# **Image: Bruce Dow**

# Community



www.waikouaiti.co.nz | East Otago Events Centre 203 Main Road, Waikouaiti Facebook.com/ProgressofWaikouaitiArea | powa.editor@gmail.com

**June 2024** 

# Free Buffet Lunch and Essential Safety Insights with Dr. Caroline Orchiston at **East Otago Events Centre!**

Join us for a complimentary buffet lunch at the East Otago Events Centre, followed by enlightening presentations by Dr. Caroline Orchiston from the University of Otago. Dr. Orchiston is an authority on the impacts of the Alpine Fault line and will discuss its implications for our community and neighbouring districts. Emergency Management Otago will also provide essential guidance on preparing your family and our community for emergencies. Learn what steps you can take to ensure safety and resilience, including first-hand accounts and valuable lessons learned from real-life scenarios.

You'll have the opportunity to ask any lingering questions and engage with the experts. Enjoy a FREE lunch, peruse displays, and engage in informative discussions. Bring the family, a neighbour, your tamariki, and grandparents, all welcome. One hour of vour time could save your life!

Sonya Billyard **Community Engagement Officer** 

# Hikaroroa / Mt Watkin Conservation **Group Hosts Community Workshops**

The Hikaroroa / Mt Watkin Conservation Group is hosting two community workshops to highlight the cultural and ecological importance of the Hikaroroa area. These workshops will address the threats posed by introduced pest species and outline the group's conservation efforts.

### **Event Details:**

Saturday, July 13th, 10am-noon at East Otago Events Centre, 203 Main Road, Waikouaiti. Saturday, July 20th, 10am-noon at Puketeraki Marae, 520 Apes Road, Karitane.

### **Workshop Highlights:**

Guest Talks: Learn about the history, cultural significance, and ecological values of Hikaroroa, along with the conservation group's activities and ways to get involved.

and snacks while **Networking:** Enjoy tea

# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY YEAH / NAH

Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient community. ALL WELCOME

\*bring the whole family\*



# WHEN AND WHERE

**East Otago Events Centre** 203 Main Road, Waikouaiti 16th June 2024 (Sunday)

12pm - 2pm

\*Free Event\*

Free buffet lunch from 12pm



### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Dr Caroline Orchiston University of Otago** 

AF8 Alpine fault specialist

**Emergency Management** 

· Insights into local hazards and their potential impact

Expert tips on personal preparedness

will be available to answer all your queries!

### BENEFITS

One hour of your time could save your life and the lives of your loved ones

Have any burning questions? The team

mingling and discussing with fellow community members.

**Interactive Activities:** Participate in hands-on activities such as trapping, pest monitoring, and ecological education. Experts will also share valuable skills.

Shared Kai: Stay for a BBQ or catered meal as a thank you for attending.

If you can't attend but want to get involved,

group seeking is leaders and volunteers. For more information. email HMWconservationgroup@ gmail.com.



Hikaroroa / Mt Watkin **Conservation Group** 

# Local Legends Sonya Watson and Heather McGregor

here are 59,391 reasons why Sonya and Heather have been nominated as Local Legends. Since 2013, these amazing women have raised \$59,391.93 for the Breast Cancer Foundation of New Zealand through their Pink Ribbon Breakfasts. Who are these Legends?

Sonya was born at Palmerston Hospital, has two children and is the administrator for Rob Watson Plumbing and Drainlaying Ltd. She's involved in several local organisations in Palmerston and is currently the treasurer and production manager of the East Otago Musical Theatre.

Heather's a Timaru girl but moved south to work at Cherry Farm as a nurse in 1978. She and Donald have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Currently, Heather is Chair of the Waihemo Community Board, organises Meals on Wheels for Palmerston, and is Secretary or Treasurer of several local groups. Heather started the Pink Ribbon Breakfasts in 2013. "I saw an advertisement on TV promoting Pink Ribbon Breakfasts to raise funds for Breast Cancer NZ, and I thought 'I can do that!"

Heather: "At the time, I had 13 friends who had, or were in remission from breast cancer. In fact, breast cancer is the most common form of cancer for Kiwi women and 1 in 9 women will be diagnosed with it. Sadly, 650 women in Aotearoa die from this disease every year." Soon she was organising that first Breakfast at her house and 60-70 people turned up, raising \$3,000. After this, Sonya offered to help continue the event, now in its 12th year.

What does organising entail? "We start in February," says Sonya, "by writing 100's of letters, trying to get NZ-wide sponsorship and donations for raffles, auctions and the 200 Lucky Pink Bags which we sell for \$20 on the day." They are grateful for the generosity of local businesses and people who support them. "It's great fun," smiles Sonya, "over the years we've had head shaves which we've both done, a fun run and line dancing galas! We



Heather McGregor, top and Sonya Watson

have a different theme every year. And, we always have a guest speaker." "Every cent of the money raised goes to Breast Cancer Research," adds Heather, "and we now aim to raise \$10,000 each breakfast." Currently, over 100 men and women of all ages attend the breakfast. We've all been affected by breast cancer, either personally or through someone we care about. Sonya and Heather look forward to welcoming you to this year's Pink Ribbon Breakfast.

Pink Ribbon Breakfast: Wear Pink!

Venue: Palmerston Sports Hall, 33 Gilligan Street, Palmerston 9430

When: Friday 14 June, 10.00am start Speaker: Carmen Brenssell

No entry fee (but bring lots of cash for raffles, Lucky Pink Bags, auctions and BCFNZ merchandise which is for sale). No need to book – just turn up.

Heather: runbrake@xtra.co.nz 027 343 8731 Sonya: rob.watson@xtra.co.nz 027 256 0201

Can't make it? Help Heather and Sonya raise that \$10,000 by donating a little or a lot directly to their fundraising page: fundraise.bcf.org.nz/fundraisers/heathermcgregor/pinkribbonbreakfast

**Catherine Robinson** 

If you want to nominate a Local Legend, get in touch: powa.editor@gmail.com

# Waikouaiti Linedancing

We must say thank you to the POWA News for helping us get linedancing started in Waikouaiti. And what a start it was!

We advertised a Monday 6th May 4pm start at the Presbyterian Church Hall in Kildare St Waikouaiti and expected around 23 newbies. Eager to learn peeps arrived from 3:45 and nervously milled

around. Finally over 35 trainee boot scooters strutted their stuff. Lots of laughs, rounds of applause and a general feeling of wellbeing.

Come along and try it out. Mondays at 4pm.

Phone Heather Cox on 027 228 1355 or Averley Sinclair 0212 512 038

# What's going on? Waikouaiti Market

Then Lisa Willmott decided to move from Australia to be near her parents in Waikouaiti, she looked around for markets to visit. "I enjoy market shopping and wondered why there wasn't one in Waikouaiti or any of the surrounding areas," explains Lisa. She has experience in running her own business including an events organising business so she decided that if there wasn't a market here, she would start one.

Lisa: "I put a few feelers out, mainly on social media and people seemed to respond positively, so I booked the Events Centre for 3 months, May, June and July." This is a trial and she hopes that interest will remain high so that the market will be a regular monthly feature on the local calendar. If not, she may organise markets from time to time, but is already planning a Christmas market.

The first market in May attracted 22 stallholders, mostly local but some from Dunedin and both sellers and buyers were positive about their experience. There was a real buzz in the air. "We had a great variety of stalls," explains Lisa, "lots of clever local craftspeople who make all sorts of quality items such as bags and sheepskin slippers. There were some great photographs for sale, handcrafted hats, and the dog-walking stall was popular." Was there anything that she'd like to see in future markets? "Yes," she replies, "we could do with produce stalls. We had a plant stall but not much fresh food." So, here's an opportunity for your organisation to raise funds by getting into the kitchen and producing delicious baked goods or preserves for sale.

Lisa welcomes enquiries, so get in touch. To make this work, we must support this great initiative which enhances community life. And, if you're an arty type or a little bit crafty, start planning your stall now.

Venue: East Otago Events Centre

When: The first Sunday of the month; next

markets, 2 June, 7 July, 9.30-1.30.

Cost: \$15 for display table Contact: Lisa 022 690 4908;

waikouaitimarkets@gmail.com FB: Waikouaiti

Market

**Catherine Robinson** 

If you are a community organisation we would

love to feature you.

Contact powa.editor@gmail.com

### Karitāne School

Here we are in week 5 already...
We have had a full on start to the Karitāne School term!

We are delighted to announce the start of our Karitāne Kids After School Care programme. This programme runs Monday to Friday from 3.00 - 5.30pm for pupils enrolled at our school. We have three awesome after school supervisors who have been running a variety of entertaining and engaging activities. Karitāne

Kids club is very popular with our tamariki - who seem to view it as some sort of giant organised play date. Our parents/ caregiversappear to be finding it useful too, with Wednesdays being our most popular days.



Our children have been loving playing netball

Some of the After School Care children enjoying games and building.

recently. Amy from Dunedin netball has been out to run a couple of sessions for the whole school. We have a year 3/4 and a year 5/6 team. Thankyou to Nikki Crossan, Leah Brewer and Emma Davison who have been coaching the teams. A small school needn't mean limited opportunities to play organised team sports!

Two weeks ago our most senior students were honoured to be invited up to Puketeraki Marae to join the pōwhiri as Huriawa Peninsula was inducted as a Tohu Whenua. Tohu Whenua are the places that have shaped Aotearoa New Zealand. They are stunning landscapes, rich with stories that offer some of our best heritage experiences. We were thrilled with the behaviour of our year 5/6 students who were respectful and participated with gusto. There were many positive comments from manuhiri (visitors) about our tamariki and the way that they conducted themselves.

As I write this, it is blowing a howling gale and is FREEZING! Wrap up warmly everyone - keep those fires stoked and enjoy the hot soups and stews that come with Autumn and Winter. Maybe even a hot toddy would go down well!

Warm regards,

Nicola Philip Tumuaki/Principal, Karitāne School www.karitaneschool.co.nz

# Waikouaiti Library

192 Main Road

#### **Book a Librarian**

Need help with accessing your library account at home? Need help navigating your smartphone or setting up an email address? We offer free 30 minute sessions to help with your digital needs.

**Worldwide Knit in Public Day!** Join East Otago Spinners & Weavers at the Library to celebrate on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am



### **Library Hours**

Monday – Friday: 11am – 5pm

Saturday: 10am - 1pm

**DCC Service Centre Hours** 

Monday - Friday: 11am - 5pm



## East Otago Plunket Round Up

The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti continues to run in Term 2 on Wednesdays between 10.00 and 12.00 at the Plunket Rooms in the East Otago Events Centre. Come along and join in to connect with other parents and caregivers in your local community and to give your child a chance to socialise and build connections with other children.

If you missed out on the First Aid course specifically tailored to parents provided by Meditrain held on 4 June, register your interest for the next of these First Aid courses to be scheduled by emailing annabel. kuzma@plunket.org.nz

East Otago Plunket still has some Meals for Mums to distribute: healthy and wholesome frozen meals that can be distributed to local whānau with babies or young children who need a little extra support. Can you nominate someone you know (or yourself!) to receive some of these meals? If so, please contact your local Community Services Co-ordinator by emailing annabel. kuzma@plunket.org.nz

If your child needs a Plunket appointment, or for any other clinical enquiries please call 0800 184 803.





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- We provide the government funded 20 hours for three and four year olds, WINZ subsidies are also available.
- You and your family/whānau are very welcome to visit our centre to meet the staff and have a look around.

5 McGregor Street, Waikouaiti Ph: (03) 4657 319 bigsteps@xtra.co.nz

# East Otago Health

Kia ora ko tou katoa, an update from the team at East Otago Health in Palmerston & Waikouaiti.



East Otago Health

Dr Amanda McCorkindale has returned this month, working Mondays for virtual consults, Wednesdays in Clinic and Fridays for half a day in Waikouaiti, and half a day in Palmerston. We are excited to have Amanda as part of our team for a portion of this year – please call for an appointment.

### **Health Coach / Support worker**

Welcome to Gemma Fairbairn who has recently taken up this role. Gemma will be working two days per week in practice with our patients for lifestyle and diet advice, and her appointments are FREE!

Please talk to one of our friendly team about an appt with Gemma, or call 034651444 to speak with her directly.

### Flu Vaccinations

We still have Flu vaccinations, please call for your appointment booking 034651444

### Waikouaiti

Opening hours: (please note these days may be subject to change at the last minute due to staff illness or leave) Tuesday – full day, Practitioner & Nurse

Wednesday – morning only; Practitioner, Nurse & Phlebotomist

Friday - morning only GP, Nurse

### Liquid Nitrogen

Please call for an appointment (sites for Liquid nitrogen should be viewed by a clinician before making this appt), these clinics happen one week, every month

#### **Podiatrist - Ruth Tasker**

The next clinic is on the 13th of June 2024, at the Palmerston Clinic, phone 034651444 for an appointment.

Pregnancy, Acupuncture, Acupressure & Support with Lee-Ana website www.lee-ana.nz for more information

Palmerston Clinic Opening Hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm 117 District Road, Palmerston 9430

Waikouaiti Clinic Opening Hours Hours updated above. 203 Main Road, Waikouaiti

After-hours and weekends we provide urgent and emergency care outside of clinic opening hours.

To speak to the on call nurse phone 03 465 1444 - option 1

# **Poetry Corner**

his year, the East Otago Poets have accepted the challenge to write a poem on the theme of 'Our Place'. We hope you enjoy them. If you are inspired to join us, contact Eryn at the library: eryn.makinson@dcc.govt.nz

this morning Jack McKerchar

a breeze wafting
along our beach
warm from where
coolness usually arrives
and an incoming tide
encroaching

consuming a golden edge of sand

noiseless
a clear horizon
both sides of its line
is it a first day
or is it a last
feet popping seaweed
only signs of sea lions
while a lone fledgling seagull
is protected by diving adults
coffee drinkers arrive
sipping steaming mugs
to touch breezes
and watch horizons
and peninsulas

intrude

Jack: "I live near the ocean in Karitane. I began my poetry journey by the sea in Northland, and I continue to write here. I find it helps to clear the mind. My poetry results from the encouragement and support I receive from East Otago Poets." Jack's book of poems out of my mind was published in 2021. It was a limited run and quickly sold out. Find someone with a copy who is willing to share it and you can enjoy a feast of Jack's poems from across the years.





Our Community Garden will have a windbreak, lighting and water very soon. Take a look at the back of the EOEC.





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**Oualified Arborist** Reuben O'Connell 0223821297









# POWA Annual General Meeting.

21st August 7pm East Otago Events Centre Boardroom



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Puketapu Radio**756am** 

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- ✓ Information
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# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUB

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# **Pews News**

# Anglican Church St John's Church

Sunday June 9th: Ecumenical Service with the Rev Joy Hamilton-Jones.

Everyone welcome. Morning tea to follow.

Any queries regarding St John's, please contact Bev Medlin on 0273079100

### Hawksbury Christian Fellowship

Services at 10am every Sunday at Hawksbury Village Chapel. Also weekly bible study groups, ladies' group, and monthly men's breakfast. All welcome. For more information contact: Rodger and Ruth Mangai 021 126 5775 or Peter and Thelma Arnott 027 235 8397

# Presbyterian Parish of Waikouaiti - Karitāne

June 2nd 10am Communion service combined with Anglicans at Karitāne Church led by Rev Hilary Oxford-Smith

June 9th 10am Eucharist combined at St John's Church

June 16th 10am Combined service at Karitāne Church led by the Robertson Family.

June 23rd 10am Combined service at Kildare St. Waikouaiti

June 30th 10am Ecumenical service at Kildare St

St Anne's Catholic Church

CATHOLIC SERVICES MASS TIMETABLE

Hampden -1:30pm 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month

Karitāne Bowling Club AGM, Sunday 16 June, 2 pm at the clubhouse.

Please note the change of date.

### OneCoast

### **OneCoast Annual General Meeting**

OneCoast's AGM will be held at 7pm, Thursday 13 June, at the East Otago Events Centre. Nominations are now open for office holders and committee members.

If you value OneCoast and think we are doing a good job, come and join our committee or enrol as OneCoast Opening hours a volunteer, and help us help our community.

### **OneCoast Popup clothes** sale

Saturday June 22, 1pm -3pm, East Otago Events Centre.

A lot of you have been asking, so here is the

date. Thanks to all our clothes donors, we already have many boxes of clothing sorted, for everything from babies to XXL menswear. We are hoping that after this date we will be able to set up our third container at the OneCoast Hub so that clothes shoppers will be able to walk in and browse whenever we are open. We are still accepting clean clothing in good repair before the sale.

Judy Martin, OneCoast chair

Phone:

021 130 7765 email:

chair@onecoast.org website:

www.onecoast.org

## **Opening Times**

**Transfer Station Hub:** 

12:00 to 3pm Wednesday 1:00 to 3pm Saturday & Sunday

Main Street Office: Wednesday 9:30-12:30, Thursday 9:30-12:30



June 2nd 9:30-1:30 Waikouaiti Markets East Otago Events Centre

June 13th 7pm OneCoast AGM East Otago Events Centre

June 14th 10am Pink Ribbon Breakfast, Palmerston Sports Hall

June 16th 12-2pm Emergency Preparedness Hui East Otago Events Centre

June 16th 2pm Karitane Bowling Club AGM at the clubhouse

June 20th 6pm Deadline for April POWA News Submissions/Ads

June 22nd 1-3pm OneCoast Popup Clothing Sale, East Otago Events Centre

### Later:

The Hikaroroa Conservation Group Community Workshop:

July 13th 10am-12pm East Otago Events Centre -203 Main Road, Waikouaiti

July 20th 10am-12pm Puketeraki Marae - 520 Apes Road, Karitāne

August 21st 7pm POWA AGM EOEC Boardroom





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May at the Hawksbury Lagoon

t the Inverary Street Reserve area and up to the railway line was the site of the early Waikouaiti Borough then Silver Peaks County Council rubbish tip. As was typical of the day, wetland areas were considered as wasteland and not valued habitats as they are today. The site was closed about 1974 and moved to the current transfer station site in Edinburgh Street. The area was capped, and the area just below the railway line was used as a gravel yard by the local authority of the day. I am grateful to Lindsay Richardson who worked for both the Waikouaiti Borough Council and then the Silverpeaks County Council, for providing this information. The problem today is that rubbish from the tip site is being exposed at the lagoon edge adjacent to Inverary Street. After contacting the Otago Regional Council, and discussions with the Department of Conservation (DOC), as owner of the lagoon area, an investigation of the risks to the lagoon ecology is being undertaken by an ecological management company contracted to the DOC pollution control office, Auckland. Fortunately, research into metal contamination, instigated by Shirley McKewen in about 2010, resulted in a project undertaken by the Marine Sciences Department. Otago University. By sampling lagoon sediment at many sites around the lagoon, only cadmium levels were of concern and interestingly not near the Inverary Street tip site.



Many of the records of the Waikouaiti Borough Council and Silverpeaks County Council are reported to have been lost (reported by both Lindsay Richardson and Ann Barber) which may make the job of investigation of the site difficult. A quick search of papers past also identified an earlier rubbish tip in Malloch Street. If anyone has information they are happy to pass on about rubbish tips around the lagoon, please contact me so I can pass it on.

Ruth Ferguson (risabelfe@gmail.com)

# Lagoon Creature of the Month: Kāhu (Harrier hawk)

his is a bird with many names; there is its zoological name Circus approximans, Birds NZ (previously the Ornithological Society) prefer to call it the Swamp Harrier, it is also known as the Australasian Harrier and in te reo it can also be called kāhu. I will stick with kāhu.

Kāhu are considered native to Aotearoa/NZ. As there are no fossil records earlier than about 1000 years ago, they are considered to have arrived when extensive lowland forests were replaced with grass, scrub and fern. They replaced the ecological niche left by the extinction of Eyre's harrier at about

the time of early settlement. Kāhu are widespread throughout Aotearoa/NZ, Australia (but not the arid regions), the sub-tropical and sub-Antarctic islands and Rēkohu/Chatham Islands. They have been quite noticeable soaring over the lagoon and Waikouaiti town this month. They are less common in forested areas and larger urban areas.

Kāhu feed on small to medium-sized birds, mammals, insects, lizards and frogs, catching them by dropping down and grabbing prey in their talons. They have an important function in cleaning up road kill and keeping introduced pests (mice, rats and rabbits) under control. From time to time they will regurgitate a pellet of bone and fur.



Kahu image taken by Paul Balfe

These birds are solitary breeders. They lay their eggs between October and December in nests made of sticks sitting on clumps of grass on the

ground or low bushes. The female incubates the eggs and the male will bring food to her, both parents will feed the chicks. Mating behaviour can start as early as June and extend to October. Pairs perform a spectacular aerial display of swoops, loops and a kee-o kee-o call- something to watch out for. For further information see: https://nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/swamp-harrier

## Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

he days are definitely getting colder, we are so lucky to have underfloor heating, to keep our heritage centre (visitors and volunteers) warm all year round. It was such a difference from the old bank when volunteers sat over our one heater in the winter.

For the next month or so we will feature items that will provide some indoor activities to keep the family occupied on cold days. This includes storybooks, jigsaws, memory games, board games and marbles etc. We will also be featuring prints by Mia Gorman as our featured artist along with many other unique items made by local artisans.

The project to restore the old bank building has reached an impasse in our discussions with DCC Heritage and HeritageNZ and we intend to ask the local community to assist us in making a decision to guide us. By next month a Survey Form will be available online and in a hard copy format and we hope as many people as possible will take the opportunity to complete it. We particularly want to hear from the younger generation in the area.

I also want to give advance notice to every one of our AGM at the end of August at which we will have a well-known local identity speaking on a topic of significant local interest. More on this in the next couple of months.

Finally, I would love to hear from someone with skills in videoing/filming as we would like to keep a digital record of the restoration project. It would require being available at irregular intervals over the next few years. For further details please contact me.

#### **Shirley McKewen**

Treasurer WCHC
Ts.mckewen@gmail.com



# SECURE STORAGE

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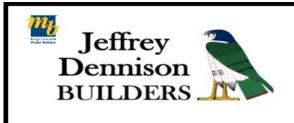


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## East Otago Musical Theatre

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our patrons and the wonderful sponsors of "Little Shop of Horrors". Your support of EOMT, along with the sponsorship of our stars and our show help to make local theatre possible in our community. We are truly grateful. Thanks again to our sponsors, we encourage our patrons and community to support you in return.

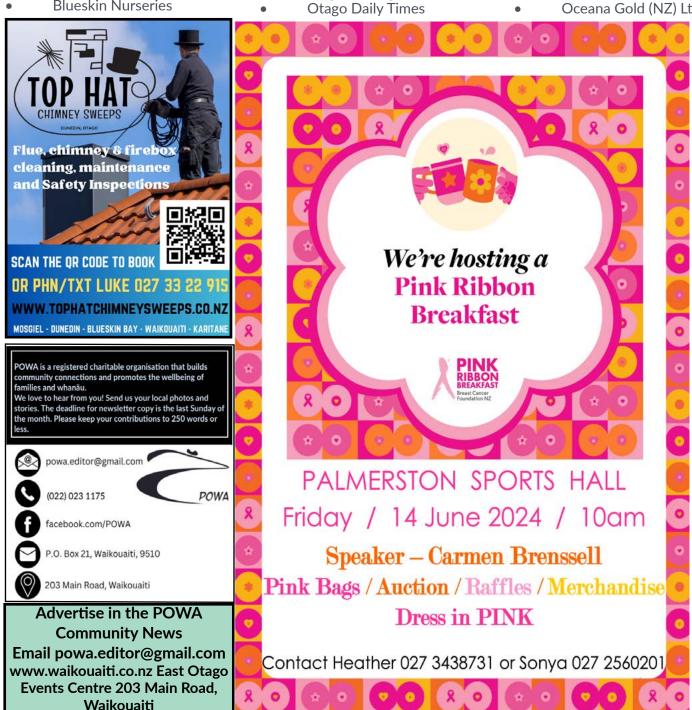
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- **Integrated Mechanics**
- Let's Dance Studio
- Meals On District
- Megan Gallagher Ltd

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- Puketapu Radio
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### And

- The Kiwi Gaming Foundation
- Waitaki District Council
- Creative Communities NZ
- **Dunedin City Council**
- The Otago Masonic
  - Charitable Trust
- Oceana Gold (NZ) Ltd





1 Gill Street, Waikouaiti 9510 8am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday 03 465 7610

Run 1

Run 2

6.45am Starts run in Dunedin

9.30am Departs Dunedin to Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Macraes, Ranfurly, Naseby, Middlemarch, Outram and Mosgiel, returning to Dunedin

Bookings required by 9an

12noon Departs Waikouaiti for Dunedin

2.15pm Departs Dunedin for Waitati, Warrington, Karitane, Waikouaiti and

**Palmerston** 

Daily Service between Dunedin, Waikouaiti and Palmerston Freight

Run

# Alan Cooper

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Stock up on wood now for winter!



This stunning image of the Auroa Australis over Puketapu, was taken by Zenobia Southcombe.





203 Main Road, Waikouaiti



Autumn has allowed many local photographers to capture stunning photos, this was taken by John Scott at Karitāne in May.







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