm Park and Port Chalmers golf courses in subsequent months.

I wish you well in your quest for that perfect round,

Hit 'em Straight!

Portobello Public Library

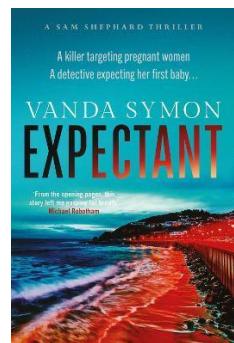
A reminder that the Library is open Thursdays and Sundays from 11am-1pm in the Coronation Hall, Portobello. Come along and meet Dot, our Librarian, and check out the great selection of books that are available. It costs just \$5 a family to join then 20 cents for each book you take out. If you have a particular book you would like then talk to Dot as she may be able to get it for the Library.

Book Review

Vanda Symon is a Dunedin based crime, thriller, author. She has written a series of five books based on Sam Shepherd who starts the series with her policing in Southland, and

eventual move to Dunedin as a Detective. Each book is enthralling because we can relate to the places. Vandas most recent book ‘Expectant’ is based on a rather macabre murder down an alley off Moray Place. It is a good who dunnit, and is hard to put down as the plot thickens. An easy read for those who like a crime set in your own backyard.

The Portobello Public Library is open Thursdays and Sundays 11am - 1pm at the Portobello Hall.



7 Harington Point Road
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Ad \$115
Ch \$62
(With local's discount)



Invasive Weeds Update from SWAT

It is three years since a small group of Peninsula residents decided to spend Friday mornings tackling pest plants. A grant from the Otago Peninsula Community Board allowed the group to get started and SWAT was formed. The name describes what we do, which is

Seek Weeds And Terminate

Our main target is banana passion fruit. The pink flowers or orange fruits may be very obvious on a roadside bank or hidden from view, tucked away in a gorse gully. One of our aims is to prevent this pest vine from spreading over to the ocean side of the Peninsula by dealing with banana passion fruit vines on Highcliff Road and around Hoopers Inlet. As far as we know banana passion fruit has not been found in the Sandymount Reserve, Boulder Beach or Highcliff areas. Once



established, it would be impossible to eradicate from these more remote parts of the Peninsula.

SWAT would like to thank residents who have alerted us to pest plants and all those landowners who have allowed access for the SWAT team onto their properties to deal with problem vines. It is surprising just how many areas of the Peninsula we have tackled between Ōtākou and The Cove.

All up, 63 different sites!

If you would like advice or help controlling pest plants on your property, or find a plant that you think could be a problem weed, we would be keen to hear from you. Contact the team at SWATweeds@gmail.com

— *Cheers from SWAT*

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:

- Pump Track
- 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 Wednesday of each month** at Portobello Coronation Hall

Everyone is welcome!

Can't make the meetings but still keen to help? No worries! Contact us at pbocomm.inc@gmail.com

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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.

- *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*

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 POOL

The Pool is closed for the winter. Please be sure to return your key to the shop!

community calendar

Wednesday 23 August
Portobello Comm Inc Monthly Meeting
Coronation Hall, 7:30pm

Sat-Sun August 26-27
Peninsula Then & Now Photo Exhibition
Coronation Hall, 11-3

Saturday 2 September
Portobello School Car Wash Fundraiser
Portobello Domain, 11-2

Wednesday 20 September
Portobello Comm Inc Monthly Meeting
Coronation Hall, 7:30pm

Saturday 23 September
Fire Brigade Quiz Night
Coronation Hall

13-15 October
Dunedin Readers & Writers Festival

Sunday 29 October
Skip Day
Portobello Domain, 11-5

Tuesdays & Sundays
9:30am
Hereweka Planting Bees
Bacon Street, Broad Bay