

Makeover at rooms



Day two community room painting team, pictured from left, visiting holiday-maker Brittanie Williamson, Mark Dyer, Charlotte Wilson, Tess Trotter (behind), Erin Silver, Anika (8) and Edith Leigh. Many other volunteers helped out during the week of painting. More pictures on page four.

THE COMMUNITY rooms are looking bright, fresh, light and new after a team of volunteers and Valley Project staff spent a week in January preparing and painting.

All the rooms at the Valley Project community hub were painted, including the walls, window frames, skirting and cupboards.

"The rooms look amazing, we're thrilled" says Valley Project community worker Charlotte Wilson.

"The painting project couldn't have happened without those volunteers who turned up to help out and we say a huge thank you to all of them."

The volunteers included a tourist from the

United States who was staying with friends in North East Valley and spent three full days helping to paint.

"It was lovely chatting to her and getting to know a little about her and how her home life compared to ours," says Charlotte.

"Now we are ready for the year ahead and our community space is looking fantastic."

The fresh start has also introduced a few other changes. The Te Putake Room has become more of a lounge space, great for informal meetings and get-togethers, and the Fred Hollows Room is now better suited to workshops and presentations with more space for classes such as exercise classes and yoga.

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Records crushed on Cargill

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almost \$3000 was raised for the Valley Project at the 24-hour Crush the Cargill event last December.

The event involved people making as many ascents of Mt Cargill as they could, or wanted to do, within a 24 hour period.

The record for the number of ascents of the 680m-high peak within the timeframe was also smashed with a mind-crushing 17 circuits to the top of Mt Cargill and back to Bethunes Gully from Chris Bisley.

About 80 people signed up for the event and of those, 34 people did five or more laps and 15 people did 10 or more laps.

Event organisers are so amped with the success of the day they are already planning this year's event, and will introduce a new event called the Longest Shortest Day. Scheduled for an 8pm start on Friday 21 June, entrants will run up and down Mt Cargill every two hours until either only one person is left standing, or it is Monday and time to go to work! More details on the Facebook event page.



Crush the Cargill 'base camp' in Bethunes Gully during the 24-hour event.

Show your 'creeky awesomeness'

CALLING ALL Lovers of the Lindsay awa and creek-users! We are looking forward to giving our amazing Lindsay awa a helping hand this February.

Join the *Certificate of Creeky Awesomeness*, *Kaitiaki i te Awa* with OpenVUE (Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary) and Love the Lindsay, to join in for some creeky adventures. We have three adventures planned including a creek clean-up, a planting session, and help to make a hot-house out of plastic bottles.

Our first adventure starts on Sunday 17 February at 2pm. Come along to the Valley Project armed with your gumboots, gloves and a willingness to get a little wet fishing rubbish from the awa.

If you are unable to make it to each event but would still like to be eligible to go on a 'Glowing Nocturnal' adventure as part of the certificate of Creeky Awesomeness, you can be involved at home!

Show us how you can help keep the creek clean at home by disposing of rubbish responsibly, or help feed native birds by planting a native tree, or perhaps you have your own hothouse to help plants thrive.

To register, get more details or stay updated please contact the Valley Project on 473 8614 or Kaitrin on 425 8959 or 027 460 9885. If the weather is poor, we will still go ahead but the activities may vary. Koha appreciated.

—OpenVUE educator Clare Cross

Valley Project semi-finalist for national award

THE VALLEY Project was named as a semi-finalist in the New Zealand Community of the Year category of the New Zealander of the Year Awards.

The awards honour those who use their passion to make New Zealand a better place.

New Zealander of the Year Awards national manager Glyn Taylor says to be named as one of the 10 semi-finalists is a fantastic achievement.

The Community of the Year category is an opportunity for regional or national community groups and organisations to be recognised for their achievements and contribution to their communities.



The Valley Project is a registered charitable organisation
If you like what we do you can donate at www.givealittle.co.nz/northeastvalley

valley voice editor Edith Leigh
distribution 3700 copies per issue
online www.northeastvalley.org
readers 7400 approximately
advertising (03) 473 8614

copy deadline 15th of the month prior
T (03) 473 8614
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Sale promises to be a monster

SACRED HEART School's annual big fundraiser, the Monster Garage Sale, will this year also be a Community Day.

Large numbers of people come to look for a bargain, and co-organiser Emmeline Kendrick says there will be spaces available for small community groups that would like to showcase what they do.

"We love the valley and find there are many wonderful opportunities available to everyone. There are so many things on which people are not aware of."

With it being the start of the year it is a great time to showcase some of the fantastic things in the valley area, she says.

Some of those coming along include a Kung Fu group that meets in Nga Maara Hall, the BMX Club that meets at Forrester Park, and the Valley Project's OpenVUE (Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary) group.

Items to be donated to the garage sale are welcome. Drop-off times are during regular school hours and on Waitangi Day, Wednesday 6 February from 2-4pm.

As well as the main garage sale, which is held in Nga Maara Hall, the event will include baking, clothes and books for sale, a bouncy castle, sausage sizzle, Bumperball and face-painting for children. "It is always a brilliantly positive and fun day for both our school and the wider community," says Emmeline.

Head to Sacred Heart School at 63 North Rd on Saturday 9 February from 10.30am-1.30pm to find yourself some treasures.



Sacred Heart School pupils get their eyes on some treasures ahead of the Monster Garage Sale coming up Saturday 9 February.

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Hard-working community heroes



Many hands make light work. Here are just a few of our volunteers busy cleaning, sanding and painting to get the community rooms fresh and sparkling for the new year. Pictured, from left, are Mark Dyer (a.k.a chief of operations and practical expert), Chris Burgin, an unassuming worker who just got on with the job at hand, and Emily Peterson, the Valley Project's star cleaner.



All ages and nationalities: Pictured from left are visiting United States tourist Brittanie Williamson and Anika Leigh (8) painting in the Te Putake room. Brittanie joined the painting team for three days and her help was especially appreciated given that this wasn't even her own community. Felix Telfer (13), centre, pitched in with his father, Ian, to remove and sand all the doors ready for a fresh coat of paint, and Charlotte Wilson and Keri Eastwood, right, decide which wall to tackle next.



It's all in the prep: Pictured left, Tess Trotter and Charlotte Wilson masked up and ready to sand. Erin Silver, middle, starts her third roll of masking tape, and Sam McMullan prepares to sand doors ready for painting. A great team effort by everyone (not all our volunteers and helpers are pictured here). We really appreciate your help!

A long 36 hours to summit the Everest of Baldwin St

ANDREW ROOZEN managed to become the first person in the world to 'Everest' Baldwin St, but only just. His goal, when he began on a wet December morning not long before Christmas, was to walk up and down Baldwin St until he had climbed the equivalent height of Mt Everest.

There had been a lot of chat in the online Everesting community about who would be the first to do the steepest street in the world, so he saw an opportunity and decided to go for it, he says.

Sixteen hours into the attempt at 1.30am he hit a low point, says the Christchurch teacher. "It was taking way too long, but I concentrated on being positive and realised I could run down the steps and the flat bit at the bottom without injuring myself, which dramatically reduced my lap times."

The 'Everesting' rules stipulate that while there is no time limit, sleep is not allowed, although breaks to eat and rest are. At 8000m he hit the wall. "It was so close, but seemed so far. It was so painful but I chipped away at it." A massive 36 hours after he began he made it to the top.

Andrew first discovered Everesting after his wife died in an accident in 2010. He was then super-unfit and when somebody gave him a few hundred dollars he decided to buy a pair of running shoes. "I couldn't even run the distance between two lampposts," Andrew says. But he has now competed nine biking, one running and one running/walking Everest challenges.



A smiling Andrew Roozen at the beginning of his Everest challenge on Baldwin St last December.

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Views reward good climb

SPECTACULAR HARBOUR VIEWS AND A GOOD CLIMB AWAIT ON CLEGHORN ST TRACK

A GOOD climb and spectacular harbour views await on this 9km loop from the valley to Cleghorn Street Track and Signal Hill.



Harbour views from the Cleghorn St track

Starting and finishing at Calder Ave lets you explore our community garden and grab a coffee at the Steep Café. Head up the valley to Normanby and climb steadily up North Road to Cleghorn Street. There's no path in places so watch for traffic. At Cleghorn Street an AA walkway sign points up the gravel road. The track starts at the crest as a glimpse of the harbour opens up to sprawling views.

The track follows orange markers along the hillside and through farm land. This section is restricted to walkers only (no dogs) and closed for lambing, so check Dunedin City Council track closures. Don't forget to turn back for the panoramic vista, from Mt Cargill and North Road on your left, to Port Chalmers, the harbour and Otago Peninsula on your right. I found myself turning around for the views so much on this walk that you might want to consider doing it the opposite way around!

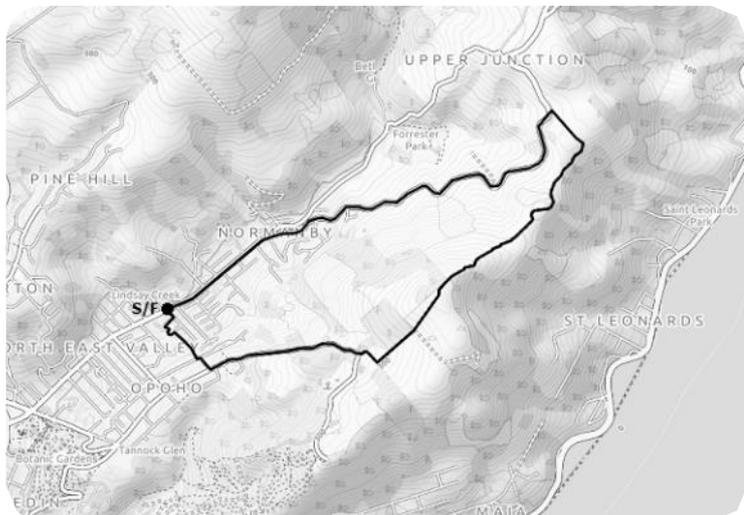
The orange markers generally make the track easy to follow, but occasionally you'll have to trust that you're heading in the right direction. It's useful to know that you're heading towards the bunch of trees at the top of McGregor's Hill.

At the hilltop a broom-lined corridor leads to the Signal Hill masts. From there it's all downhill to Signal Hill Road and Opoho. Turn right off Signal Hill Road into McGregor Street and take the steps at the bottom to Dalmeny Street to find a surprisingly secluded path to the community garden.



After enjoying the garden, stroll through the school field to Calder Ave and the end of the walk. Don't forget your coffee at Steep Café if it's open!

—Steve Wood, keen walker and valley resident. Follow Steve's blog at bitfern.co.nz/nev-walks/



Pot-luck welcome

A NEIGHBOURLY Bring-a-Plate afternoon tea is being hosted at the Opoho Community Garden and church hall, just off Signal Hill Road.

Neighbourly is a private and free neighbourhood website that helps people to connect with their neighbours and community. It is designed to make neighbourhoods a safer and better place to live.

Members of Neighbourly use the website to interact on topics such as local events, after-school activities, crime and safety, council issues, local services and even lost pets. Find out more at neighbourly.co.nz

On from 2.30pm–5pm on Saturday 9

February, the event is an opportunity for people to enjoy the sunshine and have a chat. Please bring a plate to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

All Neighbourly members and their families and friends from Opoho and North East Valley are welcome.

Mini Music thank you

SACRED HEART School's Mini Music group extend their thanks to the community for their support and the fun times at the weekly session, as the group goes into recess.

The Mini Music group ran for about three years, but as all the leaders have their youngest children starting school this year, the group will no longer be running.

If leaders pop up in the future it may return. —Emmeline Kendrick and the Mini Music team

Fruit for Food Network

IT'S COMING up to that time of year again when local fruit trees are laden. Some people have more fruit than they can pick or use, and can feel overwhelmed or saddened by the idea of food going to waste. On the other hand, some people have no access to this source of free, healthy food. Definitely another good reason to get to know your neighbours! It's great to feel able to ask for, or offer, help with harvesting, picking, distributing and preserving. If you need extra support, Our Food Network helps to co-ordinate and match up volunteer pickers with tree owners. To find out more or get involved, contact Niki at ourfoodnetwork@gmail.com—Kristen Bracey

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Community blackcurrants delicious

LOCAL RESIDENTS of all ages helped weed and mulch the community fruit trees and currant bushes at Chingford Park and next to Pine Hill School recently.

The blackcurrants are ripe and delicious at the moment, and are there to be shared and enjoyed by everybody. Please try them! They are near the playground. (Remember to leave some for others!)

Volunteers from Transition Valley 473 planted the first trees and bushes in 2010 to provide a free, healthy, local source of food, and have been caring for them since then.

We are delighted the Dunedin City Council is going to take over weeding and mulching as part of their normal work in public parks. We still welcome people to help us with pruning and harvesting.—*Kristen Bracey*



Helping out with weeding and mulching are, from left, Jamalia, Fergus and Odin Edwards, Peter McDonald and Kuini Scott.

Valley won't be affected by megamast year

I'VE BEEN getting quite excited about this year's coming beech mast. No, it's not a pole made out of a native tree, but the name for when beech trees make lots and lots and lots of seeds.

Masts only happen every 3–11 years, and exactly why they happen in certain years is still not fully understood, but they are probably triggered by the relative wetness and warmth of the previous couple of years.

In the olden days a beech mast year was a bonanza for native birds and insects, which indulged in fruit bingeing sessions and subsequently had lots of babies.

These days it is a bonanza for stoats, weasels, ferrets, rats and mice, which do the same thing, leaving the forests heaving with incomprehensible numbers of these pests. This does *not* make native birds and insects or Department of Conservation rangers happy.

To make things even more interesting, many other plants are chiming with lots of flowers and seeds this year. Tussock grasses and many podocarp species – piney trees like rimu and kahikatea – are masting this year, and even botanically challenged me can't miss the prolific flax and cabbage tree flowers. Hence, ecology types are calling this year a MEGAMAST (I can't help but write that in capitals and say it with a deep ominous voice).

I was all set to witness this spectacular event when I realised that the valley doesn't have much in the way of beech. Or podocarps ... or tussock.

Why not? I asked my friend Dr Mike Thorsen who is, conveniently, a botanist. Mike told me that the reason why beech is found in some places and not others is an unsolved mystery. It is most likely that there was beech forest here but that it was wiped off the map for some reason, just like it was bulldozed off the central West Coast by glaciers.

Only a few small pockets of beech remain in coastal Otago, one of which is in Bethunes Gully and can be seen from about halfway up the Mt Cargill track, and another near Sullivans Dam by the motorway.

The reason it hasn't returned in great numbers is because beech forest spreads very, very slowly, probably something to do with its relationship with networks of underground fungi*, and no doubt not helped by humans' propensity for chopping down trees.

As for the podocarps, well there were plenty of those in the valley until 150 years ago when we, ahem, cut most of them down. You can still spy some in Bethunes Gully and Woodhaugh Gardens, and if you keep an eye out in a

month or two you might be able to see some of the trees turn red with fruit. And for tussock, you'll need to go for a walk up Flagstaff or Mihiwaka or into the Silver Peaks.

After a relatively mild winter, pest numbers are probably fairly high anyway. But as other parts of the country gear up for the MEGAMAST with extra pest control programmes, it is unlikely that the valley will be overrun by a plague of stoats, weasels, ferrets, rats and mice. We can enjoy some pretty flax flowers instead.

*Underground fungi networks are AMAZING – I will write about them one day.—*Helen Jack, North East Valley scientist and writer*

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Community gardens flourishing



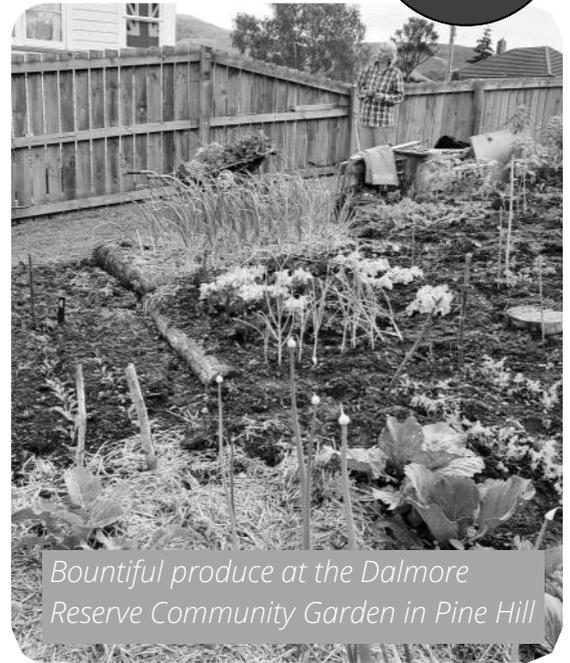
THE DALMORE Reserve Community Garden in Pine Hill is looking great with lots of weeding done over the summer holidays and plenty of produce coming on. The garden is changing its working-bee dates and these will now be held regularly on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 3–4pm. Working bees are weather dependent so check the 'Dalmore Reserve Bandit Gardeners' Facebook page if you are unsure.

The group is looking for fundraising ideas to keep up with planting so gardeners are not buying plants from their personal money. They are also looking at the possibility of adding some more raised beds.

THE NORTH East Valley Community Garden welcomes community members along to their working bees, held every weekend on alternate Saturdays and Sundays – check the Community Notices for exact dates.

Long-time community garden member Jenny Roxborough says coming to working bees provides many benefits. "It allows you to get more involved in the community, budget housekeeping money better, get outdoors more, get to know your neighbours, learn how to start a vegetable garden and serve up more vegetables for your family."

Who could say no to such a wonderful list of benefits!



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DUNEDIN BMX CLUB

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TANNOCK GLEN

The 3.5acre garden of the Dunedin Rhododendron Group is situated in Torridon St, Opoho. Members of the public are invited to visit at any time. Dogs permitted on a lead.

THREE LEFT FEET

Social dance group, no experience or partners necessary. European dance—folk and traditional, \$5 or \$7.50/couple, Nga Maara hall, 6pm–7pm, Thu. Ph. Marilyn 473 7829.

ZEN MEDITATION

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Instructor Adair Bruce, 6–7pm, Mon–Fri, DNI designspace; 9.15–10.15am, Mon, Wed, community rooms. \$10 waged, \$8 unwaged, for more info contact adairbruce@hotmail.com

YOGA WITH HAGINO

All levels, BYO yoga mat, 6–7pm and 7.15–8.15pm, Tues (except 1st Tue of month), \$10/class or \$45 for 5 classes. More info at haginoyoga.com or email haginoyoga@gmail.com

further education

CITIZENS ADVICE

Dunedin Citizens Advice Bureau - a free confidential service for all. We can help with tenancy problems, employment issues, consumer problems & host of other issues. Rodgers House, 155 Princes St, 471 6166, cab.org.nz

COMPUTER CLASS

A free class to learn how to use computers, 10am–noon, Weds, community rooms.

FREE LITERACY COURSE

For more information contact Ana & Marg at Literacy Aotearoa, 477 2055.

FRENCH TUTOR

Beginner to advanced, 30 years experience, hourly rate, ph 473 0159 evenings.

LEARN ITALIAN

Planning a trip to Italy this year? Fun, communicative lessons Ph. Samantha 021 0831 8408.

INDOOR BOWLS

Play indoor bowls at the NEV Bowling Club, 139 North Rd, Thurs, 1.30pm start. Ph. Jack for more info 473 9565.

ITALIAN CLASSES

Exp teacher, native speaker of Italian ph Antonella 027 341 8312, 473 0832 antonella.vecchiato@gmail.com

LEARN ENGLISH

English for daily life and work. Free and low cost courses. Contact Tamara or Felicity at English Language Partners 455 5266, dunedin@englishlanguage.org.nz

STAND-UP COMEDY

Open mic at Inch Bar, 1st & 3rd Thursday every month. Comedy workshop classes every other Thursday, open to all skill levels. For more info contact reuben@dunedincomedy.co.nz

art, craft & music

ART CLASSES

For all levels, casual attendance welcome, tutor Anneloes Douglas, community rooms, 10am–noon, Thur and 6pm–8pm, Fri. Ph 027 307 7034, 467 9993, anneloes.douglas@xtra.co.nz

ART CLASSES

Continuous class, newcomers welcome, 1–3pm, Wed, community rooms; 1–3pm, Thurs, St Peter's Church Hall, Caversham; 7–9pm, Thurs, Logan Park High School, \$15 per session. Ph Friederike 482 2025.

FIDDLE LESSONS

Local NEV fiddle, mandolin and guitar lessons. All ages welcome & encouraged. Range of folk styles. Call Flora any time 027 917 2885.

KNITTING SQUAD

BYO knitting or crocheting, or come & learn, community rooms, 1pm–3pm, Wed. Ph Marjory 473 7751.

ART FIBRE DUNEDIN

Bring lunch and requirements, 10am–3pm, second Sun each month, community rooms, Ph Viv 473 0343, www.artfibredunedin.blogspot.com.

DUNEDIN FIDDLE CLUB

Community rooms, 7.30pm, Wed.

MUSIC LESSONS

Guitar, drums, singing, with professional musician. All ages. Contact Bevan bevan37@hotmail.com or ph 027 363 1376.

SENIOR MUSOS

Retired musicians who put on music for an afternoon at the Normanby Bistro. Scones, jam & cream \$3, 3rd Thurs of the month from 2pm.

SOUNDS NOR'EASTERLY

Do you enjoy singing with a group? Why not join your local community choir? All ages and abilities welcome. DNI design lobby every Tues, 7.30–8.45pm. Email Clare for more info clare-n-don@clear.net.nz

UKULELE SESSIONS

Wed, 7–8.30pm, Baptist Church, 280 North Rd. Just turn up or text Adrienne 027 389 2574 for more info.

VALLEY BLUEGRASS JAM

Monthly jam session at the Normanby Bistro, 3rd Sun of the month from 2pm.

community groups

BIBLE HOUR

Friendly small group Bible learning over morning tea, Sun, 9.30am, DNI (tech area) during school terms. All welcome, free, ph 020 4079 5727 or www.dunedinchristadelphians.org

BIKE WORKSHOP

Get help, use our workshop, bikes available for koha, 3.30–6pm Tues, and 9.30am–12.30pm Sat, Valley Community Workspace, 11 Allen St. Contact Peter on peterd0n@yahoo.com

MEN'S PROBUS

NEV bowling club, 10am, 2nd Mon each month, new members welcome. Ph Don 473 7544.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

North East Valley, the top paddock behind North East Valley Normal School, working bees every weekend alternating Saturday 9.30am–noon and Sundays 1–4pm. All welcome.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Pine Hill, Dalmore Reserve entrance on Allenby Ave. Working bees 2nd & 4th Sunday, 3–4pm, check Facebook page: Dalmore Reserve Bandit Gardeners, dalmorecommunitygarden@gmail.com

DUNEDIN MAKERSPACE

Work on project, watch others and chat, 1pm–5pm, Sat; organised talks, 7pm, Thur, Valley Community Workspace, 11 Allen St.

ENLIVEN DAY CLUB

Ross Home, drivers and help with activities needed, light food preparation. Tues, Wed & Fri. Ph Maybank 473 0890.

LADIES' PROBUS CLUB

Meets 10am, first Mon each month, NEV Bowling Clubrooms. New members welcome. For more info ph 455 6683.

NORTH DUNEDIN SHED

New members welcome. Open Wed and Sat mornings 35 Bonnington St over bridge. Find us on Facebook: North Dunedin Shed Society Inc

MULTICULTURAL GROUP

Women's multicultural group, make new friends, speakers, cooking, outings. Community rooms, 10am–noon, Fri, ph Afife 473 8944.

NEIGHBOUR SUPPORT

Create safer, more caring communities. For more info and local contacts ph Lois on 456 0857 or neighbourhoodsupport@gmail.com.

Classifieds and community notices (for non-profits)

DUNEDIN ELECTRIC BIKES

shiny, new & recycled ebikes
Valley Community Workspace
11 Allen St
Tues-Thurs, Sat 9am-2pm
Fri 9am-5pm. Message us on Facebook
or ph Nathan Parker 027 214 8294

Part-time/Casual Housekeeper

Commodore Motel
932 Cumberland St North
Week days or weekend work available
9.30am start, 3-5hrs/day, competitive pay
Bring your CV to reception if interested
Must be fit, self-motivated & friendly
with an eye for detail

REFUGEE & MIGRANT CENTRE

Mon, 9-11am, Dunedin Community House, 301 Moray Pl. Coordinator Afife, ph 027 419 3125 or email afife.harris@gmail.com To volunteer at centre please get in touch.

TWILIGHT TINKERING CLASSES

Mon & Thurs, 7-9pm, 347 North Rd, Ph Andrew 021 982 216

trading corner

BABYSITTER

Experienced 23 year old, have worked with children of all ages. Ph. Kelly 027 697 9194 .

COMPUTER SERVICES

Trouble-shooting, tuition, low rates. Ph Dave 473 9542, 022 635 9414 or email davemaxz@actrix.co.nz

KNIFE SHARPENING

Mobile knife sharpening service for house knives, \$15/knife. Ph. 022 416 5446.

Want health, wellbeing and relaxation?

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For class times or private sessions contact Jay 027 584 4537
www.bodymindqi.com

HOUSE-MINDER

House-minder avail to look after your house, pets & plants, late July onwards. 12yrs experience in Dunedin area. Ph Jeffrey 027 4467 915 or email jeffreyhrobinson@yahoo.co.nz

LOG SPLITTER FOR HIRE

Commercial power Briggs & Stratton Model 12000 Vanguard. Local pick up & delive with full tank, \$50/day. User responsibility, ph 473 0393.

SENIORS HAIRDRESSING

Retired senior hairdresser providing service for seniors. Your home or mine. Dunedin North only. Ph. Helen 467 9644 or 021 104 1011.



Our community rooms are baby & family friendly

We have baby change facilities and are a BURP breast-feeding friendly space?
Call in and make yourself at home at 262 North Rd (next to NEVN School)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community notices welcomed. Priority is given to groups and activities based in the Valley Voice readership area. Email voice@northeastvalley.org Please keep notices brief. They may be edited to fit the space.

church services

Salvation Army, 43 North Rd, community worker only, Mark O'Donnell
Sacred Heart Catholic, 89 North Rd, Mass 9.30am
Glenaven Methodist, 7 Chambers St, 11am
Pacific Island Presbyterian, 160 North Rd, English 11am on 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays; Cook Island 9.30am; Samoan 11am, 4th and 5th Sundays
Anglican: St Martin's, 194 North Rd, 10.45am
St Thomas', Raleigh St and Pine Hill Rd, children & family service, 4.30pm, 3rd Sunday
Opoho Presbyterian, 50 Signal Hill Rd, 10am
NEV Presbyterian, community rooms, 9.30am, first, third and fourth Sundays, cafe service, contact Cameron Sinclair on sinclairs@snap.net.nz
St Mark's Presbyterian, 304 Pine Hill Rd, 10am
NEV Baptist, 270 North Road, 10.30am.

for families, kids & teens

ACTIVE MUSIC

For 0-5yrs, with Yvette, 10.30am Wed, Valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Rd, ph 473 9413 or nevplaygroup@gmail.com

ATHLETICS & HARRIERS

Children 3-6yrs and 7+yrs, Chingford Park Clubrooms, 5.30-6.45pm, Mon, and Caledonian grounds, Sat morn. www.leithharriers.co.nz

CHINESE FOR KIWIS

Ages 6-12 Bear Cats Club to learn Chinese, Tues, 3.30pm-4.45pm, St Mark's Church, 304 Pine Hill Rd. Ph 021 589 075, chineseforkiwis.co.nz

DUNEDIN TOY LIBRARY

A vibrant toy library for children from birth to 7 years. Huge range of toys, ride-ons, dress ups, puzzles, games. St Martin's Hall, Northumberland St, 3.30-4.30pm Wed, and 10-11.30am Sat.

GIRLS BRIGADE

Dunedin Girls Brigade Company, all girls, from age 5 up welcome. 6-7.30pm, Wed, St Marks Presbyterian Church Hall, 304 Pine Hill Rd.

MT CARGILL GIRLGUIDES

Pippins, brownies, guides and ranger groups in the valley. Ph. 0800 222 292 or info@girlguiding.org.nz

OPOHO PLAYCENTRE

Sessions for 0-6 year olds, 9am-noon, Mon-Fri, school terms, 28A Signal Hill Rd. Visitors welcome. For more info ph. 473 0819 or email opoho.playcentre@yahoo.com

OPOHO SCOUTS

Keas, 5.30pm-6.30pm, Tues; Cubs, 6pm-7.30pm, Thur; Scouts, 7pm-8.30pm, Wed. Opoho Scout Den, Ph. Kevin 0800 SCOUTS.

PLAYGROUP

Leith Valley Church, Malvern St, 10am-noon, school terms. Ph. Julia 027 635 8181.

PRESCHOOL MUSIC

At Opoho School, 9am-9.30am, Fri, during school term, Room 3, gold coin, drop in, Ph. 473 8019.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Variety of classes with stories, crafts, songs and more. Ages 4-18, 9.30am Sun mornings (term time only), DNI (tech area). All welcome, no charge. Ph. 020 4079 5727 or www.dunedinchristadelphians.org

SPACE FOR BABIES

Space for you & your baby. Programs run by registered ECE teachers supporting families through their first year with a new baby, school terms, 12.30-2.30pm, day to be confirmed, Valley Baptist Community Centre. Ph 473 0014 or space.valleybaptist@gmail.com more info www.spacenz.org.nz

NEV PLAYGROUP

For 0-5yrs, variety experiences to enhance development of your child, meet other local young families, free morning tea & lunch provided, Valley Baptist Community Centre, 270 North Rd, 9am-2.30pm Tue & Wed. Ph 473 9413 or nevplaygroup@gmail.com

RUDOLF STEINER

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner playgroups, Te Whare Ako Marie, Pinehill and Maia. A sanctuary of creative play for children from birth to kindergarten and a place of peace and friendship for parents. Groups meet weekly, term time. For more info contact 471 2163 or dunedin-steinerplaygroup@gmail.com

YOUNG PARENTS

Young Parents Group Te Roopuu Maatua Maahuri, where young parents come together to share and support each other. For parents who had their first child before 26 years. Children welcome. 1-2.30pm, Thurs, community rooms. Ph Emily 021 125 0850.

THE BREAST ROOM

Free peer support and help around breastfeeding. All parents welcome. Every Wed, 10.30am-12.30pm, community rooms.

TINKER SCHOOL

Afterschool courses, Mon-Fri, 3-5.30pm, 347 North Rd. Ph Andrew 021 982 216.

Volunteers Wanted

Call: 473 6005



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Dinner 5-8pm

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New roof for shed



Members of the North Dunedin Shed are looking forward to a new roof being installed which will provide more light and stop leaks and dripping condensation. Pictured are shed members, from left, Norman Ashbury, Neville Eskrick, Gerard Kenny, Paul Nelson and Andy Henderson.

SCAFFOLDING IS up and work is set to begin on a new roof for the North Dunedin Shed.

Shed secretary Paul Nelson says the old roof leaked badly and dripped condensation. The new roof will include six full-width clear light strips which will make the environment in the workshop much more pleasant.

"A very generous grant" from the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board has made this improvement possible, says Paul.

The shed, which is just over the bridge on Bonnington Street at the top of the valley, is a gathering place for people who like working with wood and tools to come together and work on community projects and some personal projects.

The shed now has about 15 members who all come along regularly. "We have a good time. It's very social," says Paul. "It's not like a business where you've got to turn out so much work."

For example, members were working on a new bench, preparing the timber, when the *Valley Voice* visited. "You might really only need two guys on the job but there are six of us standing around," he says with a smile.

While many of the members are retired or semi-retired, anybody is welcome to join. The shed is open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

It is hoped the new roof will be in place by the end of February. The next big project for the shed will involve painting and waterblasting an outdoor wall. Members are always willing to hear from community groups that might need help with some work.—*Edith Leigh*

what's on

neighbourly potluck

Are you a NEV or Opoho Neighbourly member? Get together for a potluck afternoon tea at Opoho Community Garden and church hall, Saturday 9 Feb, 2.30-5pm.

Monster Sale

Drop off garage sale donations at Sacred Heart School during school hours or Waitangi Day 2-4pm. Monster Garage Sale and Community Day on Saturday 9 Feb, 10.30am-1.30pm.

Toy Library party

Join the fun with Rainbow Rosalind, a dinosaur cake and toy sale. Saturday 16 Feb, 10am-noon, Dunedin City Toy Library, 9 Northumberland St

Creek clean-up

Creeky Awesomeness adventure! Meet with your gumboots and gloves at community rooms, Sunday 17 Feb at 2pm.