

portobello news

OUR HOME BY THE OTAGO HARBOUR

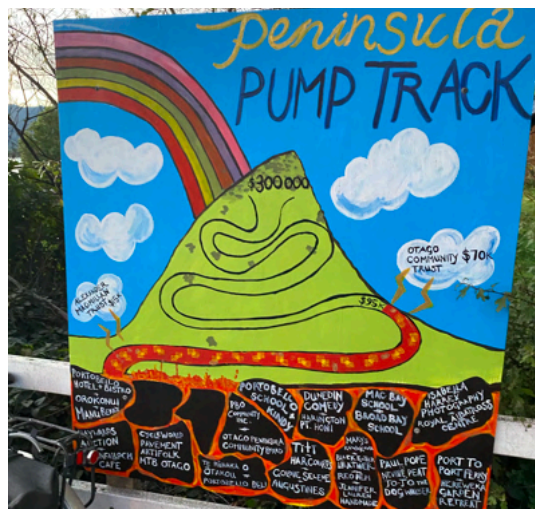
MAY 2022



A couple of local residents enjoying the sunset from the top of the Edwards Bay sign. Image courtesy of Ian Griffin. See more of his wonderful images on Instagram: @portobellopictures

The path to the Pump Track.

You may have noticed this whimsical sign next to the dairy showing our steady fundraising progress towards the construction of the Pump Track at the Portobello Domain. Thanks to our super-volunteers Kitty Brown, Dan Parker and David Large for their tireless efforts, and special thanks to all our funders and supporters, many of which are named on this sign.



PORTOBELLO INC AGM
14 JUNE

WINTER MARKET DAY
17 JULY

Portobello Community Inc. Update

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Kia orana kōtou,

Since our last newsletter, we have had our annual **ANZAC commemoration**. We received a lot of positive feedback about the event and I'm sure the fact that it was a lovely, clear morning helped. For many of us, it was our first time helping out with this event as many of our senior members retired last year. However, there was nothing to worry about as so many members of our community were happy to help.

Thank you to the Otago Peninsula Museum for hosting this event. If you haven't been to the museum, go have a look one Sunday afternoon from 12.30-3.30pm.

Thank you to our speakers: Paul Pope (Otago Peninsula Community Board Chair), Michael Lascarides (Portobello Inc. Secretary), Ruth Faulkner and the students from Portobello School, and Edward Ellison (te Upoko o te Runaka o Ōtākou).

We would also like to thank our local Volunteer Fire Brigade for attending as well as Sandra, Ruth and Christine for organising and running the morning tea. Lastly to Brenda, Wayne and Laurel, thank you so much for your advice and information. This group of people have been working on the ANZAC event since it was first held and it

was an honour to learn how to run the event but also about our local history.

After the ceremony, it was great to see so many people stay behind and chat. With Covid, there are fewer opportunities for our community to gather and get to know each other. And the best way to do this always involves kai and a cuppa!

While the ANZAC Service is something organised by Portobello Inc., it is definitely a community event that involves many people. When soldiers left this area for the wars, I imagine that sense of inclusion and community was what they were wanting to protect.

Thank you all again,

Stacey

CHANGE TO UPCOMING MEETINGS

While our group's meetings usually take place on the second Tuesday of each month, we've had to move the next couple of meetings to accommodate various schedule conflicts. As such, the **May monthly meeting** will be

Tuesday 24 May at 7:30pm

and our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on

Tuesday 14 June at 7:30pm

Thanks to everyone who participated in our recent online meetings, and we look forward to returning to in-person meetings at the Hall (masks, please) from next Tuesday. All are welcome!

WINTER MARKET DAY

After a hiatus due to various Covid-related reasons, our popular Market Days will return on **Sunday 17 July** at Coronation Hall. Please visit portobello.org.nz for registration details. Thanks to all of our patrons and vendors for your patience and support.

PUMP TRACK UPDATE

Fundraising efforts continue toward the construction of a **Pump Track** at the Portobello Domain. We've raised about 1/3 of the \$300,000 required to build the track, which we believe will be a wonderful asset for the community.

For details and progress, follow us on:

<https://portobello.org.nz/pump-track/>

portobello community inc.

President

Stacey Kokaua

Treasurer

Amy McFadzien

Secretary

Michael Lascarides

Newsletter Editors

Michael Lascarides & Laura Shepard

Committee

Sandra Clearwater, Ruth Seeney, Richard Steentjes, Dan Parker, Geoff Sheridan, Lynne Sheridan, Craig Newton, Jamie Ledbetter

Otago Peninsula Community Board

We still seem to be managing some pretty decent weather, even though we are nearly half way through May. Some recent rain was welcome, but the ground is still parched and we could do with some more.

PENINSULA CONNECTION – PORTOBELLO

What can I say about the Portobello section of the project apart from the fact that the announcement by Council that it won't be coming through the cutting by Portobello School until 2028 is a bitter disappointment.

To say that the Board was gobsmacked is an understatement, especially after years of consultation and public promises. I'm very proud of Emily Larkins, Ruth Faulkner and the kids from the school for fronting up to the recent DCC Annual Plan and telling councillors what a poor decision this is for our community. Well done. There is some indication that the work beginning in June will include a compromise for school access, but the Board has not seen any detail around this. I think the most surprising thing is that the way the Council have worded the change, they don't think that Portobello School is part of the boundary of the township, very strange indeed. The fight hasn't stopped though and the community can help by contacting Councillors and letters to the editor explaining why this is such a poor decision.



SPEED LIMITS ON THE OTAGO PENINSULA

If there has been one issue that has seen my phone and email running red hot it has been the implementation of the 40km/h areas on the Otago Peninsula. What a confusing message this work has been in the community. The Board opposed the changes based on several factors, including:

- There have been no road fatalities on the Otago Peninsula in over 20 years
- Portobello road is significantly safer for all users since the widening
- Over 500 Peninsula people surveyed by the board opposed the changes



- The road widening will bring further planned traffic control measures reducing speed in Broad Bay, Portobello and Macandrew Bay
- The plan was inconsistent with other areas of the city

I don't think anyone could argue that within well defined residential areas, 40km/h is appropriate. However, the City Council has not looked closely enough at the scale and positioning of the areas so that traffic flow is efficient while keeping residential areas safe. We've now ended up with extra kilometres of unnecessary 40km/h areas where there is no density of people or houses. It is the Board's belief that we need the Peninsula to rally together and fight these changes back into some form of rational thinking, including contacting Councillors and writing letters to the editor explaining why this is such a poor decision and how it affects the community in a negative manner. Remember too, this year is a Local Government election year, so it's a good time to consider where you may place your votes in October.

BOARD MEETING & FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Our next Community Board meeting is on June 2nd and it will be our final funding round for this financial year that ends on June 31st. If you, or your group have a project or application, please get those in soon.

Facebook. Please take the opportunity to use it if you can and share information with your friends, neighbours and whānau. <https://www.facebook.com/pencomboard/>

If you have any issues that you would like to raise or discuss please don't hesitate to contact myself or your local Board member. We are here to help you and only a phone call away. Be patient and kind with your whānau and take care of your friends and neighbours in the community.

– Paul Pope, Otago Peninsula Community Board Chairman

paul.peninsula@xtra.co.nz

(03) 478 0630 or 027 466 8446

Portobello Police Station

Tēnā koutou everyone,

It's the 2nd Term already and our kids are all back at school and kindy, so again it is timely to remind you all to take great care when doing drop-offs and pick-ups. Our precious tamariki can be unpredictable around vehicles and roads. Please check your mirrors and let's keep our speeds down around the schools and kindergartens.

I gave a talk to the senior children at Portobello School last Tuesday around keeping themselves safe online. The WWW is a big and far-reaching beast with a lot of good to give. Unfortunately, with that can come some bad. Please make sure you are aware of what content/chat rooms/apps your children are using. Have the conversation around what they should and shouldn't be doing on-line.

There are a lot of good websites that educate around this type of thing. They shouldn't be telling anyone they don't know their name, age, location, school or any other personal information. They shouldn't be seeing stuff that's rated above their age group. Just something to think about.

Thank you to all of the organisers of the ANZAC Service. I must say the intimacy and day as a whole really sends a shiver down the spin. Jo and I really enjoyed sharing the morning with those that attended.

It has come to my attention that some people are refusing to wear face masks when entering certain businesses and



claim that they have an exemption from doing so. If you do have an exemption, make sure you carry it with you and are able to produce it if asked. It is an offence not to wear one when required and you don't have the appropriate documentation to say this. In short, please be respectful to our shop owners and do the right thing.

The changes are here in relation to the new speeds around the area. I hear that there is a lot of discussion around these and many unsatisfied people. All I ask is that you please abide by them as most of

you are already doing. If that means leaving a bit earlier, then this is what we must do. It is not an excuse (which I have had) that you didn't see them.

With winter approaching one thing to remember is to please put away your firewood as soon as you get it. It's just too tempting for some people to let you pay for their wood and keep them warm. Out of sight, out of mind is the best option here.

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

Until next time, take care of one another and remember my door is always open for advice or just for a cuppa and a chat.

—Sr. Constable Aaron Smith

Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade

Vacancy

The Brigade has a vacancy for day time persons over the age of 16. Interested persons will need to live within the Broad Bay - Portobello - Harwood area. If you are of reasonable fitness and would like to support your local community please get in contact with Chief Fire Officer, Greg Dickson - Phone 021 022 65233. You are most welcome to attend any of our Wednesday practices commencing at 7pm.

House Fire

- If there are others in the house, shout FIRE, FIRE, FIRE!
- Get down, Get low, Get out - Fast
- Get on your hands and knees and crawl low and fast to escape the smoke. Heat and smoke rise so it is easier to breathe and see at ground level.



- If you are able, try to close doors behind you, to stop the fire from spreading.
- Always keep your keys in the deadlocks when you are home. People have died in fires because their doors have been deadlocked with the keys kept elsewhere and they could not get out.

•Call 111 immediately either from a mobile phone or a neighbours house.

•Once out, stay OUT - never go back inside.

•Meet at a planned meeting place somewhere safely away from the house.

What you need to tell the fire service

When you call 111 you will need to give the following information to help us find the fire:

House number/Street name/Nearest intersection/Suburb and City/Rural address (RAPID) number

Portobello School

Term One has been an exciting time of learning at Portobello School. Our tamariki settled into structure and routines without too much disruption from Omicron, apart from mask wearing. They all certainly enjoyed being back with their friends.

We started off with swimming lessons which were held in our wonderful pool. These were in conjunction with **Just Swim** who provided structured lessons around skills and safety in the water. We wish to acknowledge Ewan Duff, our Pool Operator, who maintained the pool for us. Ewan has stepped down from this position but we are very fortunate and appreciative for the time that he put in to allow our pool to remain open.

Takaroa – atua of the sea, was the topic for Term One. Children learnt about the significance of water, kaimoana and kaitiaki - so that we can continue to enjoy our beautiful ocean and harbour for years to come. Extending upon the theme of guardianship, Cheryl Agnew and I met with members of Otago Regional Council and the Dunedin City Council to enable our students to participate in predator monitoring, domain clean up, bird watching and quadrant study. This will be an exciting project to get involved in.

Walk & Wheels Week was well supported by both students and parents. Many arrived at Coronation Hall on bike, scooter or travelled on foot. Some even dressed themselves and their mode of transport for the occasion!

STEAM challenges looking at tension and compression within building structures, provided fun learning which further linked into Writing. As did Science experiments across the Middle and Senior Syndicates.



I would also like to congratulate Tom Hobbs who has taken up a fixed term position as a Maths Support and Accelerated Learning in Mathematics Teacher for the Otago/Southland region. The experience and knowledge that he can offer and acquire during this time will continue to benefit our own school. Ms Jo Stephens will be teaching in the Senior Room while he is away. Jo has many years of teaching experience and has taught as a relief teacher at our school.

ANZAC Day provided an opportunity for students to present their poems at our local service as well as giving me the chance to finally meet with members of the community face to face. The organisation that went on behind the scenes is certainly worth a mention too, thank you to those who made it possible.

As many of you will be aware, we are campaigning to get the Portobello section of the road to be upgraded as part of the peninsula connection. Emily Larkins has worked tirelessly in getting community voice and consultation within our submission to the Dunedin City Council. We are thrilled and proud to have been able to present this to the council, alongside our very brave student representatives – Emma North and Grace Carlson. Thank you to Paul Pope, Cheryl Neill and everyone who supported us.

To find out more about our great school or to organise a visit please contact our school office by phoning 03 478 0605 or e-mail office@portobello.school.nz.

Warm Regards,
Ngā mihi nui,

– *Ruth Faulkner, Acting Principal, Portobello School*

Peninsula Connection update from DCC

NEXT STAGE OF PENINSULA CONNECTION STARTING SOON

Work on the next stage of the Peninsula Connection project begins in June. This work is an important milestone in the project, seeing a continuous shared path and safety upgrade between Portobello and the city, but it will mean more disruption for Peninsula residents.

The upcoming work will be done at two sites at the same time. One site is in Portobello (on Portobello Road from Coronation Hall to Allans Beach Road). The other is between Broad Bay and Turnbolls Bay (Sandpiper Street to Solar Terrace). Details of the works are below.

Preparation of the sites will start over the next few weeks. The main work will begin around the middle of June and take about a year. *continued...*

Portobello Road will often be restricted to one lane in the worksites, and traffic will be managed with stop/go signs or traffic lights. Some road closures and detours via Highcliff Road may be required.

THE PENINSULA CONNECTION PROJECT

The aim of the Peninsula Connection project is to make Portobello and Harington Point roads safer and more appealing for everyone who uses them, and to increase resilience in the face of rising sea levels.

Broad Bay to Turnbells Bay

- Roads widened and a shared path constructed along the inland portion of Portobello Road between Broad Bay and Turnbells Bay
- Three retaining walls built to support the surrounding ground and reduce the likelihood of slips when the road is widened
- Emergency work to replace the partially collapsed culvert at Turnbells Bay

Portobello

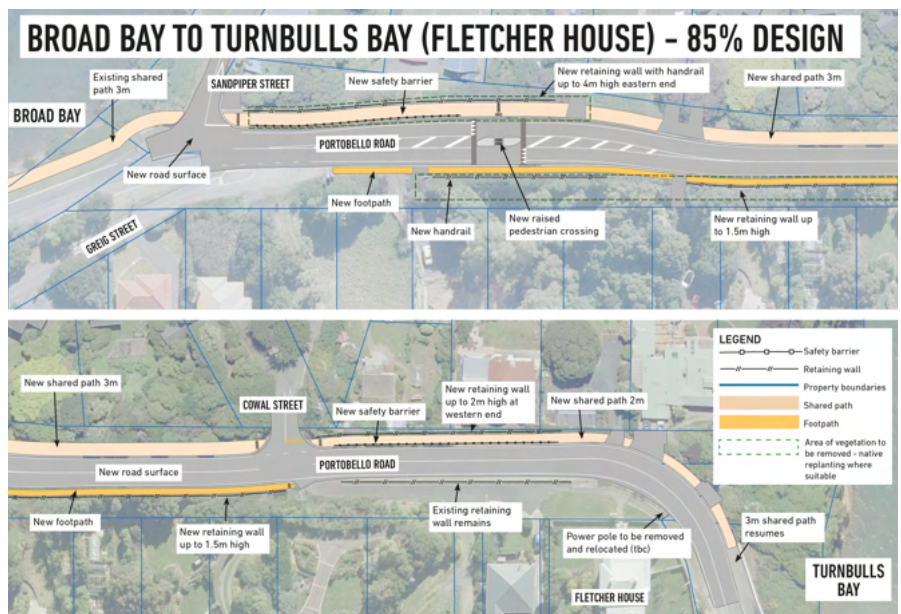
- Construction of a shared path and safer crossing points for cyclists and pedestrians
- Raised speed tables to keep traffic speeds down
- Construction of median islands and a roundabout to provide more separation between traffic at the intersection of Hereweka Street and Portobello, Harington Point, Highcliff and Hatchery roads
- Upgraded pedestrian access from Allans Beach Road to Portobello School
- Angled parking in front of the Portobello Store maintained
- Landscaping around the new seating area once the roading improvements are complete

Updates of road closures and information about roadworks can be found here:

- www.dunedin.govt.nz/road-conditions
- www.dunedin.govt.nz/roadworks-schedule

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with Nick Watt on 03 477 4000 or by emailing peninsula.connection@dcc.govt.nz.

The Dunedin City Council acknowledges that this has been a long, complex project and would like to thank you for your patience and understanding.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

You can find more information about the Peninsula Connection project and regular updates at www.dunedin.govt.nz/peninsula-connection.

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

JOIN PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY INC!

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

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

Everyone is welcome, but we'd be especially grateful for folks with the following skills:

- Graphic design
- Social media whizzes
- Grant writing/fundraising
- Carpentry/handyman
- Event planning
- Showing up & helping

We meet **7:30pm on the third Tuesday of each month** at Portobello Coronation Hall
(Next meeting—24 May)

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

portobello midwinter market day

sunday 17 july, 10-2
coronation hall



market stalls \$20

register online at portobello.org.nz

food trucks • gifts & shopping • kids activities
music • coffee • friends & neighbours *and more!*

Otago Peninsula Museum

Museum News

With a great run of fine weather we have been able to keep the grounds looking tidy. Our Tuesday working bee runs very smoothly with everyone chipping in where and when needed. There is work on various motors going on and tidying up where required. We have an abundance of helpers at present which is nice, but it can be difficult to keep them all occupied.

The ANZAC Service, held at the Museum, went off great and in good weather. It was nice to see local folk come together for the service and to share in a cuppa afterwards. Our thanks to Portobello Inc for running this community event. It is in good hands for the future.

All the ANZAC info, crosses, seating, NZ flag etc are kept safely at the Museum for use each year.



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

17 Harington Point Road, Portobello, Dunedin 9014

Still touching on ANZAC here are some sobering facts about our local soldiers.

Ex-pupils from Sandymount School who served overseas: 44 men served in WW1 (1914-1918) with seven killed. Several families, such as the Robertson and Weir family, had seven sons go overseas - three of the seven never returned. In WW2, 14 men (four Aitken boys) served, with one killed.

Ex-pupils from Hoopers Inlet School who were involved in overseas campaigns were: two Forsyth brothers who fought in the Boer War (1899-1902 in South Africa) and in WW1, 27 served overseas with six in Camp. Of the 27 who served overseas, five were Clearwaters, four Dicks and four Dicksons - (two Dickson brothers were killed). Three Dick boys were also in Camp. We have no record of who served from the district in WW2.

LEST WE FORGET

Larnach Castle News

Hello from Larnach Castle ,

We are excited to learn that all borders will finally be open to international visitors. This will make a big difference to all of us on the Peninsula. The extra income we receive from these guests helps in ways that are often forgotten about, but for Larnach Castle it means we can keep on with the ongoing restoration of the Castle. For the wildlife attractions, it helps the conservation of our fauna and the Peninsula bed and breakfasts will start to get busier.

We probably won't see it revert to the levels of 2019, but there will be a gradual increase of visitors.

Here at Larnach Castle we would never have survived the last two years without the support of New Zealanders, and especially our Dunedin 'Loyal Locals'. You have been amazing. We love seeing you come and enjoy a coffee or a stroll in the garden, you have kept us going and we won't forget that. The 'Loyal Local' card is here to stay, and we will continue to always support local charities and schools with donations of product for quiz night, prizes, and raffles.



As part of our sustainability promise we will always look locally first to recruit employees. Over the next three or four months we will be recruiting for tour guides (both for the castle and garden), function staff, dinner wait staff, gift shop, housekeeping, and reception staff. Are you looking for full-time or part-time work? Please give us a call or email either deborah@larnachcastle.co.nz or amy@larnachcastle.co.nz. We would love to chat to you about potential positions.

Upcoming events

- Shortest day/longest night. Victorian Ghost Stories – Tuesday 21st June 2022
- <https://www.larnachcastle.co.nz/Larnach-Castle-Events/Shortest-Day-Longest-Night>
- Winter Ball – Friday 15th July 2022
- <https://www.larnachcastle.co.nz/Larnach-Castle-Events/Annual-Winter-Ball>
- Snow Drop day – Sunday 7th August 2022

— Margaret and Norcombe Barker

Portobello Bowling Club

Closing Day was April 2nd, and Cups and Shields were presented to the successful players and teams for this season. One of the great successes has been our Thursday evening Twilight Bowls where social members compete alongside full members and learn the complexities of the game. The plan is to meet up regularly with potluck dinners throughout the winter.

Situated 5 Sherwood Street. New members are always welcome.

Bar, kitchen facilities, and full size billiard table suitable for all types of functions.

Contact Secretary Brian Cameron, 03 478 0816 or email pbo26@xtra.co.nz for further information.

Portobello Public Library

Dot, our Librarian, and her helper Edna have been out purchasing new books so come along and check what is new on the Library shelves.

THE DUTCH HOUSE BY ANN PATCHETT

Book Review by Barbara, Portobello Library member

What first attracted me to read this book was the beautiful Delftware pictures on the cover. I was unsure from reading the synopsis on the back cover what the book was about, but thought I would give it a go.

What followed was the story of a family told through the eyes of the son in the family, Danny. With the mother leaving the family when Danny was very young, he was raised by his Father, sister Maeve and three servants. Rich in

characterisation, the novel examines the remaining relationships, in particular that of he and his sister Maeve. Set in Philadelphia, The Dutch House provides a colourful backdrop for the story. It is a one of a kind house with its own story to tell.



Highly recommended.

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

Portobello Presbyterian Church

All are welcome at our small church on the hill next to the Portobello Cemetery, Harington Point Rd, Portobello. *All services Sunday 10.00am unless indicated.*

19th Jun—Discussion Group “Jesus – A Pilgrimage” Pt 1

3rd Jul—Church Service

17th Jul—Discussion Group “Jesus – A Pilgrimage” Pt 2

7th Aug—Church Service

21st Aug—Discussion Group “Jesus – A Pilgrimage” Pt 3

4th Sep—Church Service

18th Sep—Church Service – Communion

2nd Oct—Church Service

16th Oct—Discussion Group “Jesus – A Pilgrimage” Pt 4

6th Nov—Church Service

20th Nov—Church Service – Communion

4th Dec—Church Service

18th Dec—Church Service

24th Dec, 7pm—Xmas Carol Service

Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Inc.

Kia ora koutou,

In the past few months we have farewelled former Keeper, Meghan Hughes and her whānau, and welcomed Floris (Flo) Wouters as relieving Keeper. Flo has been one of our regular volunteers over the past few years and has been using his enthusiasm, energy and expertise to help us with improvements to the Keepers Cottage, as well as establishing a new composting system, improving the soil through a rotational grazing system of the islands' sheep, and supporting our mahi in the Reserve. We are also pleased to announce we have appointed Olivia (Liv) Taylor-Peebles as our new permanent Keeper who will start in late May. Liv has a background in science communication and environmental management and we look forward to welcoming her.

The past few months have remained quieter with cancellations of Lodge bookings due to the COVID-19 outbreak, although many day visitors have come to experience the island thanks to Rachel from Port-To-Port Cruises and Wildlife Tours ferry trips and island Treasure Hunts which were also part of the Wild Dunedin Festival in the Easter school holidays.

Groups who have enjoyed some 'island time' and volunteering have included students from Logan Park High School, Elmgrove School, Bayfield High School, Waitaki Girls High School, Roxburgh Area School, Mackenzie College, & Twizel Area School, some of whom attended the education programme at the Marine Studies Centre, students from the School of Physical Education, Sports & Exercise Science (University of Otago), Caroline Freeman College, Purākaunui School, Unicrew Volunteers Otago, and the Dunedin Photographic Society, as well as a small number of family groups, and birthday celebrations.

Thanks to all our volunteers and Community members for their efforts on and off the island over the last few months. Mahi has included releasing and mulching seedlings, autumn bird counts, skink surveys, monitoring predator

traps, weed control, a beach litter survey, collecting seaweed, moving scaffolding, and preparing the Keepers Cottage ready for carpet installation.

We are grateful to the NZ Lottery Community Grant which fully covers our Keepers salary this year, the Dunedin City Council for subsidising boat transfers for volunteers helping with ecological projects in April, and Carpet Court for their generous offer to supply and install new carpet, underlay and trims at a reduced cost to increase the warmth and comfort in the Keepers Cottage. Many thanks to John Drummond of the Rotary Club of Dunedin for facilitating our Strategic Planning Day held in early April and to Port-To-Port Cruises and Wildlife Tours, and East Coast Charters who have provided boat transfers to and from the island.

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

We would be keen to hear from anyone able to assist us with upgrading the resident Keeper's Cottage, to improve the comfort for our Keeper and her whānau.

If you have knowledge or skills, or can assist us financially, we would love to hear from you. Please contact secretary.quarantineisland@gmail.com

If you'd like to visit or stay on the island, as a family group, or 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 opportunities, or join our Facebook Public Group Quarantine Island Kamau Taurua Community, 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 the boat transport,



so let us know in advance if you're coming. Details and registration forms for events are on our website. Keep an eye on our Facebook page too.

There is something for everyone on QIKT. From relaxing and recharging in solitude and peaceful surroundings, to learning about island history and ecology, volunteering, and experiencing what makes the island so special.

Upcoming Welcome Days:

- Saturday 28th May 2022
- Saturday 25th June 2022
- Saturday 30th July 2022

Volunteer, relax or explore, or all three!

Royal Albatross Centre

The last month of Autumn at the colony is a great time for albatross activity. The chicks are maybe 7 to 9 kilograms, looking like giant fluffballs. They are becoming more interested in the world around them and are starting to walk to investigate the things they have only looked at from afar.

There are 25 chicks in the colony, 4 of these visible out front of the Richdale Observatory. A desperate teenage bird might still be seen flying around without any friends, and of course 50 adult birds returning every 1 to 3 days to feed their chicks.

Not wanting to start any rumours, but the image is of a chick beside the disappearing gun, and sleeping standing up! Is this a trick they have learnt from the resident donkeys on the peninsula or their other feathered friends? Does this also mean they can sleep while they are flying?



To be scientific, many bird species are observed sleeping standing up, including ducks, geese, cranes and flamingos. The utilisation of the flexor tendon being tightened in the back of the legs in birds is an involuntary reflex, as long as the bird remains stationary it can sleep standing up.

In an albatross however, the dynamic soaring flight technique is facilitated through the same process of tightening the flexor tendon in the wings! So, considering the same reflex action can be utilised in the legs as well as the wings, can they actually sleep while flying?

Next time you visit us, tell us you're a local and we will give you 25% off guided tours and 20% off full priced gift shop items, through to the end of winter!

100 years ago this month...

We worried that school kids might get their "bell rung"

— *Evening Star*, 17 May 1922
(via *Papers Past*)

The hanging of a school bell might not seem to most people to be a matter requiring very much consideration, but the position in which it is placed might involve danger to the children. In reference to an application from the Portobello Committee to hang a bell, the architect reported to the Education Board to-day that he could not recommend the hanging of the bell in position over the school entrance, as had been suggested by the teacher. It was mentioned in the course of discussion that a child in a North Island school had had a narrow escape when part of the bell fell and just missed her. The application before the board was left in the hands of the architect, with power to act.

Save The Otago Peninsula (STOP) Inc.

The fencing of the Second Tributary on the Smiths Creek Catchment has been completed with financial assistance from Bendigo, Aotearoa and Lion Gaming Funds, together with the DCC Biofund and the Hereweka Harbour Cone Trust, and planting has now started within the fenced area. STOP welcomes donations for trees for this project and also for fencing of another important bush remnant.

Enormous gratitude to Brendon Cross and his family, Tom and Hannah. Using a tractor and a quad bike, they carted the first 800 seedlings, the sacks, the pegs and the wire for the protective cages across to the planting area. This makes planting so much easier, because everything is



on site. As well as this, Brendon fitted a tap on his water system so that planting was able to begin despite the dry weather.

Vic Mills has made an impressive three dimensional map of the Future Forest Walk in the First Tributary. Do make a visit to check it out. Again, our appreciative thanks.

Regular planting bees with any necessary tools provided, meet at the end of Bacon St in Turnbells Bay (the next bay past Broad Bay) every Tuesday and Sunday at 9.30am.

Contact: Email stopincsoc@gmail.com or text (only) Lala 027 8756 020.

NZ Marine Studies Centre

Marine Encounter Tours at the NZ Marine Studies Centre—12 June 2022

Time: 10.30am - 12pm and 12.30pm - 2pm

During a tour of the New Zealand Marine Studies Centre at Portobello, connect to your coast and meet local marine species to find out what makes them special, vulnerable and resilient. You will also dive into the deep with our virtual submarine!

Toddlers 2yrs and under are free but please specify numbers in your ticket registration.



Most of our site is accessible via wheelchair or stroller. Please specify accessibility needs in your registration.

Book here: <https://events.humanitix.com/marine-encounters-at-the-nz-marine-studies-centre>

Covid-19: We highly recommend mask wearing during the tour to reduce the risk of Covid-19 spread. All our staff will be masked for the duration of the tour.

This event is part of our 2022 Community Programme - powered by Westpac

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



Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group

WORKING TOWARDS A PREDATOR FREE PENINSULA

There are 21,104 fewer possums on the peninsula since our project started. Together with the community we've caught 200 possums since the beginning of this year. And we've now got a whopping 1,132 traps on the ground!

The OPBG team along with many community members are working hard to eradicate possums. We are seeing an increasing number of native birds as a result and the native bush is also looking very healthy. We are on the right track for increased biodiversity on the peninsula.

There has been an increased number of road kills and sightings/sounds over the last month, and this is due to the current mating season. Possums like to use human pathways to move around to find mates, as it requires less

effort. This is happening more because there are less possums, so they need to travel further to find a mate. Thank you very much to those who have reported the sightings so we can respond by making sure there are traps ready for when they stop and rest in a nearby habitat.

**OTAGO PENINSULA
BIODIVERSITY
GROUP**



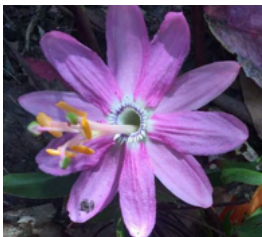
If you have heard or seen a possum, please get in contact by emailing or texting me, or else you can go to our website and click on the "report a possum" button. If you are wanting a trap, please also get in touch.

Next month, on Saturday the 11th, we are holding an event called Spotlight on Possums. This is to see what is out there and we would like to make it a fun event for the family. Please see details on the poster included.

— Paula Cross (peninsula@opbg.nz • ph 021 242 4944)

Invasive Weeds Update from SWAT

SWAT HAS A MATHS STORY FOR YOU:



=



If you have the startlingly pretty pink flowers of the Banana Passionfruit (BPF) vine in your garden or on your landholding, it's a safe bet you also have rats.

Did you know that Banana Passionfruit fruits right through winter? It's a hugely valuable food source for rats enabling them to breed year round. So if you have BPF on your property - you have prime rat real estate.

Call us for help if you have BPF, we want to hear from you!

We work every Friday morning to rid the Peninsula of pest plants so if you see us out and about in our orange vests on a Friday morning, come over and have a chat!

Have you any invasive weed questions for us?

Seen something suss and weedy on your block?

Email us at SWATweeds@gmail.com for help and advice!



Here's an enormous rat's nest we discovered recently in the large root system of a BPF vine near Portobello.

And that rat's nest is full of chewed and half chewed yellow BPF fruit.



Another Day In Paradise—from Olly’s Pen

Gosh, like many others my heart goes out to those people in the Ukraine. We are so fortunate for having such a wonderful country as ours. According to the latest statistics New Zealand is the second safest place in the world behind Iceland. Considering Iceland’s isolation, cold climate plus low population of around 370,000 I believe this is still the safest place in the world to raise a family.

On that note, I am so grateful to all of the people who were responsible for caring for me when I suffered a cardiac arrest while “acting as a sick patient” for the medical students to practise their diagnostic skills on. Fortunately we were in the Frazer building at the time when this occurred and one of the Tutors who knew CPR managed to

revive me. I was then rushed to the hospital where I duly recovered. I now sport a pacemaker defibrillator machine plugged into my heart and it’s thanks to them that I can now share this information with you.

I value every single day more than ever now and am learning to let my physical as well as emotional and mental bodies heal in their own good time, something I espouse to the students to whom I teach ancient Maori philosophy. I am referred to as a Kaiako - a teacher/learner. In the situation I am in now, I am a learner; learning to not push myself but to let my body heal itself.

— Olly Ohlson

ANCIENT MAORI PHILOSOPHY—MAURI HAUORA and Te Reo

Enrolments are open for the next class. MAURI HAUORA is based on the wisdom of the elders who realised that love is the most significant energy that can bring about positive change in the environment, in people and in all things animate and inanimate. The Tohunga captured this understanding in a tukutuku pattern, the Patiki - the pulse of life. They learned that balance is temporary - that each generation brings new vitality and knowledge into being - that the body dies but the essential YOU - a spirit/energy/mauri - lives on in the atmosphere - the database/network of potentiality from which we can learn. It challenges us with its core belief that All humans are PERFECT. Sessions begin 7pm Tuesdays starting March 8 at our home in 774 Harington Point Rd and are two hours long over 6 weeks. Te Reo is basic - at conversational level. Total fee is \$500. Inquiries are welcome.

Call 4780 220 or email me at: espi10@gmail.com.

Olly Ohlson - Kaiako & Tohunga Mauri Hauora



Ric's Galley Takeaways

Summer Hours

Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun 5pm — 7:30pm

A choice of five varieties of fish every night with local favourites Blue Cod, Monk, Tarakihi, Sole, Elephant, and fish bites

Gluten-Free Baked Blue Cod

Phone 4780 105 to order

Vegetarian and Seafood Baskets available

Try our Latham Bay Burgers

Fish, Meat, Chicken and Vegetarian and Beautiful Rib-eye Steak & Egg Burgers

Also, deep fried cheese rolls, spicy chicken tenders, sugar coated pineapple rings

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

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ADULTS \$15, CHILDREN \$8

ELECTRIC BIKE \$10, MANUAL \$6
EACH WAY

-QUARANTINE ISLAND -

FROM PORTOBELLO AT 1:15PM, RETURNS 3:15PM

ADULTS \$30, CHILDREN \$18, RETURN

-MINI HARBOUR TOUR-

BIRDS, BOATS, SHIPWRECKS, HISTORY, VOLCANO-
25 MINUTES, ENQUIRE FOR TIMES

AD \$30, CH \$16

THIS IS A TIMETABLED SERVICE! BUT WE NEED ENOUGH PEOPLE BOOKED TO RUN THE BOAT (USUALLY 4 ADULTS RETURN, OR THE EQUIVALENT).

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL:)

020 416 24250

WWW.PORTTOPORT.CO.NZ

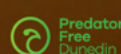
SPOTLIGHT ON POSSUMS

Saturday 11 June, 6:30pm

Did you know the peninsula is soon to be a possum free zone? We've removed more than 21000 of them but we need your help to track down the last remaining possums!

Find out how to take part at:

predatorfreedunedin.org/spotlight





COMING SOON! 26 & 28 CLEARWATER STREET, BROADBAY

2019-2020, 2020-2021 & 2021 - 2022
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I have been awarded #1 sales person at BayleysMetro for the 21-22 period. I also achieved Top 5% of Bayleys Salespeople for 21-22 Thank you to my lovely vendors and buyers for making this possible. If you are thinking about selling your property, contact me for a free appraisal.



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Alice Munro



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- Leases
- Enduring Powers of Attorney
- Relationship Property



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

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 Sherwood St
Thursday 1:30 pm
 Contact Jean 478-0194
 Orma 021-207-3079

Supported by the Marjorie Barclay Trust

RURAL SKIP DAYS Pop up Transfer Station

Portobello Domain | 12 June | 10am – 4pm

This is a cash only collection.
 (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.

 **DUNEDIN** | kaunihera | a-rohe o | Ōtēpoti
 CITY COUNCIL

03 477 4000
 www.dunedin.govt.nz



The PUGs
 The Peninsula Ukulele Group

Mon
 evenings
 between
 6.30pm – 7.30 pm

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

We are a friendly bunch and welcome new members and song suggestions!

CALLA KNUDSON
Music Lessons—Voice, Piano, Violin
 calla.nzmusic@gmail.com 0272727440

We meet at our group leader's house. Just contact us for the address:
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/ThePUGsNZ/
 Email: thepugsnz@gmail.com

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Give something your kids will really love this Christmas!



givealittle.co.nz/cause/portobello-domain-pump-track



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

Contact us at pbocomm.inc@gmail.com

portobello area community resources

BOOK A LOCAL HALL

- **Coronation Hall, Portobello**
Wayne Cameron - 4780 424
- **Scott Hall, Harwood**
Graeme McNulty - 027 931 0342 or
Robert Oliver - 021 893 441
- **Hoopers Inlet Hall**
Jackie Clearwater - 4780 508

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

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. *See page 9 for schedule.*

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 is an **Automated External Defibrillator** located outside Portobello Store (1 Harington Point 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.



LOCAL PHONE BOOK

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

SWIMMING POOL

Our community **pool** is closed for the season. See you next season in November!

community calendar

Tuesday 24 May 7:30pm

Portobello Inc monthly meeting
Coronation Hall

Saturday 28 May

Quarantine Island Welcome Day

Saturday 11 June

Spotlight on Possums

Sunday 12 June

Marine Encounter Tours
NZ Marine Studies Centre

Sunday 12 June

Rural Skip Day
Portobello Domain

Tuesday 14 June 7:30pm

Portobello Inc Annual General Meeting
Coronation Hall

Saturday 25 June

Quarantine Island Welcome Day

Sunday 17 July, 10–2

Winter Market Day
Coronation Hall

Saturday 30 July

Quarantine Island Welcome Day

Tuesdays & Sundays 9:30am

Hereweka Planting Bees
Bacon Street, Broad Bay

Sundays 12:30-3:30pm

Peninsula Museum open

See inside for event details