



WESTERN Wanderer

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

Cover Photo: Waiau River, looking at the Historical Bridge, Clifden - Credit to Trevor Willets

Issue 294

OCTOBER 2026

Every Week <i>Reminders</i> in the grey area						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
StoryTime @ Waiau Memorial Library 10am	Waiau Valley Preschool Music 63 Main Str 10:00 - 11:30am Walking Group 10am Cnr Half Mile/Erskine St	Bootcamp at WAS Gym Mon-Fri 6am Tuatapere PlayGroup 9:30am-12:30pm		Tuatapere PlayGroup 9:30am - 12.30pm OP SHOP open @The Den 2pm - 4:30pm		
Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board Meeting 3:30pm WTCC		Humpridge track CHARTABLE TRUST Community Enhancement Grant Funding Applications Open	1 Dr Elder Bursary Fund Applications open Syd Slee Charitable Trust Applications open	2	3	4 Tuatapere Domain Committee AGM 11am, Domain Rooms at The Domain
5	6 Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board Meeting 3:30pm WTCC	7 Wool & Craft 10-3pm The Den	8 Book Club 10:30am Tui Base Camp Sewing & Patchwork 10-3pm The Den	9	10 Community Market Last Light Lodge 10am - 1pm Community Pool Opening 11am-2pm Kids Craft @The Den 1-4pm	11 Last day of School Holidays
12 Term 4 begins for WAS & HVPS	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Thriving Southland Cuppa & Catch up The Den, Erskine St 10-11:30am	20 SDC Book Bus 1-1:30pm Orepuki Community Centre Tuatapere Pest Control Group Meeting @The Den 7pm	21 Wool & Craft 10-3pm The Den	22 Sewing & Patchwork 10-3pm The Den	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Woman's Group Orepuki Cafe 10:30am	30	31 Syd Slee Charitable Trust Applications close	
Public Holiday Labour Day	<i>Coming up ...</i>	SDC Book Bus 1-1:30pm Orepuki Community Centre 17 November	Humpridge track CHARTABLE TRUST Community Enhancement Grant Funding Applications close 30 November	Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board Meeting 3:30pm WTCC 7 December	Dr Elder Bursary Fund Applications close 11 December	Annual Tuatapere Christmas Parade Tuatapere Domain 23 December 6pm onwards

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

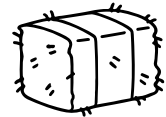
WAI AU TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB
(03) 2266 489

WESTERN SOUTHLAND HEALTH SHUTTLE
• OTAUTAU MEDICAL CENTRE (03) 225 8099

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



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 Domain Committee AGM

11am, Sunday 4th October 2026
in the Domain Rooms at The Domain

Please attend and help keep our Domain beautiful! Apologies to Sammy 027 4382 248

2026/2027 TUATAPERE Community Pool OPENING

The pool will be open for use from
SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026
OPENING DAY 11.00AM – 2.00PM

Come along on opening day to purchase your key
and get your tag activated.

2026/27 PRICING LIST:

	Family Key	\$200
	Buddy Key	\$200
	Senior Citizens	\$170
	Access tag	\$15

\$10 OFF KEY
if paid on opening day

Payment plans can be organised.
Contact Minessa or Kaitlyn directly.

CONTACT TO PURCHASE A KEY:

Kaitlyn Mullally
027 304 1102

or

Minessa Erskine
027 311 2112

or via Tuatapere community pool FB page
or Tuataperepool51@gmail.com

Green Prescription Walking Group Tuatapere

Do you want to fit a little more movement into your week?

We're starting a weekly walking group designed to help you:

- Stretch your legs
- Clear your head
- Boost your energy for the afternoon
- Connect with others in the community

This isn't about speed or fitness levels. It's about getting outside, moving your body, and feeling good.

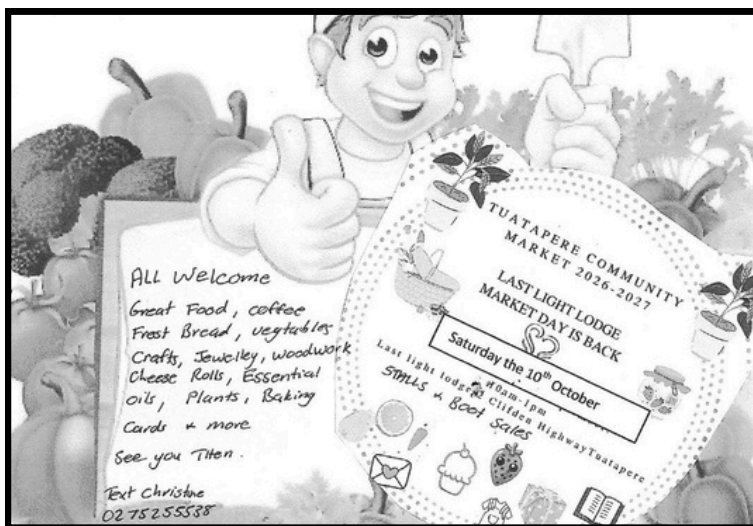
📅 From 7 July, Tuesday's at 10am

📍 Meet on the corner of Half Mile Road and Erskine street.
In front of the playground

For more information, contact Active Southlands Green Prescription team on:

grx@activesouthland.co.nz
0800 228 483

No booking required,
just turn up!



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

OP SHOP At The Den

Erskine St. Tuatapere

OPEN Fridays 2-4.30

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

WESTERN HEALTH SHUTTLE

Managed and funded under Otago Community Health
Trust & Otago Medical Centre

To Make a Booking

Contact the Otago Medical Centre,
03 225 8099 between 10am and 3.30pm.

Please give at least 24 hours' notice
before your appointment.

PLEASE NOTE

If you are needing to book the St John shuttle
from Invercargill to Dunedin,
contact **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.

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**

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.



INDOOR BOWLS - MONDAY NIGHTS

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

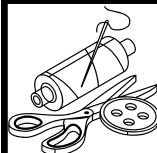


LINE DANCING - MONDAY NIGHTS



7:30pm, RSA Hall
Main Street, Tuatapere

KIDS CRAFT GROUP



2nd Saturday of the month 1-4pm
\$5/family

@ 'The Den' Erskine St, Tuatapere
Learn new craft skills and have fun!
This is a Christian group.

For information: Helen 0221039327



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**

Wed & Fri 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**.



Looking for Fashion

Do you have some hidden treasures in the back of the wardrobe? I am looking for retro and items of clothing from the past few decades for a project I have in mind

Please ring me: Coke **021 351 181**

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**

DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT NOTICE FOR THE COMMUNITY?

DROP US AN EMAIL AT
yourwesternwanderer@gmail.com
AND WE'LL ADD IT TO THE EVENTS
NOTICEBOARD FOR YOU!

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

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'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

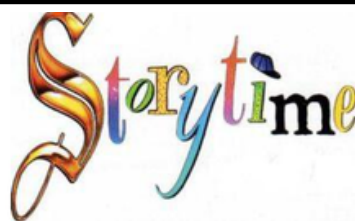
ENQUIRIES

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



Waiau Memorial Library



When: Mondays
10 - 10.30 am

Where: The Library

Who: Under 5's

If you're under 5 and love stories come long to the Library every Monday for Storytime. Bring along a little friend for Ratty to play with, he loves to play Hide and Seek.

WAI AU MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Library Hours: Fridays



10:00am - 11:30am

2:30pm - 4:00pm

7:00pm - 8:00pm

We have free



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



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

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

JOHN O'BRIEN (OB)

Helen, Clynton, Kirsten and family wish to thank everyone for coming to John's Farewell.

We would like to say a special thank you to the Waiau Town and Country Club and to their amazing staff for everything they did in the days leading up to the farewell, during and after the farewell - it was above and beyond!

Another special thank you to Gary Tong, Averil, Simon, Kelvin, Frizz and Jordan for their very humble but very fitting speeches about John and the life he has led.

To all the thirsty Thursday fellas who came, he enjoyed every moment of your time in his favourite back shed it meant to world to him to spend time shooting the breeze and having some laughs.

And least we not forget the Hospice, The District Nurse, The Staff at Tuatapere Medical Centre. Your time and care is and was very much appreciated over the last couple of years,

And to Kathy and Rick and all Staff at Distinct Funeral Services in Invercargill, your help and assistance and care during our difficult time didn't go unnoticed and we are truly thankful for all you did over the week from John's passing to the day of the farewell and days after - you took the time to get to know John and did such an incredible job portraying him in your amazing music video! You are all truly incredible and made a difficult time just a little bit easier,

And lastly John's final wish.

Please continue to support the Waiau Town and Country - keep a great building going in our small town.

Thank you from the O'Brien family

WESTERN SOUTHLAND CATHOLIC MASS

Mass is held on **Fridays, 4:30pm**

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. Father Hamish Wyatt 03 236 9084

TUATAPERE HUMP TRACK CHARITABLE TRUST COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT GRANT

NOW
OPEN
FOR
FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The grant supports local projects that strengthen our community and improve the wellbeing of residents.

We invite individuals, groups and organisations with great ideas to apply.

Together, we can make the wider Tuatapere community an even better place to live, work and connect.

APPLICATIONS
CLOSE
**30 NOVEMBER
2026**

FOR AN APPLICATION FORM & GUIDE SHEET PLEASE EMAIL:
humptracktrust@gmail.com

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



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

Waiau Valley Presbyterian Church Main Road, Tuatapere

We meet every **Sunday at 10.30am**

Need to know more? Phone or message
Cedric on 022 027 3834

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES, NOTICES, OR UPDATED ADVERTS FOR THE WESTERN WANDERER SENT IN BY
20th of October (for NOVEMBER'S Issue) yourwesternwanderer@gmail.com

SYD SLEE CHARITABLE TRUST

Applications are open from
1st October - 31st October 2026
For our Application Form and
Information Guide Sheet
please email ssctrust17@gmail.com
Nicky Baker, Secretary
Syd Slee Charitable Trust

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

WANTED TO BUY

Possum Fur/Deer Velvet/
Hard Deer Antler

Phone Leith 027 496 3721

DR ERIC ELDER BURSARY FUND

Applications for the above Bursary open
October 1, 2026.

The Dr. Elder Bursary is valued
at **\$2000.00**
and is open to all persons wishing to
undertake Tertiary Studies for 2027.

For an application form email Dale Egerton
at dreldertrust@gmail.com

Completed application forms can either be
emailed to dreldertrust@gmail.com
or posted to:

Mrs. Dale Egerton
58 Half Mile Road
Tuatapere. 9620

Applications close 11 December 2026

Any enquiries please phone 027 3106 199
Thank you.
Dale Egerton, Secretary



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!

If you'd like to get involved, or just see
what we're about, we'd love to hear from
you. New faces are always welcome!

Get in touch:

President - Shirley Crack - 027 321 1564

Secretary - Maurice Green - 027 246 4857

Shearing magazine

Des Williams (editor)

Tel 07 839 2891 : Mob 0274 833 465

Email : shearingmag@xtra.co.nz

Member NZ Guild of Agricultural Journalists and Communicators (Inc)

LAST SIDE PUBLISHING LTD

PO Box 102, Hamilton 3240, New Zealand

*A small school
with a big heart*
Rural roots. Real opportunities.

**OUT-OF-ZONE
ENROLMENTS**
Be part of our Hauroko Valley whānau!

- High quality teaching and learning programmes**
Evidence-based, engaging and tailored to meet learner needs.
- Small classes**
More time, more support, more opportunities.
- Learner focused environment**
Supportive, inclusive and caring, where every learner is known, valued and empowered to thrive.
- Opportunities in EOTC at all levels**
From our backyard to beyond - real world learning experiences.

7 SPACES AVAILABLE

1 New Entrant

6 Years 3 - 8

> 7 spaces in total!

HOW TO APPLY

Contact Karen in our school office to arrange a ballot application form for out of zone students.
office@haurokovalley.school.nz

APPLICATIONS DUE
13th November 2026
for places at HVP in Terms 1 & 2 2027.

OUR VALUES

- H** Hauora Care
- V** Village Connect
- P** Persevere Can-do
- S** Success Celebrate

More than a school... a place to belong

HAUROKO VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL | WESTERN SOUTHLAND



TUATAPERE TE WAEWAE *Community Board*

Chairperson:
Anne Horrell

Contact: 021 2169 808
or email:
altonlea.horrells@xtra.co.nz

How can it be only 3 months until Christmas?? It's a funny thing, that, as children the years go so slowly between our birthdays and Christmas but as we get older the years fly by! However, it is good to belong to a community that is busy and active, despite time passing quickly. Since my last report some wonderful fund raising has taken place for cancer research and treatment. The Daffodil Day High Tea and the Blue Ribbon Event each raised several thousand dollars; such an achievement in a small community! Thank you to all of those who organised and attended these very worthwhile events.

A Big Shout Out To:

- The Tuatapere Reserve Pest Control Group who continue to conscientiously deal with pests threatening our beautiful flora and fauna; a huge Thank You! This is a time consuming, arduous task and we do appreciate you.
- Tony Shore. Congratulations on being awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from Environment Southland for your commitment and diligence in your work in eradicating pests in our environment over a period of many years. You are an Enviro Champ!
- Waiau Area School representatives at the Southland Polyfest Festival. Well done!
- The Den Committee who co-ordinate Wool and Craft days as well as a Pop Up Shop every Friday (2pm-4.30pm). Such a great facility in our community.
- Minessa and the Line Dancing Group who meet regularly at the RSA Hall and Kath and her team who regularly meet for fitness sessions.
- The Rural Support Trust, assisted by Rural Women and other agencies, who provided 'Brunch on Us' at the Tuatapere Golf Club on the 16th September for farmers and others working in the rural sector. The attendance was outstanding!
- The Station is back open and so is Karen's Boundary Creek Gallery; both beautiful places to pop into.

- The Soup 'n Chat Sessions are very popular and appreciated. Huge thanks to Tina and the Tuatapere Community Worker Trust, in collaboration with Tui Base Camp.

Community Board News:

- The Southland District Council mobile book service will next visit Orepuki on 20th October 1pm-1.30pm. Come and have a browse in this flash wee bus and enjoy the contents- as well as a coffee from Coke's Coffee Cart.
- The Tuatapere Historic Water Tower. "Protective netting has been installed around the tower following an assessment that identified structural concerns. The netting is a temporary safety measure while Council works with the Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board and the Tuatapere Railway and Heritage Trust to investigate options for preserving this important heritage structure."
- An extraordinary meeting of the Community Board was held on Tuesday 1st September. The purpose of this meeting was "to recommend to Council moving capital works projects for the Orepuki Hall from future years in the Long Term Plan to the current financial year." This is due to the need to replace exterior windows and doors to mitigate a moisture ingress in the hall that is causing damage to the floor.
- Community Board members and SDC staff met with Orepuki residents on Thursday 17th September to consult with them on Freedom Camping, especially in relation to Monkey Island. The Freedom Camping By-Law is currently being reviewed. We were delighted with the very good attendance and contribution by those present.
- We were also very pleased to gain constructive feedback on the Reserve Management Plan draft by a long term resident.

The next formal meeting of the Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board will be held on **Tuesday 6th October at 3.30pm** at Waiau Town and Country Club.

All welcome!

Tuatapere Reserve Pest Control Group

Hi from our group. We have been busy over the last couple of months.

We have recently had a visit from our funding bodies ES & SDC and we have been able to show them first hand the running of our Automated Trapping Programme, a brisk walk around followed by a nice cuppa and bikkies back at 'the Den'.

Mike Hargraves, from ES, presented our past President & Founding Trustee, Tony Shore, with an ES Awards Nominee 2026, Certificate of Appreciation of Service to the Environment & Community. We were all so delighted to see this well deserved measure of Tony's hard work, appreciated and acknowledged through the awards. Congratulations Tony, our group appreciates the solid work and effort you have put in over the past three years and are still doing & cheers Maria, we know you were at his side often in those first years.

It was a unanimous vote from our group that we make Tony our Patron. So we asked him and he accepted. We value Tony's knowledge and experience in all things, so the title is very fitting. Thanks Tony.

Spring in the Reserve is looking good. Lush vegetation can be seen along all the walking tracks. Clear sign the possums are getting knocked back and kept out is the abundance of new low growth on the fuchsia trees throughout all our accessible blocks. The fushias have flowered and are putting out their new leaves, so will be all the better for reduced numbers.

Our automated traps are also dealing with rat and mice numbers, which is beneficial to all surrounding households. The trap readings we completed showed multiple triggers for rats and mice, especially in the block behind the rugby clubrooms. The traps read possum triggers and other triggers. As can be expected possum numbers are down in the town block of the reserve, however AT220s have proven valuable in the invasion into our blocks when the adolescents are looking for new territories.

We have recently trapped leg-holds, then placed 3 x automated traps, along the fuchsia gully ridges in the South Alton side of our Cemetery Bush block. The reserve never ceases to amaze us with the jewels it holds.

Keep enjoying the reserve, the lush Y-line walk loop track that follows the Kahikatea swampland is pristine at the moment with the River being so high. The mosses everywhere are amazing. It's worth a walk. Cheers!

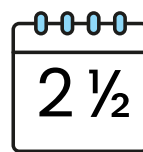
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SAVE THE DATE

Here we go again everyone ...

*Christmas is on its way and
there is only
2 ½ months until the
big day again!*



Time to put your thinking caps on.

We need more floats,
vehicles, trucks, & tractors
We've got the
military troop carrier!

There is going to be awesome
food vendors, music, singing,
games, merry go round,
awesome Big-Trike rides

AND

this year we are hoping to
bring back the
"Decorate your Bike"
competition.

So please put this very
important date in your
calendar now!

December 23rd

starting at 6pm til late at
the Tuatapere Domain.

**All enquiries to
John Munro 027 412 2925**



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



\$3,400 RAISED FOR BLUE SEPTEMBER



Thank you to everyone who took part, donated, sponsored and helped make our 2nd Annual Blue Ribbon Poker Run such a success.

Together, we've now raised over \$6,900 across two years for Blue September and prostate cancer awareness.

And the best part? WE'RE DOING IT AGAIN!! The Blue Poke Run is now an annual event, held on the first Saturday of September every year.

Save the date, and we'll see you all again next year!



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR AMAZING SPONSORS

Tui Base Camp
Top Pub Winton
Rabco Ag Ltd



Western Motors Otautau
Lumsden Railway Hotel
R & C Garthwaite

Tuatapere Lions Club
Lorraine White
Deb McDougall
James Garthwaite
Mosburn Railway Hotel
Susan Smith

**Mon, 19
Oct**

Cuppa and a Catch Up

At the Den, 10-11:30

Erskine St, Tuatapere, Behind the Park
Pop in for a quick coffee, and meet your Thriving Southland coordinator—no fuss, just good chat.
nicole@thrivingsouthland.co.nz 021 914 765



thriving southland.co.nz

Alex Reid CONTRACTING

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



Dairy Lane Maintenance

Tip Trailers • Vibrating Roller • 2 Tip Trucks

Sheep Conveyor

Drenching, Vaccination etc • 3 way draft

Large Skid Steer for calf shed cleaning, loading Muck Spreaders etc

4 Muck Spreaders • 16,000 litre Slurry Tanker
Pond Stirrer • Umbilical Slurry System



Rural Contractors
NEW ZEALAND

PHONE ALEX
0212775308 CELL
03 2255377 HOME

Waiau Town & Country Club Members and their Invited Guests

Phone: **03 2266 489** | Address: 41 King St Tuatapere

✉ waiautcc@gmail.com | **f** 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
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WAIAU AREA SCHOOL

Year 1-13 Education

Kia Ora Western Wanderer Readers,

Live to LEARN, LEARN to Live

HOSPITALITY

The Level 1, 2 and 3 Hospitality students have been working on a variety of topics this year. The Level 1 class have been busy baking, making hot finger food, salads, eggs and cheese, soups and sauces as well as cooking a variety of meats using different cooking methods. They also learn about different career pathways in the hospitality industry they may wish to follow in the future.

In Level 2 the students concentrate on making a variety of sandwiches, which include different styles of sandwiches, for example, bagels, wraps, croissants, paninis, pretzels, naan and pita bread. They have also baked bread, pastries and cakes as well as made a variety of salads, fried and roasted dishes.

The Level 3 students have been busy making both baked and boiled pasta dishes using a variety of pasta including gnocchi. They have made complex sandwiches which must include different styles and the use of a variety of grains. An interesting topic that is enjoyed is the making of pickles, chutneys and preserves. There is also a topic on nutrition and learning about budgets in a business setting.

All Levels ensure they are following the correct Health and Safety procedures as required in the Hospitality industry. They also have to complete a module of knife use and care.



SOCIAL SCIENCES

How does the New Zealand economy run? The Year 9 students at Waiau have been finding out. During Term Three, students have been exploring what makes the New Zealand economy tick. They have looked at our primary and secondary industries, as well as the important role of exports and trade in supporting our economy. Building on this knowledge, students have also been developing their financial literacy skills and developing an understanding of the core skills needed to be financially literate.



"Teach your children the power of independence and responsibility; it's a priceless legacy of wealth."

— Keisha Blair



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Technology

Our Year 9 & 10 students have been busy creating signs and upcycling unwanted products. For our sign creations students cut slabs of wood from Macrocarpa off cuts. They then dried and sanded the wood before adding their selected design.

For our upcycling unit students were required to identify old products that were not being used and create a new product that incorporated their selected item. Some of the recycled material included tyres, horseshoes and discarded timber.



ART WITH ANDREA SEXTON

Wednesdays art group

It's been a busy time with our fabulous group of 10 on a Wednesday at Andrea's studio space in Orepuki. We are busy finishing our pieces for the upcoming Artist of Southland which is to be held in Tuatapere, opening Friday the 18th of October at the RSA. The works will be varied in Media, and relate to the natural world. Students finished their round paintings and explored how resin can be used as a finish to showcase and present artworks. The colours and compositions are simply fabulous.

Students are building their confidence and practicing the focus and skill required to create successful art works. Clayton wants to be an artist and a weather man when he grows up!



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Phoning early helps us fit in urgent patients, plan our day, provide timely care, and manage our team's workload.

Reception hours:

8:30am–12:30pm and 1:30pm–5:00pm

There is a lot of illness around at present

Most common colds and mild viral infections will get better on their own within 1–2 weeks. Self-care can help you recover and feel more comfortable while your body fights the infection.

How to look after yourself

- **Rest** — Your body heals faster when you take it easy.
- **Stay hydrated** — Drink plenty of water, warm drinks, or clear broths.
- **Soothe symptoms** — Saline nasal sprays, warm salt-water gargles, or honey in warm drinks can help (honey is suitable for adults and children over 1 year).
- **Eat nourishing foods** — Small, light meals containing fruit and vegetables can help maintain your strength.
- **Over-the-counter relief** — Paracetamol or ibuprofen can help with fever, aches and sore throats. Always follow the instructions on the packaging.

Seek medical help if you have:

- A high fever (38°C+ in adults or 38.5°C+ in children)
- Shortness of breath or chest pain
- A severe sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Significant ear pain
- Symptoms that persist for more than 10 days
- Any symptoms you are worried about, particularly in young children, older adults, or people with long-term health conditions

Remember: Antibiotics do not work for viral infections such as colds. Rest, fluids and supportive care are usually the best treatment while your body recovers.

Looking After Each Other

Life can be difficult or stressful for many people, particularly during challenging times. If you are struggling, please reach out to a friend, a professional, or someone you trust and feel comfortable talking to.

Podiatry Services

Unfortunately, we have recently lost access to podiatry services at Tuatapere Medical Centre. We are actively looking for a provider to offer this service to our patients again.

Finding a provider has proved challenging, with the available options either limited or very expensive. We will notify our patients as soon as we are able to offer podiatry appointments again.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kind Regards

Jo Sanford (Manager)

027 295 0429



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Murray Allen (GP)
Fortnightly on Tuesdays

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Physiotherapist
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Orepuki Promotions Group

Contact Trudy 027 6222 485

At a recent meeting, the Orepuki Promotions Community Trust voted to develop directional signs for Monkey Island and Gemstone Beach featuring maps and local business advertisements. These will complement existing signage and enhance planned replacements for damaged signs, highlighting safety hazards, toilet facilities and camping locations to help visitors enjoy these popular destinations.

The weekly Community Art Group, held at local artist Andrea Sexton's studio, is celebrating an exciting achievement, with five members selected to exhibit in the Te Hikoi Art Challenge, currently showing in Riverton. Why not visit the exhibition and support our talented local artists.

Our Lilliput Library, beautifully illustrated by students at Waiau School, is now located near the hall. Everyone is encouraged to donate books and enjoy the book exchange. It's a wonderful asset for locals and visitors travelling through. A big thank you to Andrea for this fantastic idea. Pop in, pick up a book and help keep our little library thriving!

There is a car going to Tuatapere every Thursday evening for cards (500). If you are interested in car pooling to this event please contact Corina on 027 9561769.

The community garden located near the water tower has been dug over and is ready for planting. All community members are welcome to assist in this wonderful asset to the community by planting vegetables, herbs and selected fruits and of course reap the benefits.

Don't forget if you are thinking of holding a function the Orepuki Hall is great for small groups, large groups and it even comes equipped with a stage and kitchen. It is a wonderful asset to the community and is already starting to book up heading into Christmas.



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Our 2nd Annual Blue Ribbon Poker Run raised an incredible \$3,400 for Blue September, bringing our two-year total to over \$6,900!

A massive thank you to everyone who took part, donated, sponsored and helped make it happen.

We're already looking forward to doing it all again next year!

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KIA ORA, KUMUSTA, AYUBOWAN
Western Wanderer Readers

Hauroko
VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we near the end of Term 3, we celebrate a range of progress and achievements our learners have shown. Our youngest children in Kōwhai have started twice-weekly PMP Smart Movement, where they engage in activities to grow balance and coordination. Each Thursday and Friday afternoon Kōwhai heads to the multi-purpose space to grow their fine and gross motor skills. Not only do they enjoy these opportunities, they are learning skills to support learning in the classroom. A Kōwhai writer impressed Toitōi, a NZ journal of young peoples writing and art, and has had her piece selected for publication. Ka pai tō tuhituhi, Maeve.



Autumn

In Autumn mice fall off the trees and they scamper off in the shimmery, shiny, sparkly grass. The ground was wet and soggy.

Then they scampered into the deep dark forest.

By Maeve



Mighty Matai class have been making magic with marvellous noticing within their class and throughout the school. All classes have been engaging with the text "The Dot" By Peter H Reynolds and investigating ways to make their mark. Mr Pierson and his class have shared ways they have made their mark and acknowledged others who are Making Their Mark. This is one of those magical moments that make a ripple and the effect of that can be empowering! Matai have also been focused on learning through Structured Literacy, Maths No Problem, Handwriting, Reading and Writing. They work hard as individuals, while also supporting each other in and out of the classroom. Mīharo mahi Matai!



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MIGHTY MATAI
Term 3
Week 7

Making our marks
In Matai, we have been learning that making your mark can start with a small dot. We have been looking at who we are, what are our strengths, and what are the small marks we are making that will turn into big dots. But it isn't just us. It is the same for everyone. Everyone has a strength or a small mark that will turn into a big dot. We have been asked to share the marks we have been making, and the marks we have seen others making. Please enjoy our work!

Totara has impressed us with their talent for speech-making and at the Technology Challenge. As individuals, they are working hard to progress, achieve, and make their mark, while also showing what teamwork can accomplish. Congratulations to Lauren and Della, whose outstanding speeches succeeded at school, Western Southland, and Northern Western, and Della is now through to the Grand Finals! At the EIS Challenge, our two teams collaborated and problem-solved with skill – well done Riley, Aoife, Dara and Della. A superb result also for Eve, Alex Eg, Nelly and Lauren, who returned to HVP with the Year 5&6 trophy! Ka pai tō mahi, Tōtara!



Our Year 7s headed to Invercargill to learn pickleball skills before taking on the velodrome. They impressed with their encouragement of one another and the way they represented HVP! Thanks to this crew, pickleball is now set up in the MPB for everyone to enjoy at lunchtimes. Congratulations also to Stanley and Angus D, who have demonstrated excellence in public speaking, achieving success at school, Western Southland and Northern-Western, and now Angus heads to the Southland Grand Final! At EIS their was plenty of problem solving shown and perseverance as challenges were complex.





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Strong for Southland – From September Taster to October Training

Last month, the Orepuki Community Fitness Collective invited locals to take part in our “Strong for Southland” September Taster Month – a chance to come along, try something different and discover that functional fitness can be adapted for almost anyone. Now we're ready to build on that.

6 Weeks

Starting **Tuesday 6 October**, our morning sessions will run **three days a week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 6.00–7.00am** at the Waiau Area School gym. The aim is simple: move well, get stronger, improve your fitness and have some fun along the way.

Tuesdays & Thursdays – Learn, Lift & Move

Tuesdays and Thursdays will focus on **Olympic lifting and functional movement skills**. We'll take time to learn and practise movements, gradually building confidence and strength before incorporating those skills into a variety of short and longer workouts.

You might find yourself working with a barbell, dumbbells or kettlebells one day and combining lifting with rowing, biking, running, gymnastics or bodyweight movements the next. Nobody is expected to walk through the door already knowing how to do these things. **Learning is part of the session.**

Wednesdays - Circuit Day

Wednesdays will be our **Circuit Training Day**, using intervals of different exercises to challenge the whole body. We'll combine cardio, strength, bodyweight and functional movements using our bikes, rower, dumbbells, kettlebells, boxes, wall balls and other equipment. You'll work for a set period, have a short recovery and then move on to the next exercise or station.

It's a great way to develop overall fitness and work capacity, and because each station can be modified, everyone can work at an intensity appropriate for them.

Finishing Strong

Every session will finish with some form of **core, balance or stability work**. Sometimes this might be planks or abdominal work; other times it could involve balance, holds, carries or controlled movements. The idea is to challenge our bodies to maintain good position, control and stability **while we're already a little fatigued.**

That's important because life doesn't always ask us to lift, carry, climb or balance when we're fresh!

Your Workout Doesn't Have to Look Like Someone Else's

One of the most important parts of our group is understanding that everyone will be working at different

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levels and ranges of motion. Old injuries? Tell us. Can't comfortably perform a particular movement? We'll modify it. Running or walking isn't suitable for you? Bike or row instead. Not ready for the weight someone else is lifting? Use a lighter weight, practise the movement or work within the range that's right for you.

The objective isn't for everybody to do exactly the same thing. It's to find an appropriate version of the movement that allows you to train, learn and progress. And please — **don't be afraid to ask questions.**

Ask why we're doing an exercise. Challenge our knowledge. Ask about the reasoning behind a movement or workout. Understanding why we train a particular movement is part of learning how to move well. Come with an **open mind**, a **willingness to listen**, **learn and ask questions**, and a **desire to move functionally well for life.**

And We Understand Farming!

This is a rural community, and we know what spring means. Lambing, calving, weather, family and farm jobs don't organise themselves around a 6.00am gym session. So there is no guilt attached to missing training.

If you only make one session in a week because you're farming — that's still a win. The farm comes first — we'll still be here when you're finished!

Whether you joined us during September, have been coming for years, or have been quietly thinking that you'd like to give it a go, you're welcome.

Strong for Southland isn't about being the strongest or fastest person in the room. It's about learning to move well, becoming stronger and fitter for everyday life, and having a bit of fun with a great rural community while you're doing it.

OREPUKI COMMUNITY FITNESS COLLECTIVE

Thanks to the Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Partnership

A big thank you to the Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Partnership for their \$1,700 grant. It bought new plyometric boxes for the Orepuki Community Fitness Collective, and they've been used nearly every day since they arrived.

They look like plain old boxes, but we get a huge amount out of them. We use them for everything from box jumps to seated strength work. The different heights mean everyone can work at a level that suits them, whether it's your first session or you've been coming for years.

Our sessions are about having a go and moving at your own pace. Funding like this makes a real difference to a small rural group, and gear that gets used week in, week out keeps paying off long after it's bought.

Thanks again from all of us. The boxes are getting a proper workout!

The Orepuki Community Fitness Collective



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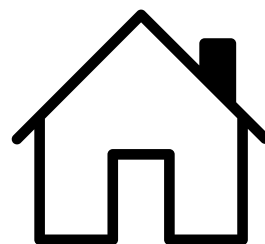
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As the town grew, a number of families from Orepuki/Longwoods, moved up to Tūātapere (Pt 2):

Waiau Hotel opened in 1909. During its lifetime, it had two long-term owners who hailed from Orepuki.

“REIGN OF LOVE”

On 28 January 1952, ‘Bill’ (William Charles) Love, and wife Eva (née Moss), took over the Waiau Hotel. Here, they brought up son Wayne and daughter Gaye, who many of you will know. When they sold to a consortium on 4 Sept 1966, the news reported, “The Reign of Love in Tūātapere” is over! Bill was born and schooled in Orepuki, then apprenticed in plastering after moving to Dunedin with the family, and specialised in this trade for many years, even helping with the RSA hall, the School Baths and more. Eva had trained as a waitress, her experience in the trade being one reason the couple ventured into it.



(left) The Waiau during the Loves time. Bill added the annex and accommodation plus ‘Jug Bar’ & then plastered over the all of the buildings.

(Below) Eva, Wayne & Bill at Waiau Hotel



“DAYS OF MCNAY’S”

1983 is when Dave & Pam McNay started at the Waiau Hotel. Prior to this time, Dave had been Otago-Southland sales manager for Lion Breweries. He spent time as VP of NZ Hotels Association and was President of Southland Branch for a number of years, and also made life member of the Hospitality Association of NZ branch in Southland as well as the national body. As well as running the hotel, Dave was involved in many other community events and heavily involved with the Hump Track. Dave grew up in Orepuki, where his father had a general store/grocery. Also leaving after 18 years, is Bar Manager, Pat Forde (also from Orepuki), who came to the hotel with the TAB. It was fascinating talking to her of the Eckhoff Bros who owned the hotel earlier on. The McNay’s retired to Arrowtown from Nov 2003.



Pam & Dave McNay (by Shirley Whyte) 2003



Waiau Hotel in the current day (by CWA Heritage Hub)

OPEN Hours, Tues to Fri 10-4; Our 3rd Birthday Display - “Ore & OREPUKI” opens 13th Oct 2026. History Displays, Research Resources, Family History, Community Services, FREE Wi-Fi & more!
Find us at: 48 Main Rd, Tūātapere: CentralAndWesternArchive@gmail.com or Ph/Txt: 027-2114675

Central & Western Archives, Murihiku Southland. 3rd Birthday Display, 13th Oct: “Ore in Orepuki”



LOOKING DOWN MAIN ST OREPUKI



We will have models of the Shaleworks buildings

Orepuki – a town with three different sites, due to the discovery of gold... It started near Monkey Island, next it moved to Garfield & from there to Hirstfield, where the locals insisted on using the original Orepuki name. But not only gold was discovered there, it was also home to the Orepuki Coal & Shale Company, and the Platinum Smelting Works, as well as later Coal Mines. Hence, our “Ore in Orepuki” display, covering these discoveries and the many families and businesses that supported those seeking their fortune from various types of ore. And then there was the sawmilling...

Be part of our Interactive Display – bring in a piece of Orepuki History



Do you have photos/records or items from your ancestors you can contribute to this new display? Please contact us to discuss us borrowing or digitised these for “Ore in Orepuki”.

At our premises – (old Plunket Building), 48 Main Rd, Tūātapere

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