

portobello news

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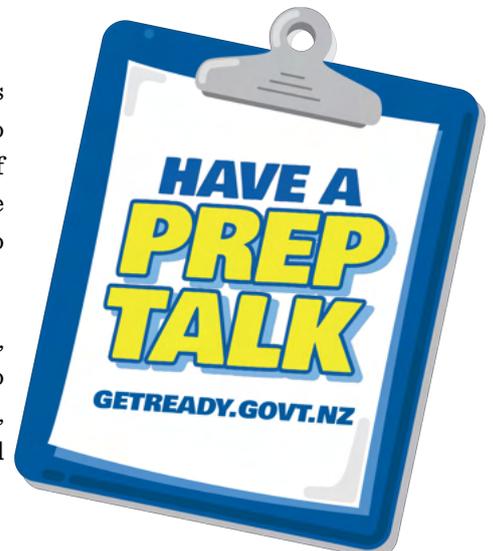


HOW'S YOUR PLAN?

The recent rounds of wind and rain storms are a good reminder that the Otago Peninsula is vulnerable to a variety of hazards, with the potential for us to lose power, water, and/or our road access to town due to slips, downed trees, or flooding.

In addition to stocking up enough food, water, and other supplies, don't forget to think about your communications plan, what you'd do if the phones went down, and who's checking in on the neighbours.

See getready.govt.nz for more resources.



Portobello Community Inc. Update

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Last time I wrote about how summer still had a chance to be good. Unfortunately my dreams, just like my wishes to Santa, have gone unanswered. Due to the pretty average summer so far I have decided that for Portobello and its surrounds, the season shall have to be renamed. As supreme ruler of all the lands I from henceforth decree that the season after the winds but before the leaves die shall be known as Disappointment.

I have also written to the UN and requested that a global effort be made to physically shift the region closer to the equator. I recommended a massive airlift with all the helicopters in the world and lots of rope be undertaken to lift Portobello to a much more agreeable latitude. (we will take the penguins because they are cute but leave the sea lions because one chased my kayak the other day).

Remember, if you don't agree with my dictatorial changes to our seasons or physical location in the world you can

come along to the next Portobello Inc meeting. Third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 at the Biodiversity Hub.

We did have one delicious Summer market at the end of November. The sun was out and the patrons did indeed come along. Massive thanks to Michael and all those that helped. Our stalls sold out again and we had lots of people through on the day. It's safe to say that the Markets are booming. Looking forward to the next one in a couple of months, once the renovations at Coronation Hall are completed.

2026 is also a year where we want to see what else Portobello can do for you.

- What events do you want to see?
- What do you think we need in the community that we don't have?
- What is cool that people should know about here?
- In general, what else can Portobello Inc do for us?

Elliot Dixon
Chair, Portobello Community Inc.

portobello community inc.

President
Elliot Dixon

Treasurer
Laura Shepard

Secretary
Michael Lascarides

Newsletter Editors
Michael Lascarides & Laura Shepard

Committee
Sandra Clearwater, Ruth Seeney,
Dan Parker, Ryan Adams, Rose Shepard

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

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Contact us at pbocomm.inc@gmail.com for rates and information.

Want this newsletter by email?
Join our mailing list at
portobello.org.nz/contact

We're looking for volunteers to deliver this newsletter in
Harwood, Otakou, and Harington Point
Contact us at pbocomm.inc@gmail.com if interested!

News from the Otago Peninsula Community Board

Kia ora o te tau hou, Happy New Year to you all. It seems a long time ago as we enter the early days of February. To say the weather over Christmas and the New Year has been marginal would be an understatement! They say that the rain in Spain falls mainly upon the plain. Well, I'd say that the plain must be pretty dry at the moment because it's fallen here! As a weather nerd with a weather station on my roof, January's figures look a bit bleak.

I've been looking at figures produced from my weather station in Portobello and it's fairly bleak. Here are the January 2026 figures to date.

- Highest Temp 25° - Lowest Temp 8° - Average Temp 14°
- Total Monthly Rainfall 148.6mm - Heaviest 24-hour Rainfall 63.8mm
- Number of days with rain ≥ 0.2 mm: 13 - Number of days with rain ≥ 2.0 mm: 8
- Highest Recorded Wind Speed - 61 km/h

A reminder that members of the community are welcome at our meetings and are able to speak at the public forum if they wish to do so. Please drop me a line beforehand so I can add you to the agenda if you wish to speak.

2026 ANNUAL PLAN – FINAL STAGES OF ROAD WIDENING

The Dunedin City Council and Otago Regional Council Annual Plans will go out for consultation again this year. With the current government looking to have councils have rates caps and a newly elected City Council the final three stages of road widening at Otakou, Portobello School and From Harwood to Harington Point could be under jeopardy of being removed as a capital cost-saving. It would be a disaster for the Otago Peninsula not to get the last pieces of the roading network and as usual we will need the support of the community to retain this project in the City Councils budgets.

2026 NEWS IN BRIEF



My condolences to the Morris family at the passing of Warren before Christmas. His contributions to the Peninsula have been immense and we are grateful for his community service over many years.

The dangerous corner on Portobello Road near Doon Street and where there was a recent car accident is being investigated for repairs along with a number of others near Macandrew Bay.

The Portobello Boardwalk is due out for tender and we may see work begin in April.



FACEBOOK

Just a reminder that the Board has a Facebook account where we share notices, information and meeting dates. Please take the opportunity to use it if you can and share information to those who may not use social media. <https://www.facebook.com/pencomboard/>

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

Aligned to Go Portobello

Fridays @ 10:30 am starting Feb 13th
Bowling Club, Sherwood Street

Join us to improve your strength and balance. Falls are not a natural part of ageing. Falls ARE preventable!

Aligned to Go is a new dance-based falls prevention programme to improve balance, strength, flexibility, agility, coordination and mobility.

All welcome. \$3 per session.



For more information:
Margaret Dando 03 479 3052
E: margaret@ageconcernotago.co.nz
Prue 021-135-6895

ageconcernotago.com

Portobello School News

Kā mihi,

Portobello School welcomed new students to our kura who started in the Junior Whānau on day one of the year. Haere mai. Welcome to Portobello School.

Our roll has started the year with 56 students. We have 26 in our senior class, 21 in Room 3, and 9 in Junior Whānau.



Last year we said farewell to Ross Bennett, who has secured a position at Elmgrove School. All other staff remain the same, Marilyn in the office, Candace and Margaret in Junior Whānau, Cheryl in Room 3, Whaea Kate in Room 4 along with myself. We also have two fantastic caretakers: Lou looks after our extensive grounds and Ian takes care of our pool during the summer months.

The pool got a new thermal cover in the holidays. This is going to help keep the heat in the pool and ultimately reduce heating costs. Thank you to the New Zealand Community Trust for their generous grant which paid for this cover.

We have had some trees removed during the holidays. A leaning pine at the bottom of the Tree Reserve, an oak that was at the end of its life on the Art Path, and some hanging macrocarpa branches at the top of

the playground.

We have Just Swim lessons for year 0-6 students in the Portobello pool, with the year 7 & 8s getting their lessons in Moana pool.

Beach Education is happening at school and at the Portobello jetty on Wednesday 18th of February.

—Tom Hobbs, Principal, Portobello School

Volunteering Opportunities on the Otago Peninsula

SUMMER/AUTUMN 2026

DAY	TIME	WORK TYPE	LOCATION	GROUP	CONTACT	EMAIL
Last Mon of month	9:30 am (summer)	Gardening	Glenfalloch	FOG	Robyne	robyneselbie1945@gmail.com
ANY	any	Stoat and rat trapping	Sandymount	OPBG	Chris	operations@opbg.nz
SUN	10:30 – 1	Tree releasing, trackwork, planting	Top of Bacon St, Broad Bay	STOP	Lala	stopincsoc@gmail.com
TUES	9:30 - 12	Tree releasing, trackwork, planting	Top of Bacon St, Broad Bay	STOP	Lala	stopincsoc@gmail.com
WED	9:30 – 12:30	Preparing native plants for planting	YEPT Nursery, 12 McTaggart St, Company Bay	YEPT	Louise	nursery@yeptrust.org.nz
TUES + THURS	10 – 4	Potting up, sowing seed, weeding	TSBT Nursery, 470 Tomahawk Rd, Ocean Grove	TSBT	Nicole	beachcare@zoho.com
THURS	10 – 1:30	Repotting native plants	45 Pakihau Rd, Harington Point	The OPERA	Ariel	ariel@theopera.co.nz
FRI	9 - 12	Controlling invasive pest plants	Various Peninsula locations	SWAT	Marcia	SWATweeds@gmail.com
SAT/SUN	9:30 – 3:30	Predator control, seedling care, bird counts	Quarantine Island (via boat transfer)	QI/KT	Cristina	volunteer.quarantineisland@gmail.com

Do you have three hours to spare each week?

Would you like to help a project on the Peninsula?

If any of the activities listed above interest you, email the contact person.

You don't need any skills. You will be shown what to do.

It helps to be moderately fit. Adults of any age welcome.

Have a go, see if you enjoy it! You'll get a warm welcome!

Your mahi would be much appreciated by the eight groups listed here.

- FOG Friends of Glenfalloch
- OPBG Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group
- STOP Save The Otago Peninsula Inc Soc
- YEPT Yellow-Eyed Penguin Trust
- TSBT Tomahawk Smalls BeachCare Trust
- OPERA The Otago Peninsula Eco Restoration Alliance
- SWAT Seek Weeds and Terminate
- QI/KT Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc



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Phone: 027 232 8674

Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc.

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Our wonderful Island Keeper, **Jon Clark**, is deeply missed, both as a wonderful Keeper, and as a friend to many QI/KT Community members, volunteers, and returning Lodge guests. Jon died unexpectedly in the Keeper's Cottage from a sudden brain haemorrhage, and was found by members of the QI/KT Community on 29th

November. Special thanks to local police officer, Liam Guthrie, and his team, and Coastguard Dunedin for their compassionate care and support during an extremely difficult and stressful time for seven members of the QI/KT Community who were present. Special thanks also to Hoani Langsbury for leading a karakia whakawātea to bless the Cottage, and to Rob Emmett, Otago Water Taxis & Tours, for all his support after Jons' death getting us to and from the Island. It took a great deal of stress off the shoulders of the Community as we grieved this loss.

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

In other news, over the past few months there were a number of groups choosing to stay a night or two in St Martin Lodge, groups of families and friends enjoying an island 'get-away', and day visitors also enjoyed some 'Island-time'. Lodge guests included members of the Dunedin Zen Group who held their annual 7-day silent meditation intensive, students from James Hargest College who stayed whilst participating in NZ Marine Studies Centre programmes, students from Australia were hosted by Travelwell (NZ), former Syrian refugees hosted by

Kirsteen McLay, Taieri College held their annual student leadership camp, and a wedding was held in the Married Quarters in early January. Day visitors included members of St John Youth cadets, Blue Light Venture, and Dunedin 60 Plus Club - Ramblers.

On our Mahi Days, our small core group of regular volunteers helped clean and tidy the Cottage and Lodge, and grounds and maintenance work which our resident Keeper usually does. Other mahi included caring for native seedlings, weed control, predator control trap maintenance, and maintenance of the Chapel drainage, interior wall re-plastering and painting, and oiling of beams, and moving our hipi/sheep flock ready for shearing. Only 7 of our 19 hipi/sheep flock need to be shorn, as the remaining 12 are Wiltshires, a breed that self shed. Many thanks to local shearer, Bill Boes.

Off the Island, the governance committee have been working hard on fundraising for all sorts of projects, and planning is underway for advertising for a new Keeper.

For more details about who QI/KT Community are, how you can support our mahi by making a donation, becoming a Member, and/or volunteer, arranging a visit or stay on the island, as a family group, or group of friends, or a retreat, wedding or workshop venue, see our website quarantineisland.org.nz

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 pontoon by arrangement. We organise boat

transport. Details and booking forms for events are on our website or posted on our Facebook and Instagram pages, or you can join our volunteer database to receive emails about opportunities.

Mahi days - dates vary

See our social media pages for details, or join our Volunteer Database.

Saturdays 28th February & 28 March - Welcome Day

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



Jon Clark

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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Portobello

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Steady As You Go©

Macandrew Bay

Bowling Club, Portobello Rd

Friday: 1.30 pm



Tai Chi

Broad Bay

Broad Bay Hall, Clearwater Street

Wednesday: 9.30am

For more information

Margaret

P 03 479 3052

E margaret@ageconcernotago.co.nz



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We can take up to 15 bikes at a time.

We load the bikes for you. Approx 10 mins

PASSENGER FERRY!

Otherwise if you are not cycling, you can visit Quarantine Island or cafes and pubs at Port Chalmers

One way or return after approx 2.5 hours.



Portobello to Port Chalmers

9:55am, 12:35pm, 1:15pm, 3:15pm

Port Chalmers to Portobello

9:30am, 11:50am, 12:55pm, 3:00pm

Bookings Essential



www.porttoport.co.nz 020 416 24250

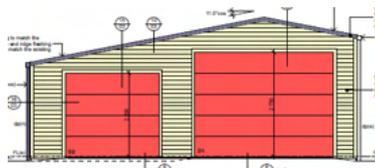
Portobello Fire Brigade

FIRST RESPONDER VEHICLE PROJECT.

We are making progress with our project; the plans and engineering report for the building, have been approved by the council, and we have received a building permit. This allows us to apply to other funders for support. Unfortunately, there have been additional building requirements to meet which has increased the total cost of the project.



We are extremely fortunate to have



received great support from our community and Port Otago Ltd. We are now targeting larger funders to contribute to our project. Once this funding has been confirmed we will be ordering the new ute and starting the building extension. Once again, we cannot thank you enough for your generous donations.

PORTOBELLO BRIGADE IS LOOKING FOR MORE DAYTIME STAFF

Are you interested in serving your community? Are you available during the daytime? Are you interested in learning

new skills and making some good friends? We are looking for people to become fire fighters, medical first responders (or both). For more details contact a brigade member or CFO Jamie Ramsay 027 481-3075.

OPEN FIRE SEASON

The Otago Peninsula is in an Open fire season, which means a permit is not required to light a fire in open air, but you are responsible and still need to do this safely. As there are several special risk zones and conservation land on the peninsula that require a permit, please use the website www.checkitsalright.nz to check your address.

If you have any fire related concerns, 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
jamie.ramsay@fireandemergency.nz
 DCFO Greg Dickson 0210 226-5233

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

Ngā mihi,

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

Portobello Library News

Welcome back to another year of library news and info on new books purchased. The Library is open on Thursdays and Sundays 11am-1pm at the Coronation Hall, Portobello.

The following new books have been purchased recently:

NONFICTION

- Poutini. (The Ngāi Tahu history of the West Coast.) Paul Madgwick
- IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS.(The story of H &J Smiths.) Clive Lind.
- THE UNLIKELY DOCTOR. Timoti Te Moke.
- ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN. Grant Robertson.
- SAVING ELLI. Doug Gold.
- MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE ANIMALS. Martin Clunes.
- EVERYTHING BUT MEDICINE. Lucy O'Hagen.
- THE GIRL IN THE GREEN DRESS. Jenny Haynes & Dr George Blair-West.
- TRAGEDY AT PIKE RIVER MINE. Rebecca MacFie.
- THE INVADING SEA. Neville Peat.
- SHACKLETON'S WHISKEY. Neville Peat.

NZ FICTION

- NIGHTSHADES AND PAPERWHITES. Sophie Rogers.
- FACELESS. Vanda Symon.
- IN A FISHBONE CHURCH. Catherine Chidgey.
- TURBULENT THREADS. Karen McMillan.
- SCENTED.Laurence Fearnley.
- AT THE GRAND GLACIER HOTEL.Laurence Fearnley.
- THE LAST LIVING CANNIBAL. Ariana Ngarewa.

OTHER FICTION BY THE FOLLOWING AUTHORS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| • Dervla McTiernan (x3) | • JD Robb |
| • Mick Herron (x6) | • Richard Osman |
| • Anthony Horowitz (x4) | • Philippa Gregory |
| • Lucinda Riley(x2) | • Di Morrissey |
| • LJ Cross (x2) | • Trent Dalton |
| • Michael Connelly | • Nora Roberts |
| • David Szalay | • Joe Nesbo and many others. Something for everyone! |
| • Paul Vidich | |
| • Harlan Coben | |

Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group Update

As we head into 2026, OPBG is saying farewell to Paula Cross, who has stepped down after more than four years of exceptional commitment. Chris Arnison continues with OPBG, now in the Operations role.

OPBG has recently completed our possum control work in the Peninsula buffer zone (Cove to the Causeway) and we are pleased to report that every possum we detected in this area was successfully caught. This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of the local Guardians, who played a vital role in protecting the wider Peninsula by reporting possum sightings, allowing access to their properties, and assisting with trap checking.

With the Peninsula now close to being declared entirely possum-free, OPBG will continue implementing our multi-species programme in 2026. This programme targets key predators in areas of high biodiversity across the Peninsula. Our focus species are mustelids (stoats, weasels, and ferrets), rats, and mice, all of which pose a serious threat to our native birds, lizards, and invertebrates.

Our dedicated volunteers work weekly to monitor predators and service and maintain trap lines to help protect our precious native wildlife. Current focus areas include Sandymount Reserve, the Papanui and Hoopers Inlet areas, and regenerating native forest on private properties. If you would like to support this work by volunteering on a trap line, please get in touch.



We are also continuing to roll out our Back Yard Trapping programme for residents living near areas of high biodiversity. For a small supporters fee, participants receive assistance with rodent control on their private properties. If you are interested in joining, we would love to hear from you. Likewise, if you are already undertaking rodent control on your property, please let us know as this helps us build a clearer picture of the collective effort underway across our community.

operations@opbg.nz
www.predatorfreepeninsula.nz

<p>NEW LISTING</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p>
<p>Portobello 930 Harington Point Road For Sale by Negotiation</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p>
	<p>Portobello 648 Harington Point Road</p>	<p>Portobello Lot 4, 932 Harington Point Road</p>
	<p>FOR SALE</p>	<p>SOLD</p>
	<p>Portobello 944 Harington Point Road</p>	<p>Portobello 928 Harington Point Road</p>

	<p>Alice Munro 027 929 1174 alice.munro@bayleys.co.nz bayleys.co.nz Licensed under the REA Act 2008</p> <p><i>Alice Munro</i></p>		<p>Abbey Cochrane 027 918 3911 abbey.cochrane@bayleys.co.nz bayleys.co.nz Licensed under the REA Act 2008</p> <p>BAYLEYS</p>
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Otago Peninsula Museum

Another year and a busy one as usual for the Museum with plenty of work to do. Our President for the last 30 or more years, Warren Morris, died in December 2025. We will proudly carry on his legacy and continue as he would like us to, with our Tuesday morning working bees and our Sunday open days.

We have 2 pergolas that can be used by the community (for free) or for private events (a donation). Just get in touch if you want to use them for an event.



OTAGO PENINSULA MUSEUM
& HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

17 Harington Point Road, Portobello, Dunedin 9014

The Museum is open Sundays 12.30-3.30pm. Adults \$2 and children free. Our thanks to Olivia C (who has finished her studies) and to Robert (who needs more time on the farm) who have finished up on the roster, and we welcome Lisa who is on our Museum Committee and now joins the roster. We could do with another couple of people who would like to be part of our Sunday roster – you do just 2 Sundays a year (that's just 6 hours a year) Our email address is: theotagopeninsulamuseum@gmail.com to get in touch or ring Laurel 4780-512. Our two popular books *The Otago Peninsula Then and Now* and *Portobello – An Early History* are available at the local Store, Doctors Rooms and the Museum. Special thanks to the Store and Doctors Rooms for this.

The following information was taken from a book at the Museum - *The Cyclopedia of New Zealand Otago and Southland Volume 4. (1905)* which covers local towns, districts and info on local identities. (1,114 pages so a very heavy book!)

Portobello

Portobello is a favourite seaside resort on the Peninsula, thirteen miles north east from Dunedin by coach and two miles and a half by ferry from Port Chalmers. There is also a

direct ferry service from Dunedin. Portobello has a post and telegraph office, a good hotel, a school, Presbyterian and Anglican churches, a Masonic Hall, two good general stores and a blacksmith's shop. It is beautifully situated, has a good climate, and is well sheltered from the cold winds. The settlers are engaged solely in the dairy industry, and the district is

acknowledged to be one of the finest for grazing purposes in Otago. There are two main roads, the higher and the lower, the lower one is most suitable for cycling, as it is quite level. Branches from the

main road head to Harper's Inlet [sic] and Wycliffe Bay – two picturesque sheets of water. Harbour Cone is within a mile of the village, and, as its name implies, is a perfectly shaped cone. A magnificent view of the Peninsula is obtained from the top, whence one sees the whole harbour, with Seacliff towards the north and Saddle Hill towards the south. Portobello attracts large numbers of visitors during the summer season.

One of the local identities mentioned in the book is:

Barnes, Robert Hugh, Wheelwright and General Blacksmith, Portobello. Mr Barnes is a son of the late Mr William Barnes and a grandson of the late Mr John Barnes, who was Mayor of Dunedin in 1885. He learnt his trade with Mr A. Roberts, coachbuilder of Great King Street, Dunedin with whom he spent six years, and he was subsequently at the Tuapeka diggings for a year. Mr Barnes followed his trade at Waiwera for a time and then entered the employment of the Union Steamship Company, where he remained for a year. After some time as a blacksmith at the Waihao Downs station, he returned to Dunedin and for eight years looked after his mother's business. Mr Barnes started

business as a blacksmith and wheelwright at Port Chalmers in 1893 and three years later acquired the present successful business in Portobello.



MR. R. H. BARNES' PREMISES.



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Otago Peninsula Artists

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DAILY FROM 10 - 4

WATCH FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION ON FACEBOOK! GREAT ART - GREAT PEOPLE - GREAT EVENT.
LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



Portobello Bowling Club

Come along and give bowls a try at our Twilight Bowls social evening

Thursdays 5pm

Designed to cater for all levels.
New members are always welcome!

Keen to become a full member?
We have Interclub bowls, Tournaments, and Club Championships.

We have Darts and Snooker (full size billiard table) from 4pm on Tuesdays (Thursdays during the winter).

The Club rooms with bar and kitchen facilities are available for all types of functions.

For further information please contact
Brian Cameron, Secretary
03 478 0816 or bjcameron47@gmail.com

An invasive pest plants update from your local volunteer weed team

Four of the SWAT team had an enjoyable morning in December working alongside five children from Portobello Enviroschool. With the help of Hebe, Ben, Lacey, Neave and Maya we tackled banana passion fruit vines growing in the school grounds and along the boundary with the Portobello Kindergarten.

Our main target was the vine cascading over the Kindergarten entry porch. The pink flowers do look very attractive but each one forms a yellow fruit which may contain over 200 seeds!

The problem was to find the source of this massive vine.

Fortunately Hebe and Ben were up to the task of crawling through thick flaxes and managed to trace the vine to the point where the main stem emerged from the ground. When cut with a pruning saw the characteristic red ring below the bark confirmed the stem as banana passion fruit.

A paste of herbicide gel on the freshly cut surface ensured that the vine would not regrow. As a precaution, only vine

stems completely out of reach of children were treated with herbicide.



An easier task was collecting as much fruit from the vines as we could reach to prevent birds spreading the seeds. However our sack of fruits was put to good use and taken to No. 8 Distillery to be used to flavour their rum.

As usual, dealing with this invasive pest plant is not a one-off. On two subsequent visits during the school holidays more mature vines in the school grounds were dealt with and young seedlings pulled by hand. Young passion

fruit seedlings can easily be pulled out BEFORE they flower which saves a lot of time and trouble later on.

If you would like advice on controlling pest plants on your property, we would love to hear from you. Contact us by email at SWATweeds@gmail.com and we'll be in touch!

– Cheers from SWAT



Join the PUGs–The Peninsula Ukulele Group

Q & A: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PUGS!

When do you meet?

6.30pm-7.30pm, Thursdays, Broad Bay Community Hall (2a Clearwater Street). You're welcome to just turn up – no need to contact us first.

How good at ukulele do I need to be?

All skill levels are welcome, including beginners! There's no pressure – just play what you can.

Do I have to sing?

No, but there are plenty of voices, so you'll simply blend in if you do.

What happens during the hour?

We usually focus in depth on one song, plus play a mix of familiar tunes at a relaxed pace.



What should I bring?

Your uke and ideally a folder with plastic sleeves to store the music sheets we give you. Music stands are provided.

Do I need to come every week?

No. Come when you can – weekly, occasionally or just to see if it's for you.

Is there a cost?

Gold coin donation (cash or online).

How do I contact the PUGs?

Email thepugsnz@gmail.com or message via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ThePUGsNZ>



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Another Day In Paradise—from Olly’s Pen

I’m sitting out on a generous verandah looking out over many fruit trees which are due to shed their fruit – apples, plums, apricots, pears and walnuts ...which the sheep feed on when they fall to the ground. Their meat is much sought after. I’m in Raincliff, just out of Timaru visiting in-laws. Just sitting here admiring and enjoying the scenery reminds me of the significance our immediate environment is to us and our wellbeing, like when I sit upstairs in our wee cottage and look out over the harbour. It makes me feel so good that it stays with me for quite a while. And during that period, many positive incidents keep happening around me. Personally, I know that positive feelings attract positive surroundings so when negative incidents do occur, our positive frame of mind automatically helps us to identify the negative energy and so turn it around by changing it into a positive one. It seems to be more common to send negative feelings whenever we see something with which we don’t agree, or we let something irritate us, upset us etc....i.e., we react angrily and exude negative energy back at the negative energy which in turn increases its negative effect. Superheroes are promoted as good examples of fighting against baddies by using physical violence better than the bad dudes. This is absolute nonsense. Movie producers are in a prime position to showcase superheroes as wise humans who use nonviolent methods to resolve negative & violent behaviour. Surely we want our children to learn how

to resolve negative behaviours in nonphysical ways. Our positive thoughts are silent messages we can all send to areas of our lives and the lives of others in the same way, utilising waves and frequencies which we use all the time but mostly unconsciously. Like our hearts beat automatically, our blood gets pumped daily around our bodies without us consciously involved etc...

There are two Māori words which come to mind for storytelling: pakiwaitara (oral) and pūrākau (in solid form as in carvings, tukutuku lattice work, kōwhaiwhai & ancestral meeting houses). The word for sign or symbol is tohu – Tohunga are the keepers of the ancient symbols which are records of “thoughts and ideas”. The carved meeting house is a tohu of our physical bodies. The carvings and artwork inside and out are symbols of “thoughts, beliefs and ideas”, which we have free access to within and without. The ancient story of Papatūānuku (Earth mother) and Ranginui (Sky Father) are symbols which tell us that we get and transmit thoughts/ideas from within as well as from the atmosphere. This is saying that we are constantly bathed as well as filled with thoughts & ideas.

I feel so alive and lucky to live out here on the peninsula – every day is another day in paradise.

– Olly Ohlson

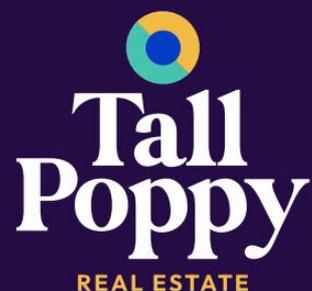
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portobello area community resources

BOOK A LOCAL HALL

- **Coronation Hall**, Portobello
Wayne Cameron – 4780 424
- **Portobello Domain Pavilion**
Book through the [DCC website](#).
- **Scott Hall**, Harwood
Dave Rogers – 027 696 9657
- **Hoopers Inlet Hall**
Jackie Clearwater – 4780 508
Hoopersinlethall@gmail.com
- **Broad Bay Community Centre**
See www.broadbay.co.nz for info

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.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to the Lions Club, we now have a community pantry for sharing kai, located by the Portobello School lower parking lot. Take a little, leave a little, as you need or wish!

PENINSULA MEDICAL CENTRE

12 Allans Beach Road, Portobello
4780 880

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, 11 Allans Beach Road.

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.

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.

DEFIBRILLATOR

There are Automated External Defibrillators located outside Portobello Store (1 Harington Point Road), the Broad Bay Boating Club (683 Portobello Road), and Scott Hall, (54 Harwood Street, Harwood).



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.



POOL

The Portobello School community pool is open until mid-March. Keys are sold out — Please remember to return them to the school at the end of the season!

community calendar

Saturday 28 February
**Quarantine Island Kamau
Taurua Open Day**

Thursday 5 March
**Portobello Library Annual
General Meeting**
Coronation Hall, 1:30pm

7–8 March
Boat Club Rummage Sale
Broad Bay Boating Club, 9–3

Sunday 15 March
Macandrew Bay School Fair
Macandrew Bay School, 11am

Wednesdays 18 March & 15 April
**Portobello Community Inc.
Monthly Meeting**
Biodiversity Hub, 7:30pm

26 March–6 April
**“Almost an Island” Art
Exhibition**
Macandrew Bay Hall, 10–4 daily

10–19 April
Wild Dunedin Festival
*Various locations—see
www.wilddunedin.nz*

Sundays 12:30–3:30pm
Peninsula Museum open

Sundays 10:30am–12:30pm
Toy Library open

Thursdays and Sundays 11am–1pm
Portobello Library open