

portobello news

AND HARWOOD • ŌTAKOU • HARINGTON POINT • HOOPERS INLET • PAPANUI INLET

AUGUST 2026

Help us repair the floor in Coronation Hall



*Scan
here to
help!*



The Portobello Hall Committee is upgrading the hall with six new unisex bathrooms. We have raised \$165,000 to cover the main construction costs, but once work began, unexpected issues were discovered, including a damaged floor requiring re-piling and levelling, and water damage from a leaking exterior wall.

These essential repairs have created an additional funding shortfall of \$20,000. Despite approaching our existing

funders, we have been unable to secure further grants as the project is already underway. We are seeking support to help complete this important community project and would greatly appreciate any assistance.

Go to this link, or scan the QR code to help. <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-us-repair-the-floor-in-our-community-hall>



A FINE DAY WITH HINTS OF SPRING DURING THE AUGUST MAHI DAY ON QUARANTINE ISLAND KAMAU TAURUA.
PHOTO CLAIRE HAGGLUND.

Portobello Community Inc. Update

The dark winter is upon us, but fear not. The bright light of the Portobello Newsletter has arrived.

Right off the bat, I want to thank everyone who helps make Portobello such a vibrant, connected community. It really is an awesome place to be.

The Dunedin City Council has now taken over the management and maintenance of the pump track, which is fantastic news. This is a significant milestone because it means the Council will maintain and look after the area into the future. After years of work, I want to congratulate and thank everyone who helped make this happen.

When I went down to take photos of the recently completed work, there were people from other parts of Dunedin who had driven out specifically to enjoy the track and colourful basketball courts. That's a pretty good sign we're onto a winner. What it means is that, from now until the sun swallows the Earth or the lizard people take over, we have a very cool facility down at the Domain.

Dan has been on an absolute tear, planting, organising tradespeople, and drumming up donations. A special thanks as well to everyone who made it along to the July planting day (see photos next page). While the major maintenance work has been completed, we're still keen to keep improving the area. You'll notice some bases for some new fruit trees

near the new picnic table, which is exciting. If you're keen to lend a hand, please get in touch.

We also held the Portobello Community Incorporated AGM last month. It was a great opportunity to reflect on the past year, review progress across a range of community activities, and discuss priorities for the year ahead. It was encouraging to see continued interest and support from residents who care deeply about the future of our community.

I am pleased to confirm that the current executive team will continue in their respective roles for the coming year. Michael will continue as Secretary, Laura will continue as Treasurer, and I will continue as Chairman. I would like to thank both Michael and Laura for their ongoing commitment and the considerable work they undertake behind the scenes to keep the organisation running smoothly.

While the hall remains closed, we won't be holding a spring market day this year. However, I'm expecting news soon on the date for a car boot sale at the Domain.

—Elliot Dixon, Portobello Community Inc Chairperson

portobello community inc.

President

Elliot Dixon

Treasurer

Laura Shepard

Secretary

Michael Lascarides

Newsletter Editors

Michael Lascarides & Laura Shepard

Committee

Sandra Clearwater, Rose Shepard, Dan Parker,
Patrick Mathewson

*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 300 people online. The cost of printing has skyrocketed recently, so your advertising support helps us keep going!

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



PUMP TRACK JULY PLANTING BEE
—NEW PLANTINGS, PLANTER BOXES, PICNIC TABLE, AND MORE. THANKS TO ALL THE LOVELY HUMANS WHO HELPED OUT!



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.

SERVICES

HALF HOUR

Half hour appointments are for repeat treatments of single limb or joint injuries.

FULL HOUR

Full hour appointments are for any back or neck pain and for multiple injury sites.

FIRST APPOINTMENT

Your first appointment will be for a full hour. A history will be taken, Katherine will assess and treat you within this appointment.

Email or phone today to book an appointment.
otagopeninsulamassage@gmail.com
0274783337



Otago Peninsula Massage
0274783337
Experienced remedial massage therapist

Portobello Kindergarten,
30 Harington Point Road



Spaces available now



Where? Overlooking the harbour and located next door to Portobello School, we are welcoming new enrolments. Choose from sessions Monday to Friday, 8.30 to 2.30.

Cost? 2-year-olds \$2.75 per hour
3 to 5-year-olds, up to 30 hours free

Get in touch! Call Nathan on 03 478 1072 or email portobello@dk.org.nz or just drop in!

More info? Please visit the Portobello Kindergarten Facebook page or the DK website www.dk.org.nz

Dunedin Kindergartens is not-for profit and all our staff are caring and fully qualified teachers

Portobello Fire Brigade

1ST RESPONDER VEHICLE PROJECT UPDATE

Exciting times. The new 1st responder vehicle bay that is going to be added to the tanker shed has been started. First off, the sewer pipe from the station needs to be relocated and the footings dug. There will be quite a bit of activity around this end of our section, feel free to have a look but please stay out of the construction area.

QUIZ NIGHT

You may be aware that the Coronation Hall is currently having the toilets upgraded and will be out of use for some time.

Because of the renovation timeframe, and the lack of a suitable alternative venue, we have decided to postpone our annual quiz night till next year.

We understand that a lot of people will be disappointed, but there is a lot of planning for this event and we thought it best to postpone. We would like to thank you for your understanding and hope to see you next year.

THE 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. Jamie.ramsay@fireandemergency.nz

FIRE SAFETY

With our recent weather events from heavy rain, high winds and snow, it's important to keep warm inside your home.



Electric heaters can cause fires if not used correctly. Please ensure that:

- Heaters have at least one metre of clear space all around them while in use
- Heaters are plugged directly into a wall socket
- Clothing and other items are not left to dry on top of heaters

It's great to be invited to carry out free checks of smoke alarms. We welcome any enquiries and can come and see you at a time that suits.

Please check the following:

Do your alarms operate?

Are they less than 10 years old?

If you need any advice, feel free to contact Greg, Myself, or any brigade member.

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 Police Station

Tēnā Koutou everyone

Well, winter has just had a wee bite. As I write this the snow/sleet is falling gently and visible on our hills.

Roads are ok but a little slushy. This is again where I get disappointed in that we have had a few that think that they should just drive as they always do and even have a total disregard for the posted speed limits. I feel as though I just cut and paste this part of my blurb every time. I'm not sure who in their right mind thinks it's ok to travel well in excess of the speed limit, even more so when the roads are covered in sleet/



snow and very greasy. For those I spoke to this morning (4th August), again I offer no apologies. You are putting all other road users and their passengers at risk, not to mention yourselves.

Not a lot to report on the crime front – which I am very happy about. Please if you are the victim of a crime, no matter how insignificant you may think it is, please report it. A lot of the time there can be a pattern, and this assists us in trying to resolve. I have spoken to a couple of people who said they didn't think it was important and didn't want to bother me. Well, it is

significant and it will never be a bother to me; my job down here is to keep everyone and their property safe the best I can.

There is again going to be some significant roadworks on the low road over many months. The boardwalk at Coronation Hall ready to go and the huge job in Mac Bay scheduled to start very soon.

Please be patient, don't take out frustrations on the workers who are only going about their job. We are well informed of what is happening and projected times so we should prepare accordingly if heading into town. Any abuse (which we have had before) to the stop/go guys and girls and other workers won't be tolerated. That certainly is not who we are as a community. Don't be that person. They do not turn up to their job to make ends meet just to be abused or confronted by someone who goes over the top about some road works and infrastructure improvements.

Scammers don't take holidays. There is again an increase in reports of scams targeting communities through texts, fake e-mails, and phone calls. Often pretending to be banks, government agencies and even the police. Never share your personal or banking details unless you're 100% sure who you

are paying or what you are signing up for. They are getting cleverer for sure. They will target anyone, anywhere and at any time. Please be vigilant, you work too hard for your money just to give it away.

There is a new victim information website that has just been released. The website is www.victimsinfo.govt.nz. It is really good and offers advice around, if you have been the victim of a crime, reporting options, emergency information and crisis lines, frauds/scams and identity theft, getting legal protection, courts/agencies and services. I hope you don't have to use this but there is a lot of good information and advice if needed.

I am continually committed to keeping our community safe – on the roads, online, and everywhere in-between.

If you see suspicious behaviour or need advice or assistance, please reach out. If you can't get a hold of me, please remember 111 (for emergency) or 105 (for non-emergency)

Take care and as always, my door is open. Your support is greatly appreciated.

— *Sr. Constable Aaron Smith*



Local knowledge. Genuine commitment. *Sell with Lydia*

With deep roots in Dunedin and a genuine commitment to the people she works with, Lydia brings local knowledge, clear communication and a proactive approach to every property journey. Whether you're thinking of selling, curious about your property's value, or simply want to understand today's market, Lydia is here to offer honest advice and make the process feel straightforward.

Think it might be time to make a move?
Let's start with a conversation.

Lydia Dickson
lydia.dickson@tallpoppy.co.nz

027 454 5213



Portobello Library News

LIBRARY NEWS

While there is construction going on at Portobello Hall, we have moved into the Kitchen while the Library is being extended and also painted. We are really looking forward to this extended



space. Many thanks to Edna and Dot who led the moving of all the books. The Library is open Thursdays and Sundays 11-1pm and you will need to get in via the Kitchen door.

There has been planting going on over at the Library block on Beaconsfield Peninsula. The Library has donated \$200 worth

of trees in remembrance of Warren Morris (who was the Portobello Library representative on the Library Trust Committee). Many thanks to Gail and Anita from Seeds + Friends from whom the trees were purchased. We also appreciated the extra cabbage trees they donated. Many thanks to those who have been involved with the planting.

BOOK REVIEW



The Dead Speak – My Life in Forensics written by Thomas Coyle MNZM

Tom Coyle takes you from Scotland Yard to the Boxing Day Tsunami and the Canterbury Earthquake into the world of forensic crime and disaster investigations. Forget your TV crime glamour shows, this is the real life, raw, honest, tireless and gruesome job of a forensic investigator. It's well worth a read.

NEW LISTING



Portobello 930 Harington Point Road
For Sale by Negotiation

FOR SALE



Portobello 648 Harington Point Road

FOR SALE



Portobello Lot 4, 932 Harington Point Road

FOR SALE



Portobello 944 Harington Point Road

SOLD



Portobello 928 Harington Point Road



Alice Munro 027 929 1174
alice.munro@bayleys.co.nz
bayleys.co.nz Licensed under the REA Act 2008

Alice Munro



Abbey Cochrane 027 918 3911
abbey.cochrane@bayleys.co.nz
bayleys.co.nz Licensed under the REA Act 2008

BAYLEYS

Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Te wāhie ka waia mō takurua, te kai ka mahia mō tau.

Firewood is sought for the winter, food is laboured after for the year.

The last two months have been a busy time of fresh beginnings for Kamautaurua. Matariki brought all sorts of weather, especially some heavy rains and stormy weather that blew over one of the macrocarpa trees near the Lodge. Community members were able to turn this into firewood on the Matariki Mahi day, preparing the Island Keepers for some warm nights in future winters. More recently, it snowed on the island during the Southerly blast; a novel experience for our new Keepers!

The new Island Keeper whānau, Jesse, Taylor, and Zella, arrived in June and have settled into the Keeper's cottage. You will likely see them regularly coming over to Portobello in Te Whai for the things that Island life can't provide.

On our Welcome & Mahi Days, a large number of new visitors and regulars attended including a group from Dunedin Solar and Energize Dunedin, and a large group from Arana College. We worked on maintenance and cleaning of the buildings, refreshing the veggie garden,

trapping, tree releasing, weed control, caring for seedlings in our shade house, and collecting firewood. We also spent time sharing kai, walking around the island, relaxing in the warmth of the lodge, and (a few crazies) going swimming. The sun shone and (out of the wind) it was warm – bringing a hopeful feeling of the longer days and warmth of spring getting closer.

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 29th August & 26th September - Welcome Days

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



SNOW SETTLED ON THE ISLAND DURING THE SOUTHERLY STORM. PHOTO, JESSE SIEBLER.



A FALLEN TREE ALL CUT UP TO PROVIDE FUTURE WARMTH. PHOTO CLAIRE HAGLUND.

*100 years ago this month...
A car thief tried to make a clean
getaway*

"RUN OUT OF PETROL"

CAR CONVERTER'S BLUFF

GETAWAY AFTER LONG TRIP.

"Just run out of petrol; will be back in five minutes."

While the curious looked at this notice on the seat of a two-seater Morris-Cowley car by the roadside on the Lower Portobello road yesterday, the "owner" was making a clean break from the car, and he was surely chuckling at his bluff.

The two-seater, a sporty little car, was not his. Its real owner, Mr J. H. McDonald, was in Invercargill, worrying over the loss of his car.

The car was removed on Sunday from Invercargill, and the man must have travelled all night, at some speed, too, for one of the springs was broken. The gas supply was exhausted when he was driving along the Lower Portobello road, just below Sir London Ferguson's residence.

To leave a car abandoned at 10 a.m. would be calling for suspicion, so the driver left the notice prominently displayed. It was read by a number of passers-by, but they did not take any notice, believing that the owner had gone away for petrol.

But the bluff did not last. At 7 p.m. members of one family discussed the unusual sight of a car being left unattended by the roadside, and then it was related that the car had been seen at 10 a.m. The police were informed, but by that time the converter was probably miles away.

*Evening Star, 3 August 1926
(via Papers Past)*



Falls Prevention

Peninsula Classes



Improve your strength, balance, flexibility, stamina and mobility!



Steady As You Go®

Portobello Coronation Hall
Monday 10 am

Macandrew Bay Bowls Club
Friday 1.30 pm



Tai Chi

Broad Bay Community Hall
Wednesday 9.30 am

Aligned to Go
Portobello Bowls Club
Friday 10.30am



For more information:

Margaret

P: 03 479 3052

E: falls@ageconcernotago.co.nz



ageconcernotago.com

Steady As You Go schedule note

With the alterations to the Portobello Coronation Hall Toilets underway, **Steady As You Go** will be moving to the Portobello Bowling Club until the job is finished. There will be two sessions on a Monday morning, the first one starting at 9.30am and the second session at 10.30am. The 9.30am time is pretty full so if you haven't picked a time yet then please look at coming to the 10.30am time.

OpenArts Spring exhibition

"NOW THAT'S DIFFERENT"

is getting closer!

WITH OUR THEMED SECTION THIS YEAR – "STORM IN A TEACUP" – AS WELL OF COURSE OUR USUAL BRILLIANT WORKS PLUS THE THREE LOCAL SCHOOLS DISPLAYS AND THE YOUTH ART SECTION

Opening Evening September 30th

Public viewing from Oct 1st–11th

10–4 Daily

MACANDREW BAY HALL

Portobello School News

Kia ora koutou,

On Wednesday 17th of June, the school took a trip to Tūhura, Otago Museum. It was part of our Science topic on light and colour. We split into two groups, with each group spending time in the Science Centre and butterfly house as well as having a lesson upstairs in the Museum classroom. In there we were lucky enough to watch neon lights being activated, ultraviolet and infrared lights and what they show. It really was a great way to finish up our topic for the term.

We also spent time in the recently reopened Tangata Moana gallery. It was a pleasure to meet Leota Meredith who shared a lot of the new aspects of the gallery with us.

Mid-year progress reports went home with tamariki in the last week of term 2 with parent/teacher meetings held early in Term 3.

We had our annual Matariki Breakfast in the Hui Room on the final day of Term 2. We started at 8am, gathering in the library before moving through into the Hui Room. Classes shared some learning as well as a waiata. There were loads of breakfast options along with juice, tea and coffee and plenty of bacon to go around! Everyone had a wonderful time, and it was a great way to end the term.

We welcome a new student to our kura in term 3. Welcome to Dylan Mabire to the Junior Whānau. It's great to have you at Portobello School Dylan!

We also welcome Steve Schofield to our staff. Steve is our new caretaker. Welcome Steve.

Those who have been on site this term will have noticed that we have had some asphalt laid around the school. It certainly makes a huge difference!

We have a very busy term 3 planned, with Polyfest, Wearable Arts, cross country, Ariki Cup, OMATHalon, Bayfield Art exhibition and snorkeling at Dive Otago all happening in term 3.

We are linking the Wearable Arts to our topic of Cultural Connections and the Social Sciences curriculum.



On Friday 24th of July, Mrs Fruean took some junior students to the Albatross Centre at Pukekura, to listen to Emma Heppell, an author and artist who has written a new children's book called 'Walter & Wilma, the Wandering Albatrosses'. The tamariki also created some great art pieces with Emma. She also gifted us a copy of her book, which will soon be available in our school library for everyone to enjoy.

We had Dr Marji Puotinen, a marine scientist at the Australian Institute of Marine Science in Perth visit on Wednesday 29th of July. She talked with the tamariki from Room 3 and Room 4 all about the impacts that climate change has on our marine environments. In her spare time, she runs a global outreach program for children, (<https://kidscareaboutclimate.org>) about the impacts of climate change. She invites kids to be a scientist for a day and explore with her 'What penguins and coral reefs have in common' – they both hate warming oceans.

A group of skiers and boarders had a great two days up at Cardrona on the 1st and 2nd of August. It was a very early start on Saturday to be on the mountain for a 7:30 start to get all gear fitted and lift passes handed out. We were blessed with fresh snow and a decent base to ski and board on. The weather was a bit cloudy early on Saturday, but cleared to a fine day, with Sunday being clear from the start, with a bit of wind. All lifts were open and the snow was fantastic. Thank you to everyone who came up, and to Cardrona for making it an easy process. Bring on next year!

On Thursday 6th of August, we were very lucky to host Turama ite Ara Performing Arts at our school. They are a Cook Islands Drumming group and have been visiting many schools as part of Cook Islands Language week. We also invited Broad Bay School to join us for this exciting session. It was a fantastic session with loads of great music and dancing (some under duress!!). Thank you to Stacey for organising this amazing visit.

Kā mihi,

—Tom Hobbs, Principal, Portobello School

Emerson's Dunedin Marathon looking for course marshalls

The Emerson's Dunedin Marathon will take place on Sunday 13 September. Portobello will once again serve as the start line for the main event, with runners participating in the full marathon departing from the Portobello Domain on Allans Beach Road at 7am.

Runners will turn right on Harington Point Road, heading out through Ōtakou to the turnaround in Harington Point, looping through Harwood on the way, before following the cycle path back into town and the finish line at Emerson's Brewery. Get out and support the runners!

Please expect road closures between 7-10am on the Peninsula. Check the Dunedin City Council website for details.

The marathon staff need a lot more volunteers to be marshalls, ensuring that runners and walkers turn the right way at the right time, depending on their event. Volunteers must be 18 years of age and over. If you are interested please send an email to : marshalcoordinator@dunedinmarathon.co.nz.

News from the Otago Peninsula Community Board

Kia ora tātou hapori. Snow and bitterly chilly days have been the order of the day in recent weeks and a reminder that we are not out of winter yet. On a positive note, the mornings and evenings are getting a little lighter so there is some light at the end of the winter tunnel.

JUNE RAIN EVENT

Despite the downpour the Otago Peninsula came through the event unscathed. The Oxley Terrace slip near Bacon Street was certainly a casualty and is part of an ongoing monitoring programme to determine ground conditions and is now in the design phase. The Dunedin City Council has advised the Board that it is a complex site with a narrow road, large drop off and some incredibly old and large trees on the other side which will need to come out. With this being a no exit road, the DCC team are trying to produce a solution to minimize closures and disruptions, but this may not be avoidable at times. It is not going to be a quick fix and there will be regular letter drop updates from the DCC to inform the residents of what is going on.



due to start in January 2027. The later start is to secure suitably treated timber for the project.

- Congratulations to the Portobello Library for its successful funding application for new carpet.
- The Otago Regional Council has advised the Board that additional bus services will be available for the start and end of school after October 1st.
- The Macandrew Bay Beach wastewater upgrade is expected to be completed in September.
- Marion Street Wastewater upgrade is due to start in coming weeks and will see some disruptions to road users as the work is undertaken.

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

NEWS IN BRIEF

- The Portobello Boardwalk – The Board has been advised that a contractor has been selected, and work is

Sign up to become a Hereweka Friend

Last year, The Hereweka Harbour Cone Trust asked for submissions on the DCC Future Plan for Hereweka (Harbour Cone). It became clear from the submissions that this Maunga is treasured by our community ... and many of you want to be kept informed about what's happening 'on the hill'. And so, the idea of 'Hereweka Friends' was born.

Becoming a Hereweka Friend means you'll receive regular email newsletters to update you with the latest news from the Trust (who oversees the management of Hereweka/Harbour Cone, on behalf of the City of Dunedin).

In the newsletter you will find all about; special events coming up, a guide to the tracks and trails, the plant species, the buildings, and other features ... plus stories about the people doing the hard graft in upkeep and maintenance. All this and more... to enhance your appreciation of this much loved local landmark.

Another feature of the newsletter will be to outline the many ways that you, your friends and family can get involved in the mahi ... planting, working bees, weed and pest control, fundraising or administrative support.

Also, by becoming a Hereweka Friend, you are showing the DCC and funders that there is strong local interest and support for what's happening to Hereweka now and in the future.

To join, you'll need to email the Trust at herewekaharbourcone@gmail.com adding 'Hereweka Friend' in the subject line. From then on, you will automatically receive each newsletter.

It's free to subscribe ... and you won't be asked to join working bees unless you indicate in your email that you are keen to roll up your sleeves and get stuck in.

— Jeannie Hayden, Editor of Hereweka Friends

Otago Peninsula Museum

We recently held our Annual General Meeting and we will be ably led for another year by our President, Richard Shepard.

Our Tuesday morning working bees are busy as usual. We have Michael helping us up in the office, he is collating all our files to make it easier to find "things". We are also having a shift around in the main building so we can have more 'things' on display. Please pop along on a Tuesday morning if you think you would like to join the men down in the Barn who potter about on all sorts of various projects.

We recently had a lovely visit from the children of the Portobello Kindergarten. They all squeezed into the caravan in the barn where their teacher, Nathan, read the Christmas Caravan story to them.



OTAGO PENINSULA MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

17 Harington Point Road, Portobello, Dunedin 9014

In 1879 Portobello was connected with Port Chalmers by a telegraph wire, telegrams are now being transmitted via Port Chalmers and Mr Latham, Post Master at Portobello is the telephonist.

In 1949 a contract was signed with the Peninsula Motor Service for the conveyance of outward mail.

In 1952 the Post Office was converted to permanent status.

In 1954 the Post Office was made a deputy registrar of motor vehicles

In 1965 the telephone exchange was converted to automatic

In 1986 the Post Office closed.

The Museum is open every Sunday from 12.30-3.30 (thanks to our volunteers) and we usually open on a Tuesday morning from 9.30-12 while we are having our working bee. Admission is \$2 for an adult and children are free. To get in touch email the Museum: theotagopeninsulamuseum@gmail.com

Our two books Portobello – A Short History and Otago Peninsula Then and Now are available from the Museum and the Doctors Rooms for \$30.



FROM THE MUSEUM FILES

The Portobello Post Office celebrated its centenary on 26 April 1967. Mr Tiley was the first Post Master as well as the School Headmaster. The office was probably in the local store where Mr Latham the storekeeper took over on 1 January 1877. By 1900 mail was brought the 13 miles from Dunedin by a daily horse coach, arriving late in the evening – the mail being available for collection the following day. The population in 1906 was only 46 but by the mid 1920s the permanent population had grown to over 400, and in also serving a wider area, better postal arrangements were required. This was met by erecting a Post Office building in November 1927 at the corner of the Main Road and Leith Walk (Hereweka Street).

STOP (Save The Otago Peninsula)

Thank you to those of you who responded to the request to donate trees and those who contributed their feedback on "The Future Forest".

Working bees on Tuesday mornings start at 9.30am at the end of Bacon St, but those on Sundays start at 10.30am to give volunteers time to catch the early buses. New volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Please register, in order to be notified of any cancellations. All tools and equipment supplied. If you can walk uphill across a paddock then you should be able to plant some trees.

Another working bee starting at 10am in the winter on a Department of Conservation site at Grassy Point is looking for more volunteers. Contact details below.



A campaign has started to eradicate Banana passion fruit (BPF) from Broad Bay to protect the adjoining trees being planted in the "Future Forest" from becoming overwhelmed. Of course, getting rid of Banana passion fruit anywhere is a good idea, especially, as it reduces rats. Hopefully Portobello residents are also getting rid of the Banana passion fruit on their properties. If you can afford to pay we do also have an experienced team that can help you.

Contact stopincsoc@gmail.com or Lala 027 8756 020 (text only) for more information about working bees, or how to control BPF.

Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group Update

A NEW THREAT TO OUR NATIVE BIRDS

Native birds have been thriving on the Peninsula as we have worked towards, and eventually achieved, possum elimination, but they now face a new threat: H5 bird flu. This strain has recently arrived in New Zealand, and while no cases have yet been reported in the South Island, it's important that we remain vigilant. If you see three or more sick or dead wild birds in a group, report it to MPI immediately. Find out what to look for, plus practical steps you can take to protect your own birds, at mpi.govt.nz/biosecurity-in-nz/dont-let-bird-flu-take-flight



TIME TO REBAIT TRAPS AND LAY YOUR NEXT ROUND OF RAT TOXIN

Backyard trappers, now's the time to rebait your traps and put out your next pulse of toxin. Rats will soon be emerging from their winter dormancy, and with food still scarce, August is an ideal month to lay bait. It's also great timing for our birds, who will soon begin nesting - knocking back rat numbers now helps protect their eggs and chicks. If you would like discounted toxin or traps, get in touch at operations@opbg.nz

OUR VOLUNTEERS KEEP DELIVERING

Our wonderful volunteers continue to trap mustelids, rats, and hedgehogs, and deploy rodent toxin around the Peninsula, clocking up over 1,500 hours of work since the start of the year. We're currently at capacity for volunteers, but we're seeking further funding for trap hardware so we can establish new trap lines. If you'd like to support this work, you can donate via our Givealittle page: givealittle.co.nz/org/otago-peninsula-biodiversity-trust. Every donation, large or small, makes a real difference in helping us protect our precious native wildlife.

KEEP THE POSSUM REPORTS COMING

We really appreciate all the community reports of suspected possums. If you think you've seen or heard a possum, please report it straight away as it's a key part of keeping the Peninsula possum-free. You can report sightings at reportapossum.nz

CATCH UP ON OUR WINTER NEWSLETTER

For more on what we've been up to, check out our Winter newsletter on our website: predatorfreepeninsula.nz

operations@opbg.nz

www.predatorfreepeninsula.nz

Volunteering Opportunities on the Otago Peninsula

WINTER/SPRING 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	Various Peninsula locations	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	Planting native plants	45 Pakihau Rd, Harington Point	The OPERA	Connal	connal@wildlife.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.

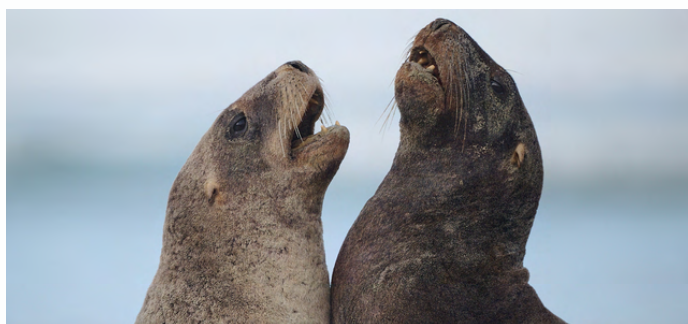
Have a go, see if you enjoy it! You'll get a warm welcome!

Your mahi will 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

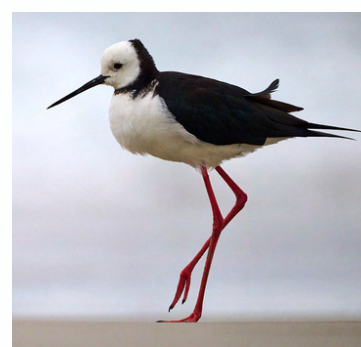


**Less People.
More Wildlife.**



WILD ONE TOUR

Small group guided tours (10 max)
to the wild side of the Otago Peninsula
4 Hours in duration - Leaving from
The Octagon, Central Dunedin
Contact us for an Otago Peninsula pick up
www.ClearwaterWildlife.co.nz - 03 477 8899



Another Day In Paradise—from Olly's Pen

Kia ora anō – hello again! I hope you're warm and cosy over these cold winter nights. We've got extra firewood to keep our whare warm and added extra covers on our bed – that helps a lot too, although it does make it harder then, to get out of bed!!! However, on the brighter side of life, some cold mornings do give way to sunny days. And that's always welcome.

Currently I'm writing my life story through the medium of pūrākau, using the Koru, the tukutuku patterns of the Poutama, Niho taniwha and Pātiki plus kōwhaiwhai, whakairo, whare-tipuna, whakataukī and waiata. I've laid the chapters out so far in the following sections: 1. The Koru, 2. The Poutama, 3. The Pātiki. And we're all set to begin. But not before I attend a Māori book launch at Ōtākou marae where I'm hoping to meet with the authors and learn more about writing professionally and developing my literary skills.

You see, I was raised speaking Māori. English was taught at our school. My parents had twenty children. Five of them died of smallpox and TB in their infancy, long before I was born. I'm child number twenty – the last one; the pōtiki – born in a hospital. The others were all born at home on the floor, so I was considered spoiled by my siblings who, unbeknown to me back then said that with "tongue in cheek". An expression I learnt as a young adult while attending Ardmore Teachers Training College at Papakura, Auckland. Where I was still struggling with English. No one in my family was interested in reading books. They read comics and magazines and did outdoor things like hunting and playing different sports. And even though I struggled to understand English, I could see the power of reading and writing, yet I fell in love with Arithmetic (Maths) first.

I was determined to master reading and speaking the English language so much so that I never missed Sunday school classes

which they had on our marae run by three of my uncles who were Ministers of different Churches: Catholic, Anglican and Presbyterian. My Anglican uncle gave us our very own Bibles with lots of pictures in colour. And he got us all to recite different scriptures and to learn and say the Lord's Prayer. They all gave us lollies after the lessons- so I made sure I was always there. At the end of the year prizes were given by each Minister to the student who could recite the most scriptures. Those classes helped me master the art of rote learning and I always won 1st prize, adventure books with coloured pictures. Books which I couldn't read.

I built a hut at the back of our home which I covered up so no one else could see it. I had a friend at school who could read really well and when I told him my dilemma he volunteered to read the books out loud to me by candle light – in my secret hut regularly once a week. He'd read so much out, loud and clear then get me to explain what I understood up to that point. Always reading and then testing, reading and then testing to make sure that I really understood. My English improved in leaps and bounds and so did other subjects at school. So much so that I eventually achieved school certificate and graduated as a Primary School Teacher.

My parents and relatives played different instruments. Our house was full of singing and laughter and music. And more often than not Dad or our Koro, who lived with us, would tell us stories – ancient Māori ones that usually involved the cultural hero Māui. And afterwards they'd ask us: What's the wisdom message hidden in that story? Storytelling really is an art form and I'll tell you what the answer is - not now. – 'til ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE next Newsletter. No reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

— Olly Ohlson

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



**Quarantine Island
GROUP VISITS**

GET TOGETHER IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
and enjoy spring on Quarantine Island!

Adult \$25 pp
Child \$20 pp

GROUPS OF 15+ PEOPLE

Relax, explore and enjoy time together this spring!

Quarantine Island is the perfect place for your next group outing. Enjoy fresh spring air, beautiful scenery, interesting history and time together in a unique setting.

- Scenic ferry ride across Otago Harbour
Approx. 10-15 mins each way
- Explore historic buildings and stories from the past
- Picnic areas and walking tracks to enjoy together
- Native wildlife and stunning harbour views

GREAT FOR GROUPS, CLUBS, SOCIAL GROUPS, WORK TEAMS & MORE
Relax, reconnect and make memories this spring on Quarantine Island.
Perfect for groups of 15 people or more.

Book your group visit today!

www.porttoport.co.nz 020 416 24250 info@porttoport.co.nz

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Community'**

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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 closed for the season — **Please remember to return your keys to the school!**

community calendar

Saturdays 29th August & 26th September

Welcome Days

Quarantine Island Kamau Taurua

Sunday 13 September

Emerson's Dunedin Marathon

Full marathon starts from Portobello Domain, 7am. Expect temporary road closures.

Wednesday 16 September

Portobello Community Inc. Monthly Meeting

Biodiversity Hub, 7:30

Wednesday 30 September

Open Arts show "Now That's Different" opening reception

Macandrew Bay Hall

Sundays 12:30-3:30pm

Peninsula Museum open

Sundays 10:30am–12:30pm

Toy Library open

Thursdays and Sundays 11am-1pm

Portobello Library open