



WESTERN Wanderer

Tuatapere | Clifden | Orawia | Blackmount | Monowai | Colac Bay | Orepuki

Cover Photo: At the Waiau Town & Country Club, Tuatapere Annual Pink Ribbon Breakfast with Guest Speaker, Ebony

Issue 290

JUNE 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Every Week <i>Reminders</i> Bootcamp at Orepuki Hall - every Mon 6am / 5:30pm StoryTime @ Waiau Memorial Library 10am	Waiau Valley Preschool Music 63 Main Str 10:00 - 11:30am	Bootcamp at WAS Gym every Wed 6am / 5:30pm Target Shooting 7pm, RSA Hall		Bootcamp at Orepuki Hall every Fri 6am / 5:30pm	Pop Up 2ndhand Shop @The Den every Sat 10am-1pm	
1 King's Birthday Public Holiday	2 Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board Meeting - 3:30pm SDC Book Bus 1-1:30pm Orepuki Community Centre	3 Wool & Craft 10-3pm The Den	4 Sewing & Patchwork 10-3pm The Den Quiz Night - Fundraiser Tui Base Camp 7pm start	5 CWA BookSale 2026 Pipe Band Hall, Main Rd, Tuatapere Tuatapere Lions 34 th Annual Hay Drive	6 	7 Orepuki Pink Ribbon Brunch 
8	9	10	11 Pēpi Playgroup 10am - 2pm Tuatapere Playcentre Soup & Chat Tui Base Camp 11:30am Book Club 10:30am Tui Base Camp	12	13  Kinit in Public Day @The Den, Erskine St 10am - 1pm	14
15	16 Tuatapere Reserve Pest Control Group Meeting @ The Den 7pm	17 Wool & Craft 10-3pm The Den	18 Sewing & Patchwork 10-3pm The Den Live Music - King Leo Tui Base Camp 6:30pm	19	20 Grand Opening of the Historic Tuatapere Railway Precinct 2pm All Invited!	21 Rugby Picks Prizegiving & Speights Fridge Draw Tui Base Camp
22	23	24	25	26 PGG Golf Tournament	27	28
29	30 <i>Coming up ...</i>			Tuatapere Community Theatre brings you "A Night in Front of the Television" 18-19 th July		

Want your event here? Let us know at yourwesternwanderer@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS



**EMERGENCY
POLICE /FIRE/AMBULANCE: 111**

MEDICAL CENTRE: (03) 2266 123

TUATAPERE POLICE STATION:
(03) 2269 020

TUATAPERE COMMUNITY WORKER:
027 7575 983

HAUROKO VALLEY SCHOOL OFFICE:
(03) 2266 753

WAI AU AREA SCHOOL OFFICE:
(03) 2266 285

TUATAPERE CEMETERY TRUST:
027 246 4857

TUATAPERE SERVICE STATION:
(03) 2266 475

TUATAPERE FOUR SQUARE:
(03) 2266 898

TUI BASE CAMP CAFE-BAR-RESTAURANT
(03) 2266 250

HUNGRY HIPPO SHOP & TAKEAWAYS
(03) 2266 417

WAI AU TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB
(03) 2266 489

PINK RIBBON BRUNCH

OREPUKI

Sunday 7th June

Ring Coke 021 351 181
or Marg 027 749 9456



Tuatapere PĒPI PLAYGROUP

for babies 0-2 years old



"Babies are born curious"

Our playgroup for babies in Tuatapere offers a safe and interesting haven for babies and their whanau.

We provide a sensory rich play space to support the curiosity, free movement and self directed play of your baby.

Sessions invite you to slow down, do less, observe more and enjoy the wonder of infant play and learning. Sessions will be guided by experienced ECE facilitators.

Thursday: 14 May & 11 June at 10am - 12pm

Venue: Tuatapere Playcentre,
23B Orawia Road, Tuatapere
Gold Coin Donation.

For more details please contact Stu Guyton: stuart.guyton@gmail.com

Southern REAP - Maree Day: mareeareap.co.nz or

Tuatapere Community Worker - Tina Colyer: tcworkerextra.co.nz



COMMUNITY MARKET
Cnr of Halfway and Highway
The Community Market
will be back in September!
and Boot Stalls \$5
Christine 027 5255 538

Soup 'n Chat



Tui Base Camp - 2nd Thursday of the month!
11.30-1.30pm

Please contact Community Support Worker
Tina on 027 7575 983

to book your spot no later than
the week before.



SHOP HOURS UPDATE

**Tues - Sun
11am - 8pm**

**WE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAYS
UNTIL THE END OF AUGUST**

Tuatapere & DISTRICTS LIONS CLUB PROJECT

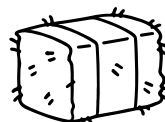


SUPER DIRT

Bags@\$8.00 ready for your garden
Super Dirt can be collected from
Rabco's Yard, Groveburn Road
Phone Shirley or Stephen
(03) 226 6817

Tuatapere Lions Club Annual Peastraw Drive

\$12 per bale - self-carted
\$15 per bale - delivered



Ph/Text

Nigel 021 2266 156
Sammy 027 4382 248

Join the Orepuki Community Fitness Collective!

Get Fit and Ready for Winter Sports!

Are you looking to boost your fitness this winter? The **Orepuki Community Fitness Collective** is here to support you! We offer affordable, low-cost fitness classes tailored for all ages and abilities. Whether you're an experienced athlete or just starting your fitness journey, we've got something for you!



Why Join Us?

- **Affordable Access to Fitness:** Enjoy low-cost \$5.00 a class that makes fitness more accessible for everyone in Western Southland.
- **Structured Group Exercise:** Our organised fitness classes focus on your own individual fitness journey, while building connections and friendships.
- **Personalised Support:** Receive tailored guidance to help you set and achieve your own fitness goals. Our supportive environment celebrates individuals achievements.

Winter Sports Benefits

Get ready for winter sports by improving your strength, endurance, mobility - movement for life.

Class Schedule - Every Week

- **Mon & Fri:** 6am at Orepuki Community Centre
- **Tues, Wed & Thurs:** 6am at W.A.S Gym

Join our vibrant classes where you can engage with friendly faces and enjoy a welcoming atmosphere.

Progress to Date

We've seen fantastic growth, increasing from 7 to 14 regular participants!

Get involved today!

Help us expand our community and enjoy the numerous benefits of movement.

INDOOR BOWLS - MONDAY NIGHTS

7.30pm, Waiau Town & Country Club
Ph: Christine 0275498720



LINE DANCING - MONDAY NIGHTS

7:30pm, RSA Hall
Main Street, Tuatapere



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Second Hand Pop Up Shop

Every Saturday 10am-1pm

'The Den' Erskine St, Tuatapere

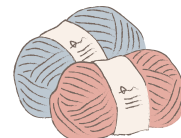
Ph: Helen 022 1039327



Pop up secondhand shop needs help if you would like to volunteer one Saturday a month please contact Helen 022 1039027

WESTERN SOUTHLAND WOOL & CRAFT GROUP

Spinning, Felt, Weaving, Knitting, Crochet.



Other crafts welcome!

Held on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month, in months that have 5 Wednesdays, at 'The Den', Erskine St 10am-3pm. \$5. BYO Lunch.

Any queries please contact Helen Todd 022 103 9327

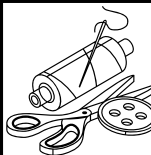
SEWING & PATCHWORK GROUP



Come and learn to sew or share your skills OR just get on with your project. Bring your lunch and sewing machine (if you can) Meet at 'The Den' Erskine St, Tuatapere 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month Cost \$5 per day. 10am-3pm. Coffee & Tea provided Contact: Helen Todd 022 103 9327

KIDS CRAFT GROUP

2nd Saturday of the month 1-4pm



@ 'The Den' Erskine St, Tuatapere
Kids and have fun!
A Christian group.

For information: Helen 0221039327

POSTPONED UNTIL JULY



Erskine Street
Tuatapere

To enquire, call
Helen Todd
022 1039 327

THE DEN

The Den is AVAILABLE for Community Groups to book - right next to the playground, with plenty of parking.

KEEN TO GIVE SQUASH A GO?

Enquires please contact:
Rebecca Robertson
027 424 6129



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

TUATAPERE PLAYGROUP

Tuatapere Playgroup welcomes all 0-5 year olds & their parents or caregivers to come join the fun!



You'll find us at 23B Orawia Road, Tuatapere

Friday mornings from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Bring a packed morning tea and drink bottle.

We provide a warm, friendly atmosphere for children to form bonds and learn alongside each other and a place for parents to connect.

For more info message our Facebook page or contact **Brooke 027 551 5591**.



TUATAPERE TOY LIBRARY

Tuatapere Toy Library has been a toy swap/hire service provided to the young families of Tuatapere and surrounding districts since 1989.



The purpose is to create opportunities for the little people of our community to have accessibility to toys.

A small contribution of an annual membership allows families to join the group and have access to the toys.

For more information or questions please text or ring **Kenzie Johnston on 020 4191 7357**

Waiau Valley Preschool Music



Where: 63 Main Road, Tuatapere

When: Tuesdays

Time: 10:00 - 11:30

Donation: \$2 per family

Come along and enjoy some fun and music.

Bring some morning tea for the children to have after the session.

Hot drinks and biscuits will be provided for the adults.



For further information or to enrol contact Nette on 0274 407 517

TUATAPERE AMBULANCE

Did YOU Know?

The Tuatapere Ambulance is a funded service by the Tuatapere Lions Club, for the residents of Tuatapere & Districts.

Should you receive an account for this service from St John, please forward it immediately to:

**The Treasurer
Tuatapere Lions Club
PO Box 47
Tuatapere**



Sometimes we experience difficulty in receiving the invoices for YOUR trip - so PLEASE do forward them on to us.

Thank you!

**Tuatapere Lions Club Charitable Trust
Ambulance Committee**

TUATAPERE VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

We're on the lookout for members to join this rewarding organization. We are looking for persons who are, ideally, available throughout the day. If you think that you would like to try this (sometimes lifelong) commitment, then please feel free to come and try it! We train on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm during daylight saving and 7pm through the winter months.

We look forward to meeting with you.



DO YOU HAVE A NOTICE FOR THE COMMUNITY?

DROP US AN EMAIL AT
yourwesternwanderer@gmail.com

AND WE'LL ADD IT TO THE
NOTICEBOARD FOR YOU!

TUATAPERE COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER

A free and confidential service.

Contact if you:

- Want help with filling forms
- Need advice on who to contact
- Require financial or food assistance
- Know someone that requires assistance or are concerned about someone's well being
- Want to suggest a community related course or activity

Monday - Thurs 10am-3pm

Cellphone: 027 757 5983

E-mail: tcworker@xtra.co.nz

Call in to the office at the Medical Centre just inside front door 69a Orawia Road, Tuatapere

TUATAPERE ENVELOPES

Envelopes printed with the
"Tuatapere on Natures Edge"

Logo can be purchased at Country
Corner Craft Shop 1A Orawia Road.

Cost \$4.00 per 10



Tuatapere's own Crafters Collective

COUNTRY CORNER CRAFTS

WINTER HOURS 11 - 3PM
SUMMER HOURS 10 - 4PM

- Knitwear & sewing
- Jewellery & Bobbin lace
- Woodware
- Jams, pickles, sauces
- Art works & much more

Looking for a Tuatapere souvenir? "On Natures Edge" always in stock

ENQUIRIES

LOUISE GREBER (03) 668 6001
MAX MALSEN (021)422 800
LYLA SHERRIFF (03) 226 6187

New members always welcome.
Want to volunteer? Let us know!

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



TUATAPERE LIONS CLUB



Come join us!

Are you keen to lend a hand and have a good yarn while you're at it?

The Tuatapere Lions are a friendly bunch who like helping out around the community & having a bit of a social get-together along the way.

From local projects to lending a hand where needed, we're all about neighbours helping neighbours.

You don't need any special skills - just a willing attitude and a bit of community spirit!

New faces are always welcome!

If you'd like to get involved, or just see what we're about, we'd love to hear from you.

Get in touch:

President

Shirley Crack - 027 321 1564

Secretary

Maurice Green - 027 246 4857

NEED A JP?

The following Justices are available by appointment:



Tuatapere:

Karen Hammond 027 885 6381
Mon- Fri by Appointment Only

Keri Potter 027 526 3137

Blackmount:

Nicky Baker 027 643 5880



88.2 FM

Hits of the 80's, 90's & Today

WATCH THIS SPACE

TUATAPERE COMMUNITY THEATRE
BRINGS TO YOU



**FRIDAY 17TH AND SATURDAY
18TH JULY**

**MARK YOUR DIARIES NOW.
TICKET DETAILS COMING SOON**

Waiau Valley Presbyterian Church Tuatapere

Main Road

We meet every **Sunday at 10.30am**

Need to know more?

Phone or message

Cedric on 022 027 3834

WESTERN SOUTHLAND CATHOLIC MASS

Mass is held every first Sunday of the month at the Anglican Church at 11am. On Fridays, Mass (or Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion), is held at 1pm in the Anglican Church.

A timetable, as to what is happening each Friday, is available at the entrance to the Anglican Church.

We are very grateful to the Tuatapere Anglican Community for sharing their church facilities with us.

Fr Gerard Aynsley

Text preferred: 021580610

TARGET SHOOTING SOUTHLAND

Have you thought of small bore rifle shooting which is known in Southland as target shooting?



Tuatapere meet on a Wednesday nights
7:30pm, in the RSA Hall.

Contact: Kevin Daly (03) 234 5162 or
Quinton Erskine (03) 226 6969

TUATAPERE HEALTH & GIFT SHOP

(part of Riverton Pharmacy - beside Medical Centre)

69a Orawia Road Ph: (03) 226 6999

12:00pm - 5:30pm Mon-Fri

Good selection of Vitamins, Giftware &
Over-the-counter healthcare

First prescription drop-off from 1:30pm

Second prescription drop-off 4:30pm

WAIAU MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Library Hours: Fridays



10:00am - 11:30am

2:30pm - 4:00pm

7:00pm - 8:00pm

We have free



COMMUNITY OUTLOOK ARTICLES

The Community Outlook articles are always available on the
On Natures Edge website!

<https://www.onnaturesedge.co.nz/>

Get your car washed, dried and windows cleaned.
Price arranged on request!

Contact: Rex Hibbs Flat 1/26 Orawia Rd, Tuatapere

SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

Senior Citizens is a group of over 50s that meet every **Friday afternoon at 1pm** at the rooms behind the RSA Hall. We are always looking for new members so if you would like a fun afternoon playing bowls, cards or just catching up with friends, come and join the group.

If you need a ride - we can pick you up!

Please contact:

Olive Bennett (03) 2266 477 or

Alison Bennett 027 224 2724

TUATAPERE RSA ANZAC SERVICES 2026

S Crack, Treasurer RSA Tuatapere

Thank you to all who attended the Dawn Service at Orawia and the 10.00am service in Tuatapere

A big **Thank You** to **John Munro** who stepped up this year to run these services as our President couldn't due to health issues. John, again you exceeded yourself getting everything done as well as organising things behind the scenes.

I just want to let everyone know that a few years ago Tuatapere RSA had a large number of members. Now we have 16 financial members and 4-5 members that attend meetings. Anzac is still very important to small communities who have lost many soldiers. The RSA don't only run Anzac Services we do a lot more. If you would like to know what or would like to become a member please talk to John Munro or Chris Johnston.

It is now time to pay your sub if you are already a member. Subs are **\$25.00**

Pay into ANZ: **06 0958 0007999 00**

Please put **your Name, sub26**, in Reference

Thank you.



Tūātāpere Book Sale 2026

- supported by Lions



Central & Western Archives BOOK SALE GALORE

5th/6th June, 10am-2pm

FUNDRAISER - on "Hay Day" Friday & Saturday

Pipe Band Hall, 50 Main Rd, Tūātāpere

Next to CWA - Archives Heritage Hub

+ Soup & Savoury or Cuppa & Cupcake \$3

For donations of - books, puzzles, art, board games, console games, CD's, DVD's, or Craft, just give us a call to get drop-off details.

text or ph: 027-2114675, pickups if reqd

PLEASE don't bring items to the Archives, we have pest free premises!

Your Community = Your Archive Preserving our Local History

kindergartens
SOUTH
Pūtahi Kura Pūhou o Murihiku

Southland Kindergarten Association is exploring early childhood education options for the Tuatapere community.

At this stage, we are seeking expressions of interest only from parents/caregivers of children aged 2-5 years who would:

- use a kindergarten service in Tuatapere, and/or
- use a funded/subsidized transport service to Riverton Kindergarten.

This is to help us understand community need only, no services are being promised at this stage.

If this applies to your family, please email: **megan@activesouthland.co.nz**

- your name
- phone number and/or email address
- ages of your children

by 8 June 2026



PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER ANNOUNCED

The winner of the Lawson's Dry Hills PINK People's Choice Award at the 2026 Christchurch Art Show was Tuatapere's very own Wayne Edgerton!

Wayne was voted the People's Choice by the audience, friends, and supporters of the Christchurch Art Show for his stunning landscape work, Tasman River.

A huge congratulations to Wayne – so very well deserved!

Alex Reid CONTRACTING

Paddock Cultivation from
Ploughing to Sowing
Dry Hire available
Aerating
Direct Drilling
Ridging
Mulching



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melanie.m@toddc.co.nz

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Call BEVAN 0277 413 213

Full-Time Calf Rearer Wanted - Dairy Farm Position

We are looking for a full-time Calf Rearer to join our owner-operated dairy farm located at
756 Clifden Blackmount Road.

Our farm milks 900 cows and rears approximately 250 replacement heifer calves each season.

- Full-time position for approximately 3 months
- Calving commences 1st August 2026
- Experience preferred but not essential
- Great hourly rate
- Accommodation available on farm

This is a great opportunity to work in a supportive team environment on a well-run dairy operation.

For more information or to apply, please contact:

Jo Sandford - 027 295 0429

WESTERN SOUTHLAND HEALTH SHUTTLE SERVICE - CHANGES COMING

There are some changes coming about the present Health Shuttle.

With the support of Hato Hone St John, the Western Southland Health Shuttle is going to be managed and funded under a new umbrella, being the Otautau Community Health Trust & Otautau Medical Centre and be called Western Health Shuttle.

It will still cover the same area, being Otautau, Riverton, Tuatapere, Ohai and Nightcaps and provide the same service to all Western Southland residents. You do not need to be a registered patient at Otautau Medical Centre to use the health shuttle.

THINGS THAT WON'T CHANGE

- The wonderful volunteers behind the driver's wheel.
- The donation system currently in place – just change of bank account if your donation is paid by direct credit.

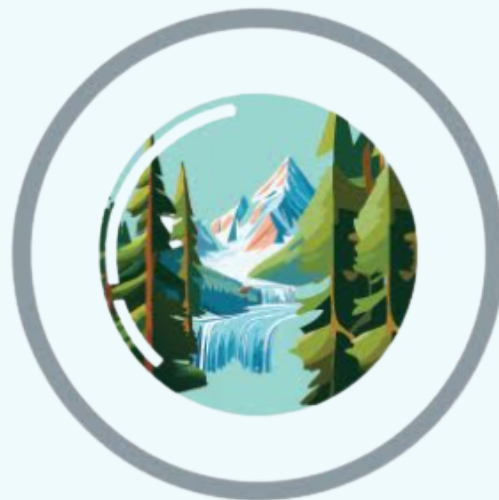
THINGS THAT WILL CHANGE

- Who you contact to make a booking: Contact the Otautau Medical Centre, **03 225 8099** between **10am and 3.30pm** as **from the 1st of June**. Please give us at least 24 hours' notice before your appointment.
- The vehicle that will transport you to your appointment will be different.
- A **new co-ordinator, Marg**

As of the 1st of June, contact the Otautau Medical Centre between 10.00am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday to book the shuttle. Outside of these times please contact Marg on 027 331 5290.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are needing to book the St John shuttle from Invercargill to Dunedin, you still contact the same number as before, being **0800 103 046**.

If you require the Western Health Shuttle to transport you to Invercargill to meet the Dunedin St John shuttle, follow the above.



Tui **Laundrette**

5 Orawia Rd, Tuatapere

8am - 9pm
daily

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making clean easy.

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Barrett Ag Ltd
Ph: Kahu- 027 5183 448
E: barrettagltd@gmail.com
FB: Barrett Ag



WAI AU HEALTH TRUST - June 2026

Practitioner/Nurse Availability:

Monday-Friday NP Amanda McCracken – 9.00am-12.00pm / 1.30pm-4.30pm

Monday – Virtual GP Danuta Amelung – 9.00am-1.00pm

Alternate-Tuesday's- Virtual GP Danuta Amelung – 9.00am-1.00pm

Thursday-Virtual GP Rob Pfeifer– 9.00am-1.00pm

Alternate-Tuesday's GP Murray Allen-9.00am-12.00pm / 1.30pm-4.30pm

Monday – Friday: Registered Nurses -- 9.00am-12pm / 1.30pm-4.30pm

Phoning early helps us fit in urgent patients, plan our day, provide timely care, and manage our team's workload. Our reception hours are 8:30am–12.30pm & 1.30pm-5:00pm. Staff are unavailable outside these times–thank you for helping us provide the best possible healthcare. **Please ensure all of your contact details are up to date with both the Medical Centre and the Pharmacy.**

Flu Vaccines 2026

Flu vaccines are now available at our practice. Please book via ManageMyHealth or phone us to make an appointment. In many cases, the vaccine is free. The cost of an unsubsidised flu vaccine is \$40.00.

Heidi AI Technology

To support and enhance the care we provide; our medical centre uses an AI-assisted clinical documentation tool called Heidi. Heidi helps clinicians by securely recording and summarising consultations, allowing them to focus more on listening to you and less on note-taking. Your consultation may be transcribed using Heidi, and this information is used solely to create accurate clinical notes. Your privacy and confidentiality remain our highest priority. Heidi operates in accordance with strict privacy and security standards, and your information is handled with care at all times. If you have any questions, or if you would prefer not to have Heidi used during your consultation, please let our team know.

Day Activities Programme

We offer a day programme for people aged 65 and over. This provides an opportunity to spend time with others in a friendly and supportive environment. Participants enjoy morning tea and lunch, play games, share stories, and simply enjoy each other's company. Many find these days a valuable way to get out and about, particularly if they are feeling isolated or would like some time away from home. If you would like more information, please contact us.

Financial Support

If you are experiencing financial difficulties that may be preventing you from accessing healthcare, please speak with a member of our team. We have a range of funding options available and can help determine what support you may be eligible for. Our focus is always to provide the best possible care to everyone in our community.

Kind Regards

Jo Sanford (Manager) 0272950429



Waiau Health Trust
69a Orawia Road, Tuatapere
Approved Registered ACC Provider
Monday to Friday
8:30am – 4:30pm
Ph: 032266123

Practitioner Hours
Amanda McCracken (NP)
every weekday

Murray Allen (GP)
Fortnightly on Tuesdays

Telehealth-Tyto Video Consults every
Monday & Thursday & alternate
Tuesday

Physiotherapist
Thursday
Phone for an appointment

Warts/Minor Skin Lesions
Liquid Nitrogen treatment available
Phone for an appointment

Homebased Maternity Care
We are offering this service in the
patient's home. Please contact Jo
Sanford on 032266123 for enquiries.

Day Activities Programme for
the Elderly
Every Tuesday and Wednesday
District Nursing
Available as required by referral

Meals on Wheels please contact
032266123 for enquiries

PLATE PASTURE METER READING THAT'S QUICKER AND EASIER, WITH AT THE GATE REPORTS
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 E platemeterservices@gmail.com

Kia Ora Western Wanderer Readers,

ART

The Year 9 & 10s have been learning about BANKSY and making stencils about human rights issues.



Room 3 have been learning about Landscape Art by drawing and needle felting the Takitimu Mountains.



AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE

At the end of 2025 the school increased its capacity to teach a wider range of topics within the Primary Industry area. Previously the school would have had to outsource some of the topics that we can now cover. We are now able to do this onsite in conjunction with assistance from local farms/industries which will help build the skill set of our students as they prepare themselves for the work force.

Our Year 7 & 8 students have also recently been working in the community gardens. Their first task was to undertake some weeding and to have a general tidy up of the area. Over the next few weeks we hope to be doing some winter planting and setting up some planter beds for planting in the Spring.

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SCIENCE / TECH

Students in Room 4 have recently discovered the thrills of rocket engineering and launched handmade (and very colourful) water rockets to impressive heights. Lessons were learned, records were set, and the children are now keen to improve their designs and aim higher for round 2!

Room 3 have turned their attention to the Solar System and with Mrs Crosbie's inspirational support have learned so much about our amazing planets and our Sun. The children's passion for planets seems limitless and much discussion, learning and wonderful art work has come out of this topic.

In the senior end of the school we've got Year 9 learning about the different cells we find in humans and plants and about our major organs and body systems. Meanwhile, the Year 10s are getting familiar with the Periodic Table and the properties of the everyday elements that we take for granted. Year 11s have just finished studying how science is helping us understand environmental hazards on the Waiau River and are now studying chemistry.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Year 9 and 10 Food Technology is always popular and so far this year the students have cooked and baked a variety of dishes. The students have had to be quite resilient for the first half of the year because Hauroko Valley School has been using the Food Technology Room and the students have had to use the hall for some of their lessons.

Baking is always popular. On occasions we have a competition and we recently had one for the best ANZAC biscuits which was won by three of our Year 10 students, Lexi, Kathryn and Annaleigh. They looked as good as they tasted! Well done team!



Should any members of the community have a particular expertise in any cuisine or dishes, sweet or savoury they would like to share with us, please contact Mrs Gover at Waiau Area School through the office. We would love to hear from you!

Waiau Town & Country Club
Members and their Invited Guests

Phone: **03 2266 489** | Address: 41 King St Tuatapere
 ✉ waiautcc@gmail.com | 📘 facebook.com/waiautcc
 🚐 Courtesy Van Available

Club Hours
Mon - Wed sorry we're closed
Thurs 4pm til close
Fri - Sun 3pm - close

New Members Always Welcome!
Just pop in or call the club for a nomination membership form.
 Annual membership is \$50 p/p or
 \$30 p/p for pensioners.

Bistro Hours **Thursday - Sunday**
 5 - 9pm*

🍴🍷🍴 (*Bistro may close from 7:30pm onwards if not required)

We are the perfect place for your functions/birthdays!

Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for more details on upcoming events ...

We can cater! Call us to discuss options! 03 22 66 489

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Thursday 4 June • 7pm start • \$20 per team of 4

All proceeds go towards helping 5 local students compete in Whangārei at the National Area Schools Competition.

Raffle table donations appreciated!

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WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

THURSDAY

Free Pool
all day

Happy Hour
Meat Raffles
from 5.30pm

SUNDAY

Pool Competition
from 2pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY JUNE 4

Quiz Night
7pm start

THURSDAY JUNE 18

Live Music from 6.30pm
King Leo

SUNDAY JUNE 21

Rugby Picks Prizegiving
Speights Fridge Draw

FRIDAY JUNE 26

PGG Golf Tournament



Come see what's cooking – or let us bring the good stuff to you!

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Tūātapere School: JC Thomson MP, was to open the new school, on 19th June 1913.

The Southland Education Board visited here in 1909, and their report outlined that local men JJH McLean and CF Sneyd met with them, and there were 12 children of school age within 1 mile of the Tūātapere Railway Station. Settlement in the town was rapidly progressing and within six months, 30 children of school age would be living inside of one mile from the Railway site, making a school here necessary.

Prior to a school being built, school lessons were held by the first teacher at Tūātapere, Hugh McFeely, who arrived in the tiny township in 1910. Classes were in the Cymric Hall originally, but this proved to be unsuitable, so when the Methodist Church opened their new building in 1911, the classroom was moved to this building. The new space provided better playground access for the children and less of a distraction to the students, than the Cymric Hall had done from 1910.



The Southland Board of Education had a set plan for all small rural schoolhouses (the old name for a school) and this was all based on the exact same, one size plan. This means all the Education Board schoolhouses ended up looking the same, although some like the Tūātapere School were extended and added onto and then rebuilt, and some like Te Tua, remained a single room school right until their end.



Left: Cymric Hall, the first classes were held here. Right: Classes were then moved to the new Methodist Church

While the school was not opened until 1913, by 1914 the roll had grown so much that an application was made to the Board of Education in Southland for extensions, to house their growing numbers. This however took a number of years to enact.



Above: In 1910, the first day students & Hugh McFeely outside Cymric Hall. Below: During the war, substitute teachers were brought in.

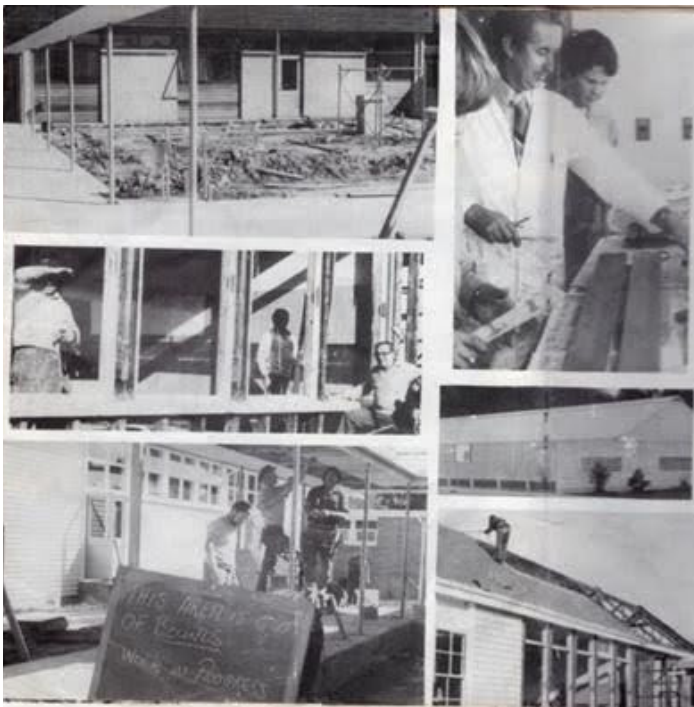
Right: 1914, the original one room school house at Tūātapere. It had grown by 1930s (image top of page, right side column.



FROM CHANGES IN THE WAR YEARS TO THE NOT SO DISTANT PAST

Due to growth in the community, as well as changes to the rules for entry into a secondary school, Tūātapere School changed to Tūātapere District High in 1945, accommodating both primary and secondary.

It soon after changed its name to Waiau District High School. In 1953 a new school was built, with amongst other things, offices, staff toilets, new heating, and a medical room. In 1957 a manual department was built in the old school rooms, with more extensions in 1959 & 1964.



In 1977 the school then separated, with the high school staying in the old buildings and the primary moving to newly built buildings nearby. In 2002, then Waiau College and Tūātapere Primary School merged back again to create the Tūātapere Community College. In 2012 it was renamed Waiau Area School (WAS), and it continues as a co-educational composite school under this name in the current day (2026).

It was our (now passed) first Patron, Margaret Thomas dearest wish, that we help work towards a 50 Year reunion for the new school, for 2027.

But does our local community wish to help, or would everyone rather we just did a large display on the school for this occasion?

We have all Margaret's old school records, photos, class lists, albums of the buildings and classes.

Please get in touch to help either way.

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45 FIBRE DEEP SOUTH FIBRE FESTIVAL 2 MAY 2026

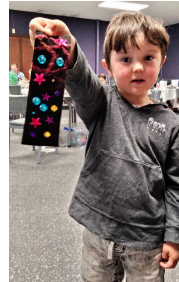
Ann Sutherland

Western Southland Wool and Craft enjoyed a very busy day crafting with children at the Kids Craft room at the Fibre Festival at the Gore Town and Country Club.

Starting time of 10am and winding up at 3pm.

Over 1,000 attended the festival and around 60 children were very excitedly making projects to take home in a specially sewn bag that was personalized by themselves. At any time there were about 30 children sitting at tables industriously trying out new skills. Some had never held a needle before.

Projects on offer were making Mermaid necklesses, a handsewn and embellished felt purse/fishing lure pouch, bookmarks, needle felted apples or pumpkins or Christmas bauble, flax flowers, Dancing sticks, Pom-pom animals and braiding stations.



We were overjoyed that so many boys were keen to try out handcrafts and we made sure that what was on offer could be tailored to a boys preference.

As this was our third festival offering craft classes to children the word has definitely got out and we were well supported by parents and also teachers who came along to encourage their pupils for a show and tell on Monday.



Next years ideas are being formulated already and all WSW&C members came home full of joy. What a wonderful day starting future crafters on their journey with handcrafts! In an age where technology rules, it is refreshing to see children taking a break and doing projects without a device. We watched them gain satisfaction and promote their imagination.

A presentation by our club of a rug was given to the Gore Nattering Knitters to include with goods going to the Womens Refuge.



Knit in Public Day
Saturday 13th June

Come and join us for a cuppa
and chat
at The Den, Erskine Street
10am - 1pm

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KIA ORA, KUMUSTA, AYUBOWAN
Western Wanderer Readers

It was a privilege to stand alongside our families, friends, and community at the ANZAC Day services held at the Orawia Cenotaph and Tuatapere RSA. During the first week of term, our classes explored the history and significance of the ANZACs, developing an understanding of their service and sacrifice. Students took part in a range of meaningful learning experiences, including reading and discussing relevant texts, creating commemorative artwork, and learning about the poppy as a symbol of remembrance. A special thank you to Fiona for preparing two beautiful floral tributes, which were presented at the Orawia Dawn Service.



Having a weekly meeting, gathering or even just for a coffee call?
Ring Coke 021 351 181

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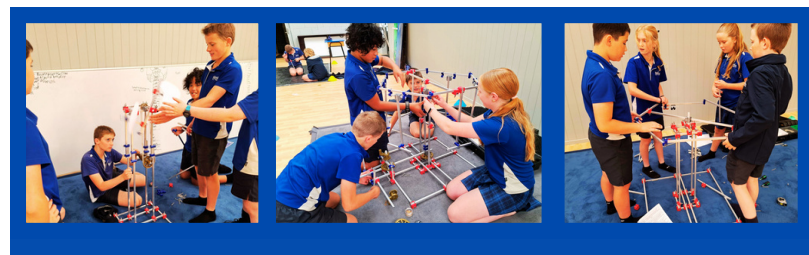
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A new initiative for us this year has been the EPRO8 Challenge. This programme brings students together in teams of 4 to tackle a series of hands-on STEM challenges, drawing on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. To support this learning, we purchased a kit. This ensured every learner had the opportunity to design and build a range of sophisticated machines, such as carousels, windmills, and painting rollers. The challenge places a strong emphasis on problem-solving, collaboration, and teamwork as students work together to complete each task. We achieved 3rd = and 6th place at the Southland Final.



Well done to our crew who traveled to the Southland Orienteering challenge at Oreti Sands, thanks to Sally's leadership. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to challenge themselves, build teamwork skills, and enjoy the outdoors. This term, we have a team in Years 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8 proudly representing HVP each week in the Invercargill Hockey competition. These opportunities are made possible through the ongoing support of our whānau. We are especially grateful to the parents who generously give their time to coach and manage teams, as well as those who assist with transporting students. Thank you for your amazing support of our learners and their pursuits.



All learners have been training consistently for cross-country, completing daily runs around the school field and back paddock. It has been fantastic to make greater use of our school grounds, and we are grateful to our Board and Home & School Dads for their support in developing the back paddock track. We would also like to extend our thanks to Waiau Area School for hosting this year's interschool cross-country. The beautiful weather, stunning location, delicious food, warm hospitality, and impressive achievements across schools made it a memorable day for everyone involved. Thanks for joining us, see you again soon.



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(Clockwise from above):

Colin Phillips, Jordan Phillips and Wayne Edgerton with Tuatapere's newly installed Bagueley-Drewry locomotive.

One of the Bagueley-Drewry locomotives is lowered into place at Tuatapere.

Wayne Edgerton and Colin Phillips celebrate a major milestone for the railway project.

James Titter watches as the other locomotive is lowered into its final resting place at Lumsden.

Tuatapere heritage railway project on track for mid-year opening

Tuatapere's railway precinct is on track for a mid-year opening.

The historic railway station building has been given a makeover and the trust running the project recently obtained a diesel locomotive with a story for the static rail display.

Tuatapere Railway and Heritage Charitable Trust member Jason Christini-Crawford said "most of the big capital works are done now. It looks incredible in there. It's a beauty compared to what it was."

The result of 1,400 hours and counting of voluntary labour by the trust and members of the community will soon come to fruition when the new-look building containing a heritage centre, information centre, The Station coffee shop and a sourdough bread bakery open around the end of June.

Jason credits Tuatapere Te Waewae Community board member Wayne Edgerton and other like-minded individuals with saving the old building from the bulldozer before the community board stepped in to secure the future of this significant piece of local history.

Originally established in 1909 as the end point of a railway route from Invercargill, the station lost its purpose following the line's closure in 1976. Recognising the site's potential as an historical asset for the town, Wayne and others started tidying up the area and doing some restoration work before deciding to form the Tuatapere Railway and Heritage Trust.

In January 2023 the community board successfully obtained up to \$310,000 in Better Off funding to develop a rail tourism precinct at the site. The fund was set up in 2022 by the government to support community improvements.

Southland District Council invited proposals, with the newly formed railway and heritage trust being the sole compliant applicant. The trust's vision involved restoring the station buildings, creating an information centre, and exploring commercial leasing opportunities to sustain the project.

In August 2024 the community board approved the trust's proposal, contingent on the trust gaining charitable status, which it did.

Since the project began in earnest in January 2025 many improvements have been made to the building. The most recent work includes pouring exterior bitumen, putting in double doors, painting fascia boards, purchasing heritage display room articles and installing front-of-house countertops, as well as completing the static rail display.

"The folks here have been awesome," Jason said, adding that Southland District Council community partnership leader Stella O'Connor had been a huge help in keeping the project moving forward.

"We've had a really good run at it recently," he said, not the least of which was securing the diesel locomotive that will be the centrepiece of the static rail display.

The Tuatapere trust linked closely with Lumsden Heritage Trust chair John Titter to secure one of two 1968 Bagueley-Drewry locomotives with a colourful history. The other went to Lumsden, where it joins that town's hugely impressive static rail display fleet.

Compact and powerful, John Titter describes the 18-tonne locos as the "gutsy little bulldogs of the locomotive world".

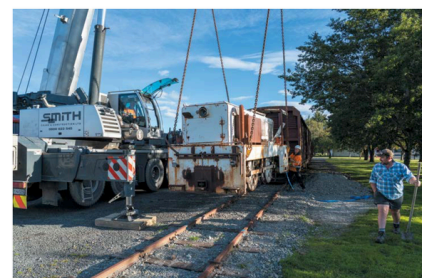
Five of them were brought into New Zealand in the late 1960s and early 1970s to work mainly in two massive tunnel projects – the Tokaanu diversion tunnel project at Turangi, which was part of the Tongariro power scheme in the North Island, and the Manapouri No 2 tailrace tunnel at Deep Cove. John says he learned that Tuatapere wanted

a locomotive for its heritage railway station development and Clark McCarthy, chair of Project Steam in Middlemarch, came to the rescue when he said he knew of two sitting in Wyndham.

Through a bit of sleuthing John discovered they were sitting in Scobies Transport's yard, where they had been since being retired from active duty at Deep Cove.

David Scobie graciously agreed to gift the two locos to the Lumsden Heritage Trust for care. John Titter kept one for Lumsden and passed the other on to the Tuatapere Railway and Heritage Trust.

On 5 March, with the help of Scobies Transport and Smith Crane and Construction, the two locos were transported one at a time and placed in their new homes during a day-long operation that involved two trips across Southland from Wyndham.



Grand Opening

2pm,
20th June

Celebrating the grand opening of the Historic Tuatapere Railway Precinct.

'The Station' is now home to a cafe & Slinky's Ukrainian Sourdough bakery. The 1915 station is also a heritage and tourist information hub, a restored piece of our Western Southland history brought back to life.

Join us on Saturday June 20th at 2pm when our highland dancing troupe will provide a warm Southland welcome.

The
Station



Lumsden Heritage Trust chair John Titter narrates the story behind the dramatic recovery of the Manapouri tailrace tunnel locomotives by Graham Scobie.

A tale of two locos

Manapouri's 10-metre-wide, 10-kilometre-long tailrace No 2 tunnel was completed in 2001. The delay-plagued project took 33 months due to unforeseen seams of rock breaking drills and resulted in litigation between Meridian Energy and the contractors. Nearly 85,000 m³ of rock was excavated in a treacherous area consisting of mountain ridges, deep valleys, multiple rivers and streams.

At the end of the project, rather than seeing the five locomotives that had done all the hard work dismantled and scrapped, Graham Scobie, the founder of Scobies Transport in Wyndham, hatched an incredibly ambitious plan to get them out.

This involved backing trucks down the full 10km length of the tunnel, loading the locos and driving them out.

Lumsden Heritage Trust chair John Titter relays the story of how Graham Scobie did it.

"There was foot of water in the tailrace. Every time they backed up there the backwash would build up behind the truck and just about stall it. They'd have to sit there and let the water go. It was repetitive and took hours.

"Because the tunnel is round, not flat at the bottom, the tyres of the transporter were absolutely shredded.

"They'd obviously pre-thought about that because they'd filled the tyres with foam so if they got punctures they could still move. I don't know how many sets of tyres they went through in that whole process but it was a hell of a job to get them out. There were five of them.

"The locomotives were originally ordered by Downer for the Tokaanu tailrace deviation up in Turangi from Bagueteley Drewry in the UK. They were specifically designed to do the Tokaanu project.

"They finished that job in 1973 and in 1990 Fletcher Billingham Ilbau started the No 2 tailrace in Manapouri. They brought those locos down to do the job.

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"These locos weigh 18 tonnes each and they're designed to carry 100 to 200 tonnes of spoil out of the mine.

"We're really happy to have one in Lumsden. There's more to that story of the Manapouri tailrace, which we're going to tell [in the display at Lumsden].

"We didn't want to leave this baby down there in Wyndham so we've got one here and the other one's going to Tuatapere.

"They'll get a loco, they'll put it on display. They've got some wagons and then they're away as a static display. It will be a place of interest to people who want to wander around."

John believes these two locomotives are the last remaining in New Zealand of the five locomotives taken out of Deep Cove. He understands two went to India and one was cut up for scrap, which makes the preservation of the Tuatapere and Lumsden locomotives so significant.

34th ANNUAL HAY DRIVE

TUATAPERE DISTRICTS LIONS

Hay and Baleage Competition

Friday 5th June 2026

Rabco Contracting at 134 Grove Burn Road

The Hay and Baleage will be auctioned at 3pm on the afternoon.

The recipients of the day's profits are

*Hospice Southland, Tuatapere Free Ambulance - Upgrade,
& Education Fund within the Community.*

Those entering the competition will have a chance of winning the very generous major prizes, AS WELL AS an almost guarantee of collecting a spot prize on the 5th of June **so long as they are present on the day**. FARMERS WHO DONATE 3 OR MORE ENTRIES WILL HAVE AN EARLY CHANCE AT THE PRIZE BOARD.

One entry comprises of:

- 8 small bales per entry or
- 1 large hay bale or
- 1 bale of baleage

- Donations of straw will be gratefully received.
- A Lions Member will contact farmers approximately 1 week prior to the competition.
- The auction of entries will be at 3pm.
- We hope to sell 200 bales baleage, 200 conventional bales and 50 large bales of hay.

This year we have several new sponsors as well as more demonstrations of ALL the new motorbikes and some new 4 x 4 utes. Farm machinery items will be on display.

Several competitions during the day include:

- The Best Swede)
- Best Fodder Beet) Generous prizes for each event
- The Best Turnip) PLEASE HAVE ENTRIES IN BY 1PM
- The Best Chou) FOR JUDGING

3PM Main Auction of Hay, Baleage, Straw and Larger sundry items.

4PM Prize presentation for competition entries and spot prizes

The judging will be done during the morning of the 5th of June.

The Lions Club will be providing food and refreshments at a very reasonable cost.

You are all invited to turn up early and participate in the scrumptious light meal that will be available at lunch time.

We will acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors prior, during and after the competition.

With over 100 sponsors for our competition day we have a fantastic prize list.

We remind people that they **MUST be present at prize giving to participate in the "spot" prizes** at the conclusion of the major presentations.

***Over the years the patronage from farmers has increased to almost 100% support,
So let's try to make our 34th competition the best ever!***

For any further information please contact the Committee:

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Charlie Copeland 027 669 1529 Quinton Donald 027 438 8281