

POWA Community NEWS



PROGRESS OF THE WAIKOUAITI AREA

www.waikouaiti.co.nz

September 2024

Heritage Centre

It was an opportunity for those people involved with the museum over the past 15 or so years to get together on Sunday 11th August to farewell two stalwarts of the organisation, Bill and Kay Lang who are returning to Australia.

Bill and Kay came to Waikouaiti in 2009 and with Bill's background in museum engineering and design, they quickly became involved with our small museum. Bill encouraged the committee of the time to realise that the damp, cold building with no electricity was unsuitable for long term storage of heritage items. There was already damage occurring to books and textiles. A 2002 structural engineering report concluded that the building was structurally sound, so the momentous decision was made to build a new environmentally suitable heritage centre and to eventually restore the old building. After several reports, an updated Structural Engineering Report, A Feasibility Study, and a Conservation and Condition report were completed and with funding from DCC Heritage and Lotteries, the new build began. Alongside this planning, an extensive and vital fundraising campaign led by Judy Irving with a group of enthusiastic volunteers got underway. These efforts were

supplemented when Bill set up a firewood group in 2014 which until its closure in 2021 raised \$150,000 towards the new build. It was a lot of work for all our volunteers.

During these years, besides helping with fundraising activities Kay was busy with the heritage collection which was catalogued in a book.

Continued on page 3



Presentation of photo montage to Kay and Bill Lang



Some of the team from the Waikouaiti Volunteer Fire Brigade. From Left to Right Back row Standing :- CFO Dave McLeod, SFF Ryan Griffiths, SFF Andrew McWilliam, SFF DJ Cox, FF Amber Ruzich-Thomas, FF Mark Black, FF Rob Simmers and FF Emmett Dowling. Left to Right front row kneeling :- QFF Leighton Bray and FF Erin Te Huia

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS



- ★ **Thursday September 12**
East Otago Events Centre Management Committee AGM
7.30pm
East Otago Events Centre Boardroom
- ★ **14 – 21 Mahuru**
Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori:
- ★ **Monday September 16**
First Aid Course for parents of babies and toddlers
Plunket Clinic Rooms,
Palmerston Community Centre
- ★ **Wednesday September 18**
Dunk it for Plunket Fundraiser
10am-12 noon
East Otago Events Centre, Plunket Room
- ★ **Friday September 20**
POWA Community News
Contributions Deadline
- ★ **Saturday September 21**
Waikouaiti Crop Swap
10am-11am
East Otago Events Centre Auditorium
- ★ **Saturday September 28**
Lions Club of Palmerston
Fertilizer Drive Delivery
- ★ **Sunday October 6**
Waikouaiti Market
9.30am-1.30pm
East Otago Events Centre

If you don't receive the POWA Community News in your Mail box, we can deliver it to your In-box each month. Get in touch: powa.editor@gmail.com and never miss a copy.

If you wish to advertise or contribute to the POWA Community News email your copy to:
powa.editor@gmail.com
or drop it into the POWA office, Events Centre, Waikouaiti by the **20th of the month**

POWA Office, Events Centre,
203 Main Road, Waikouaiti
Hours : 10am - 3pm
Tuesday and Thursday
PO Box 21, Waikouaiti 9510
E : community.powa@gmail.com



facebook.com/POWA

POWA Updates

East Otago Health

Late Nights are here. For patients who work and need an evening appointment, the Medical Centre is open until 7pm in Palmerston and Waikouaiti on alternate Tuesdays. Phone 03 465 1444 for an appointment.



Do it On-Line

Last month, in *POWA in the Past* we remembered the DCC Fix-O-Grams which guaranteed a response and remedy. Sonya, our Community Engagement Manager has alerted us to the DCC 'Fix-it forms' which you can use to report a variety of problems. Go to:
<https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/do-it-online/report/fix-it-form> and let us know your experience



City to Palmerston bus

Recently, residents reported that the 3.25pm from the city bus hub didn't go down Beach Street and passengers had to get off in Main Street. Karen at Orbus confirms that there has been no change to this service and the bus should always go down Beach Street. If you have concerns, or this happens again, phone 0800 672 8736 as soon as possible. You can use this number after hours.



Trial Bus stop in Waitati

The ORC is trialling a stop in Waitati township. Northbound passengers using the Route 1 bus from Dunedin to Palmerston can use the new stop opposite the fire station from Wednesday, 14 August. Southbound passengers should continue to use the existing stop. It will be in addition to the stop on the highway near the On the Spot store and is a trial until 30 September.



Community September Fete

Our Annual Community Fete is held alongside the Spring Show, with a limited timeframe due to the blooming period of the flowers and other scheduled events. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure the venue this year, so the event has been postponed until September 2025. But don't worry, we have other exciting plans in the works before Christmas.

Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

200 Main Road

Open Wednesday and Thursday 1pm - 4pm
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm.

**For heritage research & information,
visitor information.**

Giftware and local artwork for sale.

E: admin@wchc.org.nz
M: Ian 027 767 5411



Caring Community: Waikouaiti Volunteer Fire Brigade

Did you know that 80% of New Zealand's fire fighters are volunteers? A forerunner of FENZ (Fire and Emergency New Zealand), the Dunedin Fire Brigade was established in Dunedin in 1861 and in response to a number of buildings burning down and concern for Waikouaiti's Main Street, the Waikouaiti Brigade was formed in 1964.

So, our volunteer Fire brigade celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. The first fire they attended was the Butcher shop on Main Street and an engine from Dunedin helped the newly formed Brigade (who had no appliance yet). The fire was contained to just that building so it saved a lot of property. Back then, the depot (on the same site as now) looked more like a large shed and the equipment wasn't as high-tech as it is now, but the volunteers were just as brave and caring and many of them will be honoured at the upcoming 60th anniversary celebrations in September.



The Waikouaiti Fire Brigade has an area that they must respond to, although here are no set boundaries. Our fire fighters go past Dunback or over the Kilmog or anywhere they are needed and can get to, often liaising with the Palmerston and Waitati brigades, attending motor vehicle accidents, fires, medical events and weather-related incidents. As Medical Co-responders they have on-going training and are re-certified every two years. In Waikouaiti, we have a fire engine (three years old) and a water tanker supplied by FENZ. The support vehicle was bought with funds raised by our fire fighters, and currently a new four-wheel drive support vehicle is being sought. They have raised over \$80,000 over the past year and they're grateful for the grants and the organisations who supported their efforts. And so are we.

David McLeod, our Fire Chief has lived in Waikouaiti for over 20 years and somehow fits organising the brigade and fighting fires with working full time as a Sales Rep and Accounts Manager. What's the biggest challenge? "We need about 5 or 6 more volunteers", says Dave. "There's no age limit but they must be physically fit. My daughter

joined at 16. As well as people to fight fires or respond to vehicle accidents, we need all sorts of operational support, people to control traffic, for example. The brigade consists of a diverse bunch of people and includes five women. There are farmers, mechanics, a nurse, dentists, salespeople, people from the gold mine. "They bring a huge range of skills to the job", adds Dave, "so if you're interested in joining, come along and take part in our weekly training." You'll train for three months and then if you're keen, you'll

train for a further year in all aspects of the job. Dave: "After that, there's a 7-day recruitment course in Christchurch where you'll train in fighting fires."

It is not all plain sailing for the volunteers. Because we're a small community inevitably some of the calls will be to friends or family. If this happens, ongoing assistance is readily available.

Are you interested in challenging yourself and learning how to overcome your fears and nervousness around a major emergency? To discover what it feels like to save a life, save properties, be appreciated by the community and learn valuable life-long skills? If this is you, get in touch today.

The Waikouaiti Fire Brigade building: Pratt Street, Waikouaiti.

Training: Wednesday evening. Time 7.15

Contact: David McLeod

E: david.mcleod@fireandemergency.nz

FB Waikouaiti Volunteer Fire Brigade

Catherine Robinson

Tell us about your organisation POWA.editor@gmail.com

Heritage Centre

Continued from page 1

She checked every item she could find against book entries (which was not always accurate), she then located a software programme called Past Perfect designed to catalogue and be searchable for locating items in the collection. The entire collection of 15,000 items (at the time) was transferred onto the computer and made available to all volunteers for researching visitor queries.

Bill planned and project managed the new build (to save on costs), hiring Southern Steel (main contractor) and sub-contractors as the building progressed. The building was

completed in June 2020, although the underfloor heating unit was on a slow boat from China. We opened during Covid times, which was difficult, as it was hoped that our new gift shop would cover ongoing operating costs, but Covid limited opening hours and visitor numbers for a time. At the formal opening held in October the following year Bill and Kay were awarded Life Membership and the new Display Hall was named after them. We owe them both a great deal for their services not just to the museum, which can never be repaid, but also to the community. Bon Voyage Bill and Kay.

Treasurer: Shirley McKewen

E: ts.mckewen@gmail.com

WAIKOUAITI LIBRARY

192 Main Road, Waikouaiti ph 465 9110

Seed Library

Come along the first week of September to get some seeds for your garden! And bring us any extra seed you have to share (clean seed please – labelled with the plant name and date collected)

Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori: 14 – 21 Mahuru

We have a lot of gorgeous new books to help you with your Reo; come in and have a look

Digital Library

<https://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/digital-library>
Read e-books, listen to e-audio, read e-mags (BorrowBox), read world newspapers (Press Reader), watch free movies (Beamafilm), enjoy a graphic novel (Comics Plus), do an online jigsaw (Jigsaw Explorer), get a craft lesson or idea (Creative Bug)

DCC Service Centre

Get your Bee Cards and top-ups, pay your rates, register your dog, pay parking fines, get your 75+ parking permit,

You can do it all at Waikouaiti Library – where parking is free

Library Hours

Monday – Friday: 11am – 5pm

Saturday: 10am – 1pm

DCC Service Centre Hours

Monday – Friday: 11am – 5pm



poetry corner

This 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

Without Dreams We Die

Taranaki Smith

The Dream:

To build a Sanctuary in East Otago

Another Orokonui

Another Zealandia

Here stands Puketapu

343 a.s.l.

1.5km from SH1

Halfway between Dunedin and Oamaru

Legendary

Mythological

Historical

Visible

Pivotal

Tapu

Others have fruit

Salmon

Lemon and Paeroa

Draught horses

Trout

Waihemo has Puketapu

Ka mihi nui ki te mauka!

Na Taranaki Smith:

He kaihanga ahau

Kei ten oho ahau ki Waihemo

Me tiaki a tatou I te taiao.



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Celebrating 25 years: Radio Puketapu (756AM)

You have to be a certain age to remember slow dial-up internet, floppy disks, life without social media, no Bluetooth or WIFI and when Yahoo was our search engine. During those olden days, our entertainment and news came from TV and radio. But, radio reception north of the Kilmog was patchy. In 1999, a group of clever Palmerstonians got together and realised that they had the expertise to create their own radio station. So, they applied for a licence to operate and 25 years later, Radio Puketapu is still broadcasting.

One of the original founders, John Blair, currently an announcer says 'An announcer came out from Dunedin and four locals volunteered. We built up a library of records and CDs. We now have a music list of over 3,000 songs on the computer'. Stewart Johnston is the Chair of the Radio Puketapu Charitable Trust: 'We raise funds through grants, BBQs, auctions, housie. The Mercury Rising concert in July was in support of Radio Puketapu and a celebration of our 25 years. And..' he adds, 'we're always looking for advertisers, our rates are very reasonable.' Jillian Johnston manages the Craft Shop. 'We sell quality gifts and crafts,' she says, 'and we've a good collection of second-hand books for sale.' Check out the display of books by local authors. All proceeds go to the Trust.

Radio Puketapu operates for 24 hours a day, 7am-5pm from Palmerston and then switches to Oamaru FM. Programmes include a Thursday morning Gardening Session, interviews with locals and local news and there's a Sports Session on Saturday mornings. Waihemo Pharmacy sponsors a Brain Teaser every morning and listeners are invited to phone in with their answers. Anyone who wants to promote something should get in touch.

Is there still a need for radio? Stewart: 'Through our broadcasts, we try to foster a community spirit and as our coverage includes the East Otago area, Oamaru, Ranfury, Middlemarch and Dunedin, we keep listeners in touch with what's going on in Palmerston. We know that local radio updates are essential in emergencies because extreme weather events cause power outages.' They have recently purchased two generators – one will enable the Station to keep operating and the other will make sure that the aerial can transmit. 'We're able to liaise with the police and Civil Defence,' says Stewart, 'and we're putting together an Emergency Pack of essentials for people to buy. We're looking for a source of



From left John Blair, Jillian Johnston and Stewart Johnston

quality, inexpensive transistor radios so we can include these, together with batteries.' Stewart has trialled some transistor radios but the sound quality isn't great so if you can help, get in touch.

You are invited to drop in and browse, chat to the friendly staff, buy a gift. Both the Craft Shop and the studio are run by volunteers and they are always looking for announcers. Interested?

Radio Puketapu (756AM), 114 Ronaldsay Street, Palmerston (the old BNZ Building)

Studio: 03 4651 81 Shop: 03 4651-66

E: puketapuradio@xtra.co.nz FB: Puketapu Radio 756am

Catherine Robinson



The Oddity

The Oddity are also celebrating 25 years. This time on Main Street in Waikouaiti.

As a bit of a collector I enjoy browsing and finding the odd piece, especially kiwiana that I must have! There is always something that catches the eye.., be it a book, one that I might have had as a kid, or an item that we had in our old 1950's kitchen. When you mention Waikouaiti to outsiders they comment on the pies, fish & chip shop and The Oddity..

Congratulations to Keith, Graeme and Cait for being an integral part of our community and encouraging travellers to stop, look and buy!

Stuart Brown



Hot chippies from the Carey's Bay hotel



And so it begins...

Term three has started the way it means to go on - busy, BUSY!

We started this term with a visit to Toitū to look at boats. During our visit we explored the traditional mokihi (made of raupō and harakeke), looked at the whaling boat 'Māori Girl' built for Tame Parata and Parah Tira in 1871, and then experienced life on board an immigrant ship. We made origami boats which we then took over to the Chinese Gardens to see if they would float. Then we finished the morning off at Carey's Bay where we looked at all the different types of boats and ships in the harbour. We may also have had some lovely hot chippies from the Carey's Bay hotel - I can neither confirm or deny!

Back in the classrooms we are doing lots of reading and writing about floating and sinking. We are learning all about density, both of water and of various objects and how density affects buoyancy. This has led on to sessions where we have been using our learning to design, make and test boats. All very exciting and meaningful science learning. As I write this, I can hear children excitedly cheering their classmates on and counting how many marbles each boat can hold before it sinks... Willa was the winner in the Tuakana room with 29, but Addison (5 years old) was the ultimate winner with 34!

No swimming for us this term - we are having a wee break because the winter coughs and colds are prevalent. Instead, we are running weekly cycle skills sessions. We also love having our VIP's (Very Important Preschoolers) join us for these sessions.

A recent grant from the Tū Manawa fund allowed us to purchase some great storage solutions for our sports equipment as well as loads of new balls, netball hoops, robust cycle helmets, wagons for the playground and mighty Tonka trucks for the sandpit. This was most timely as the East Otago basketball season is about to kick off and we have not one, but two teams entered in the weekly round robin and of course, netball is continuing this term.

Phew! What will next month bring us? Wait and see...

Nicola Philip Tumuaiki/Principal
03 4657475
www.karitaneschool.co.nz

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5 McGregor Street, Waikouaiti
Ph 03 4657 319 - bigsteps@xtra.co.nz

WAIKOUAITI

Primary School

Last week, the Prime Minister and Education Minister announced a fast-tracking of a new “structured maths” curriculum to be introduced next year, claiming new data showed “appalling” results and were a result of “total system failure”.

I am worried that this could cause unwarranted concern with our Maths teaching and feel the need to point out 2 things; Firstly the data referred to related to a new curriculum that has not been implemented at Waikouaiti School and did not represent a decline in Maths achievement but a new benchmarking process. NZ Maths achievement remains higher than average across OECD countries.

Secondly Waikouaiti School data shows there is no system failure affecting our students. Our current Maths data shows we have 75% of students achieving at or above expected year level standards. Our teachers plan Maths lessons based on the diverse needs of their class. Our teachers go the extra mile to ensure no students’ learning is put at risk.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to talk to your classroom teacher or myself.



We are so lucky to have Emily from NZ Police come in and talk to all our students as part of the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme. The programme has covered some very difficult topics including; inappropriate touching, Online predators and the correct names for our private body parts.

This programme is part of our health curriculum which we develop based on our school community feedback including our recent health survey. Thanks again to all those who completed the survey and contributed your thoughts and opinions.

Stuart Cooke
Principal, Waikouaiti School
E: principal@waikouaiti.school.nz

Community Emergency Hub

Your go-to in an emergency:

Waikouaiti - East Otago Events Centre
Karitane - Puketeraki Marae

Great excitement for school pupils



Great excitement for the pupils of Waikouaiti School when a home turned up on a transporter and parked up in Court Street beside the school. The house came all the way from Genius Homes in Timaru and was lifted into place over the Police home and onto prior built foundations on Seddon by WAE Crane Division.



PEWS NEWS

St John's Anglican Church

2nd Sunday and 8th September

Service: 10am with Rev Joy Hamilton-Jones
Everyone Welcome. Morning tea to follow.

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

Presbyterian Parish of Waikouaiti - Karitane

September 8 - 10am Eucharist at St John's Anglican
church

September 15 - 10 am Combined service at Karitane led
by Robertson family

September 22 - 10am Service at Kildare Street, Waikouaiti

September 29 - 10am Ecumenical Service at Kildare
Street, Waikouaiti

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

St Anne's Catholic Church

Waikouaiti Mass every Sunday at 12 noon; Hampden Mass
at 1.30pm on 1st and 2nd Sunday each month.



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Main Street Office:

Wednesday, 9:30am-12:30pm Thursday, 9:30am-12:30pm



A huge thank you to the East Otago Blokes Shed who
have transformed our latest container at the Hub with the
addition of a sliding door in the side.

Together with shelves donated by Dunedin Mega Mitre 10
and your generous clothing donations it is now transformed
into the district's latest clothing op shop! Our volunteers
have organised the clothes into labelled banana boxes so
you can search for children's tops or men's trousers, etc
as needed.

Prices vary according to garment, but are very reasonable.
You can still fill a shopping bag for \$5 or less.

We hope to be able to improve the space further with more
shelves and a sturdy piece of pipe to replace our rickety
clothes racks. In the meantime, though our boxes are
pretty full, we still accept clothing and footwear from you,
as long as it is clean and in reasonable condition.

Contact: Judy Martin
E: chair@onecoast.org
M: 021 130 7765

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Attention Home Gardeners!

The Waikouaiti Crop Swap is back and takes place from September to May 2025. The purpose of the crop swap is to share the surplus bounty of our gardens with friends and neighbours. Bring seeds, cuttings, seedlings, potted up plants, produce including honey, eggs and preserves. Bring gardening books and any tools you don't need. Bring anything from your kitchen – baking or other edibles.

A gold coin donation from participants covers the cost of the hall hire and you place contributions on the tables. After a brief introduction we walk around and take whatever we need. No barter and no money changes hands – simple! This is an exercise in giving generously and taking thoughtfully so come along and enjoy the atmosphere of giving and seeing what grows successfully in our area. Gardeners are generous with their advice as well as their produce and happy to share their knowledge. If you are new to gardening or feel that you haven't much to donate, you are welcome to join us to find out more.

Saturday 21 September, 10am-11am Gold Coin donation
East Otago Events Centre.

E: wcropswap@gmail.com FB: Waikouaiti Crop Swap



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Quantity Cost	Number of bags	Cost	TOTAL
Lime (15kg bags)	\$7.00	\$.....
Blood & Bone (5kg bags)	\$14.00	\$.....
Lawn Fertilizer (5kg bags)	\$9.00	\$.....
Sulphate of Ammonia (5kg bags)	\$9.00	\$.....
Sheep Manure (per bag)	\$7.00	\$.....
Saw Dust (Large bags)	\$7.00	\$.....
Pine Cones (per bag)	\$7.00	\$.....
TOTAL			\$-----

Thank you to Otago Transport, Balance Fertilizer and Hewvan Timber for their continued support.

Delivery Saturday September 28

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Bruce Lee : Phone 027 212 7075, brlee@xtra.co.nz
15A Collins Street, Waikouaiti 9510

Customer Name

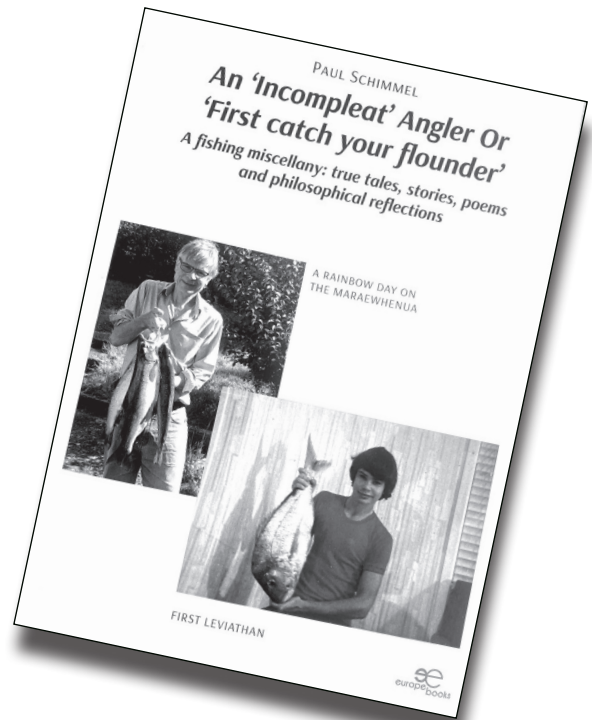
Address

Phone

Support Local:

Paul Schimmel

An 'Incompleat' Angler or 'First catch your flounder' - A fishing miscellany: true tales, stories, poems and philosophical reflections by Paul Schimmel



A medical doctor by training, author Paul Schimmel retrained as a psychoanalyst in Sydney and worked there for many years. Now retired, Paul still visits his Sydney home but for 7 months of the year lives at Shag Point. He's owned the house that belonged to the Shag Point Mine foreman for over 30 years. What attracted him to Shag Point? "It was the river, which was fantastic," he says, "it was stuffed with trout back then." Now, though, the trout population has diminished precipitously and its not clear why. Paul plans to keep an eye on the river and let us know if things improve during the next season.

His book came about from jottings and stories written over the years, accounts of fishing the Shag River and his sea fishing years. It includes poems about fishing and some philosophical reflections, so it's an intriguing mixture of hilarious stories and deep thoughts.

Alexandra's Michael Harlow, poet and recipient of The Prime Ministers award for poetry 2018 wrote in a review: The title of this book 'An Incompleat Angler' takes its spelling from the Englishman Izaak Walton's famous 1653 book 'The Compleat Angler'. Published by europe books 2022,

Even for a non-fisherman, like myself, this book is a highly entertaining read, not to mention written with style, and it is published by an international publisher.

It is divided between accounts of saltwater fishing and exploits in freshwater fly fishing for trout. The Introduction opens: "Fishing is one of those forms of foolishness from which much wisdom can be gained." and the tone of the book is set.'

The book is available at \$25 in the gift shop [in the old bank building] opposite the Z station in Palmerston.

Paul Schimmel

pschimmel51@gmail.com

Lagoon Creature of the Month:

Buff-tailed Bumblebee

(*Bombus terrestris*)

This morning it was 5oC outside and I was surprised to see the first bumblebee of the season. It was a magnificently large and predominantly black with a yellow/orange stripe, around its abdomen; it was most likely *B. terrestris*. Unlike honeybees that can't fly unless the temperature is above 10oC, bumblebees can fly in most adverse conditions so it may well have survived the day's snow flurries.

There are 4 species of bumblebees in Aotearoa/NZ and all are introduced. *Bombus terrestris* is the largest and widely spread throughout the country. Compared to other bumblebee species, it has a short tongue but this still longer than honeybees. If you notice wee holes bored in the side of your broad bean flowers, this will be *B. terrestris* getting nectar from the flower. As these bypasses contact with pollen, the outcome will not be a nice plump pod of beans, that comes from the work of another bee species or through self-pollination.

Queen bumble bees overwinter in holes in the ground, the female workers and male drones do not survive. When the mated queen emerges, she will first find a new site to establish a nest, often a hole in the ground or a pile of dried grass and twigs. She then clears a space and secretes a waxy substance from her body to build a honeypot. After visiting flowers to suck up nectar and to gather pollen she returns to the nest to fill the honeypot and to roll the pollen with some nectar into small balls. She will lay 8-10 eggs on one of these balls then incubate these using her abdominal heat, maintaining her energy by supping from her honeypot. Larvae hatch after 4-6 days and feed on the pollen balls, moulting then developing into pupae after 10-20 days. The queen will lay another batch of eggs between the pupae. The worker bees which emerge after about 11 days will then work to look after this next brood. The colony will continue to slowly increase over the summer to about 250 inhabitants (much larger nests will occur in areas with a large concentration of flowers). As summer starts to wind into autumn, production of workers ceases, queens for the following summer are produced along with the drones with which they will mate before hibernating.

Unlike honeybees, bumble bees do not accumulate large amounts of honey. They do however have a generally unrecognised role as major pollinators, more important than honeybees. With their larger body size, nifty body vibrations to loosen the pollen grains, longer working day and being less selective about the flowers they visit, bumble bees are pollinator champions. Concern about the reducing numbers of bees has resulted in support organisations like the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. Their commercial importance is support by several companies breeding and selling bumble bees to horticulturists. Bumble bees from here have even been return exported to UK and Europe.

For further information see: <https://otagomuseum.nz/blog/thicc-bee-auties/>

NZ Bumblebee Conservation Trust <https://www.nzbct.org.nz/bee-informed/>

<https://www.inaturalist.org>

Ruth Ferguson





Vicki Offen
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vicki@edinburgh.co.nz

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Reports

Community Engagement Managers Report

Community Hui

Thank you to everyone who attended our second Community Hui on Water Futures on Sunday 18th August. There were over 50 participants, who shared kai and conversation before our main speakers took the stage. We appreciate your patience as we resolved some initial technical issues.



Dr. Alayna Pakinui Rā from Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki began the hui with a karakia. She emphasized the significance of hazard mitigation and the role of community resilience.

Associate Professors Janet Stephenson and Sophie Bond from the University of Otago highlighted various research initiatives and used examples of two small Northland communities that illustrated the critical importance of community involvement in adapting to change and exemplifying effective leadership.

Dr. Jean-Luc Payan, Manager of Natural Hazards at the Otago Regional Council, discussed the ORC's efforts in collecting and analyzing environmental data to monitor and understand changes and potential risks in our region.

Dr. Simon Cox, Principal Scientist at GNS Science, shared insights into the lessons drawn from our evolving landscape. He focused on how LiDAR technology enhances our understanding of landform changes, the geological processes shaping our environment, and the future implications of these changes, particularly concerning water's role.

Understanding water and resilience within our community is crucial because water is a fundamental resource that affects every aspect of life, from health to agriculture, and economic stability. Understanding how communities manages water resources and prepare for challenges like droughts or floods empowers us to contribute to solutions that enhance resilience. This knowledge ensures that our community can adapt to climate change, and protect our residents and ecosystems in the face of unexpected

challenges. We would appreciate your feedback to help us plan future Hui for 2025.

POWA's Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on Wednesday 21st August. The current committee is as follows:

Kath Ryan (Chair), Nick Orbell (Treasurer), Jan Malloch (Secretary), Sonya Billyard (Community Engagement Manager), Catherine Robinson and Stuart Brown (Co-Editors of POWA Community News), Committee members: Judy Martin, Robin Mutch, Rachel Pile, Lynne Booth.

Extract from the Chair's report by Kath Ryan:

The care and generosity of people in our community continues to impress me. I am aware of many acts of kindness and support that have occurred over the last year and I would like to record formal thanks to fellow residents for these. In particular, business and community donations of expertise, time and money to the Waikouaiti Main Street mural project were outstanding and ultimately made this installation possible. A huge thank you is owed to those who supported the project, including the landowners who allowed the artwork to front their property. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and there is evidence of increased pride in the town. I would also like to especially thank members of the hardworking POWA Committee. East Otago would be a less vibrant place to live without their invisible participation

Many volunteers take part in POWA activities behind the scenes, including fundraising and the monthly Powa Community News production and delivery. Thanks for the large donation to the Foodbank from the staff and patients of the East Otago Health Centre.

We have a few new businesses and new owners of existing businesses in the district. I welcome them and thank them for the support they have given POWA already. I also want to thank the established local businesses who have quietly continued to generously support POWA and various community activities this year. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the various organisations that have funded POWA over the last year, including Dunedin City Council, Ministry of Social Development, Lotteries Commission, Otago Community Trust, Community Organisation Grants Scheme, Bendigo Trust, Our Food Network and the Waikouaiti Coast Community Board, Paws for Hope and the Hawksbury Fellowship.

Sonya Billyard
E: community@gmail.com



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The East Otago Social Bridge Club Inc

On Sunday 11 August, The East Otago Social Bridge Club hosted 60 people for a charity bridge tournament, held at the RSA Hall in Waikouaiti. The recipient of the funds raised is our local St John's based in Palmerston.

We welcomed fellow bridge players from Wanaka, Oamaru, Taieri and Otago clubs. Some of our own members also played and everyone thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of light competition bridge. Our members provided the raffle prizes and the tickets were snapped up very quickly.

Local sponsors who provided spot prizes included Beano's Bakery, The Outpost, Alisha from SkevAli Hair Studio, Blueskin Nursery and Z Palmerston Service Station. The spot prizes were gratefully received by the lucky recipients.

Along with the great raffle prizes, the club's own members provided scrumptious food and camaraderie, making our tournament one to remember.

The tournament raised \$1,715.00 which St John's Palmerston will use towards the purchase of a lifting cushion which can be used by the ambulance volunteers to lift people who have fallen in confined spaces such as bathrooms and hallways.

The use of the venue and help from the RSA was much appreciated.

Our main sponsors were recognised as OceanaGold and One Agency, Dunedin.

Jenny Rowley, Tournament Co-ordinator

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INSPIRING Design

Hawksbury Lagoon

I have been fascinated to observe the feeding of groups consisting of tarāpunga/red billed gulls, kuruwhengi/shoveler ducks and a few rakiraki/mallards at the lagoon over the last few weeks. Initially they were swimming about then attempted to dive below the surface. Last week the groupings had not changed but they were pecking at the water surface suggesting a surface-dwelling delicacy. Unfortunately they were not so close to the causeways to see what their food source was.

Hawksbury Lagoon Committee

There have been major changes to the Hawksbury Lagoon Committee. As members, for good reasons, left the committee, we have not been able to attract new members. We tried through word-of-mouth, talking to people we thought might be interested, placing leaflets in the letterboxes of properties that had recently sold, engaging social media, but nobody has come forward. Earlier this year with the resignation of 2 members only 2 active members were remaining. This seems part of a wider societal problem. In the last 3 years both the Blueskin Bay Watch and Karitane River Care groups have been put to rest. After so many years and so much effort to improve and safeguard the Lagoon Reserve it is important to find a way to continue this mahi. Linking up with the local catchment group seemed an obvious and complementary approach. At the AGM Ruth joined the East Otago Catchment Group committee. We will be working through what being a sub-committee or pod of the EOEC will look like. The current best option is to form action groups to take on short term projects relating to the lagoon. We are now advertising these locally and hope people will be more likely to participate in short term active projects. The first of these will be geese egg pricking to reduce the rapid expansion of the domestic, greylag and Canada goose population.

Ruth Ferguson

COME AND BE PART OF THE HAWKSURY LAGOON GOOSE EGG PRICKING TEAM

During the goose nesting season (early September for about 6 weeks) once a week a dedicated group goes out and using a hand or battery drills bores holes in goose eggs.

This requires average fitness, sturdy footwear and a drill (some may be available to borrow). You will have a partner to work with and be out for about 90 minutes, followed by gathering over a coffee for those interested.

Training will be provided.

Please contact Ruth Ferguson 021 1130 719.

East Otago Events Centre

The proposed upgrades to the Community Garden have now been carried out. The palings have been installed and planters and benches put in position. There are other things to be done but the improvements so far are making quite a difference. Inside the Centre, the indoor market which is held on the first Sunday of each month seems to be doing well. The Committee very much appreciates the cleaned and tidy state in which the auditorium has been left following the market events.

Use of the projector is increasing and it is necessary, if using a computer, to ensure that the computer will 'talk' to the projector - which is not always the case! To avoid complications or embarrassment, it is recommended that hirers test this connection in advance of their event and if there is a problem, contact Sharleen, 021 0825 5735

The Annual General Meeting of the East Otago Events Centre Management Committee will be held on Thursday 12th September at 7.30pm in the EOEC Boardroom. All welcome.

Contact: Eva Hammond 03 465 7790 or 027 756 3497
Bookings Sharleen 021 0825 5735
E: eoec.info.bookings@gmail.com

East Otago Plunket Round Up

The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti continues to run weekly on Wednesdays between 10.00 and 12.00 at the Plunket Rooms in the East Otago Events Centre.

We are running a First Aid course specifically tailored to parents of babies and toddlers on Monday 16 September in the Plunket Clinic Rooms in the Palmerston Community Centre: to book a place for the small fee of \$15 email annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz If you can't make this course but are interested in doing this on another date, there will still be one more run this year in Waikouaiti on 5 November.

On Wednesday 18th September we are running a *Dunk It for Plunket* fundraiser event at the Plunket Rooms in the EOEC 10am-12noon. Join us for a cuppa and biscuits combined with the opportunity to acquire second hand clothes, toys and other items for babies and children under five at the bargain price of \$5 to fill a bag with any special items priced separately. Donate any good condition items please, either drop them into a Playgroup session (see above) or bring them along on the day.

Look out for our upcoming annual Spring Seeds fundraiser in conjunction with Wildflower World. Details will be publicised on Otago Plunket's Facebook Page and shared to local Facebook community groups.

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

Annabel Kuzma E annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz

Waikouaiti Crop Swap

Saturday 21 September, 10am-11pm Gold Coin donation

East Otago Events Centre



POWA IN THE PAST:

From the POWA Community News archive

September 2004: 20 Years ago

Pot Luck Dinner

There will be a Pot Luck Dinner On 5 October from 4.30 – 7.30 at Sidey Lodge, Thomas Street (the Girl Guides Building) to welcome all new residents to Waikouaiti. Now there hasn't been such an event for four years, so anyone who has moved to town since then is still considered 'new'. Presumably, once having attended this auspicious occasion, new residents will be one step closer to being officially 'local': if this status is appealing, attendance is a must. Old, welcoming residents should bring a plate, preferably with some food on it.

Did you attend one of these events? If so, we'd like to hear about it! powa.editor@gmail.com



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Bygone days



The "Plough Inn" Waikouaiti

The finding of gold in the innermost parts of Otago changed the life style of little harbours along the Otago coast. Miners began to arrive at Waikouaiti, droves of them, even some from Australia, all with one purpose in mind - to get to the diggings as fast as possible. From Waikouaiti, they would travel by bullock wagon to Shag Valley, and then foot it all the way to the Dunstan.

By 1866 coaches were on the road travelling north and south and also west to the Dunstan, Waikouaiti was in its heyday of prosperity. An immigrant, Samuel Woolley, purchased a hotel on the main road in the township. He called it the Plough Inn after the Plough Inn back home in Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire which he had sold to get money to emigrate.

At the new Plough Inn fresh horses were harnessed up to drag heavy loads to the Dunstan. Coaches travelling north and south stopped for a change of horses and for meals supplied to passengers. At the time "Cabbage Tree Ned" always pulled his coach and his 6 fine grey horses in front of the hotel while the slower patient bullock teams still plodded along to where the bullockies could be fed and refreshed. The Plough Inn was a very popular place.

One would assume that these hotels would be rip roaring haunts of the miners, but not so. Sam Woolley kept a strict control over his supplies and his clients. According to the story, Sam was a religious man and during the hotel business he held prayers every morning at 10 o'clock. Everybody including the family, the cook, the maids, the groom and the "boots" had to assemble in the parlour for morning prayers.

(from the ODT files)

The Plough Inn was at 130 Main Road on the corner of Gill Street behind where the double story house belonging to WAE stands. The picture above was taken in 1953.

Stuart Brown

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East Otago Creative Fibre (Spinners & Weavers)

1st Thursday of the month, 10am – 2pm.
St John's Church Hall, Beach St, Waikouaiti.
All welcome. Ph: Lorraine McLean 027 288 6081 or Laurel Caddick 021 269 0288

East Otago Art Group

Meet fortnightly at 10am – 2pm. St John's Church, Beach Street. All welcome.
Ph: Reywa 022 254 7620

Eastern Boating Fishing Club

Ph Kerrie Boock 027 358 8769 or Eric Boock 027 686 9939. easternbfclub@gmail.com

East Otago Creative Artisans

Contact Reywa Brown 022 254 7620

East Otago Embroiderer's Guild

Hawksbury Village. New members welcome. Every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of the month at 9.30am.
President Pearl Stenhouse 021 262 8289

East Otago Musical Theatre

President – Dave Keen
Secretary – Sharleen Snoeck
Treasurer Sonya Watson
eomtproductions@gmail.com

East Otago Social Bridge Club

RSA, 10 Pratt St, Waikouaiti. Bridge is every Wednesday evening. Please be seated by 6.50pm. Lessons available. All welcome.
Contact: Secretary EOBridge@outlook.com or Susan 022 0214 722

East Otago Wood Turners Inc.

Thursdays from 1-3pm and a second session on the same day. Thursday from 6-8pm. Members have access to the clubrooms at any time by arrangement with the club secretary: Lou Tonkin 020 4037 9635

Kati Huirapa Runaka ki

Puketeraki
Monday 9am – 4pm Ph: (03) 465 7300

Otago Eastern District Camera Club

Meet every 2nd Monday at 7.30pm at the St Mary's Church Hall, Stromness St, Palmerston.
New members welcome. Contact Tracy Clare 027 245 6424
eastotagocameraclub@gmail.com

Palmerston Fibre Arts Collective

At the Community Centre, Ronaldsay St, Palmerston. Every Sunday 11am – 2pm, bring snacks to share.
Contact Christine 021 061 4485

The Waitaki Writer's Group

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of every month at 1.30pm in the St John Hall, Exe St, Oamaru. President Chris Stewart (03) 434 8800 waitakiwriters@yahoo.co.nz

Volunteer South

The Business Hive, 26 Ribble St, Oamaru. On-site Wednesday only, available Mondays & Fridays, 10am – 4pm
Dunedin Community House, 283-301 Moray Place, Dunedin
Open Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm
Contact office 03 471 6206. Everyone is welcome to drop in at either location.
Email: info@volunteersouth.org.nz

Waikouaiti Creative Crafts

Hawksbury Village Coffee Lounge, beside the church. 9.30am – 2pm every 2nd & 4th Wednesday. Ph Cathy 027 201 1463 or Christine 021 235 1883

Waikouaiti Garden Club

Usually the last Monday of the month @ 7pm. John Brown Room, Events Centre.
Ph Barb 021 180 7366 or Alison 021 652 811

Waikouaiti Golf Club

Tuesday 10am report. Friday 12.45pm report. Saturday 12 noon report. Ph 021 663 641 or email waikouaitigolf@gmail.com

Waikouaiti Rodeo Club

Ph Logan Rowland 021 025 76513

Waikouaiti Community Garden

Ph Robin 027 440 4844

FITNESS AND FUN

Eastern Rugby Club

Ph Abby Lynch 027 885 5105
easternrugbyclub@gmail.com

Hydrotherapy & Aquasize

Thursdays 9.30am – 10.30am. Moana Gow Pool, Hawksbury. Ph Bev (03) 465 8203

Karitane Bowling Club

Thursday from 4pm October – March. Social bowls followed with a \$4 BBQ. Newcomers welcome. Coaching provided. Ph Bob 021 055 8501

Karitane Indoor Bowling Club

Winter season only, April – Sept. Tues 1pm Karitane Hall. Come and enjoy social indoor bowls. Contact Neil 027 220 3033

Kyokushin Karate

Mon/Thurs 6 – 8pm, open to all ages & fitness levels. Learn self defence and gain confidence & fitness, make new friends & so much more. 1st class free. Waikouaiti Church Hall, Kildare Street, Contact: noah.heath@slingshot.co.nz

Line Dancing

Line-dancing, PRESBYTERIAN Church Hall, Kildare St, Monday. 3.30 for absolute beginners, 4pm for those who have done it before. Cost \$5.
Heather Cox heather.cox@xtra.co.nz

Mecaela Baird School of Ballet

Ph (03) 465 8293 or 021 804 076
Email: mstutu2@hotmail.com

Moana Gow Pool

Corner of Truby King Drive and Kennard Crescent, Hawksbury Village. Ph Jane 027 474 5263 moanagowpooltrust@gmail.com

Petanque

Wednesday & Sundays 1.15pm.
Ready to play at 1.30pm, Waikouaiti
Ph Anthony (03) 465 7662

Scottish Country Dancing

Every Tuesday 7-9pm. Childrens tuition 7-8pm. Clark Hall, Palmerston. Ph Lynne (03) 465 7714

Steady As You Go

Wednesday mornings at 10am. If you are interested in gentle exercise and good company for an hour come along. East Otago Events Centre.

Tai Chi

St John's Church Hall, Beach Street
Monday 9.30am, Intermediate
Tuesday 7pm, Advanced
Thursday 2.15pm, Beginners
Friday 10am, Advanced
Contact Judy Martin ratasouthern@gmail.com

Twilight Tennis

Thursdays 6.30pm.
Ph Sarah McMillan 021 207 2486

Waikouaiti Indoor Bowling Club

Wednesdays 7-9pm at the EOEC.
Ph Phil Hammond (03) 465 8157 or Eva Hammond (03) 465 7790

Waikouaiti Outdoor Bowling Club

Contact Karen Kelly 027 244 3646 or Colleen (03) 465 7558. Club Day Thursday 2pm

MEET NEW PEOPLE

High Tea Project

East Otago Events Centre
Date advertised in POWA Community News
Ph Sonya 027 253 9205

Lions Club of Palmerston

Meet 2nd Monday of each month starting at 6pm, Waihemo Lodge. Ph Bruce 027 212 7075 or Ronald 027 431 1535

East Otago Bloke's Shed

New members welcome.
Contact Neil Kennedy.
kennedy.rjneil@gmail.com

R.S.A.

Meets every Friday from 4.30pm, Pratt St, Waikouaiti. Meet new friends over a meal and a drink in a warm & friendly atmosphere. Ph Warren MacLeod 021 267 9987 or (03) 465 7079. Hall hire available.

Waikouaiti/Karitane Living Alone Group

3rd Wednesday of the month.
12 mid-day @ The Outpost Cafe.
Ph Lois (03) 465 7492

FOR FAMILIES

Waikouaiti-Palmerston Toy Library

Open Saturday 12 – 1.30pm.
Located at the Racecourse.
Drop in and see what we have to offer parents and grandparents alike. Variety of affordable membership options from \$5 to \$60 and free toy hire of a great range of toys 0-8 years.

East Otago Buddy Programme

2 hours fun and new experiences weekly for children 5 – 12 years old. Contact Jo 021 268 4780

Palmerston Playgroup

Coffee group for parents and children (under 5) 10.15 – 11.45am every Thursday during School Term at Waikouaiti Plunket Rooms, East Otago Events Centre.
Ph Annabel 027 229 1608 (Community Support Co-ordinator for more info or just drop in).

BBMR Motocross

Possible coaching for younger riders. If you are responsible and happy to help with occasional track maintenance, contact Lindsay 021 216 392

Waikouaiti Library Hours

Monday – Friday 11am – 5pm
Saturday 10am – 1pm

DCC Service Centre Hours

Monday – Friday 11am – 5pm

Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

200 Main Road, Waikouaiti.
Open Wednesday and Thursday 1 – 4pm.
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10am – 4pm. For research, historical information and tourist information. Gallery and Giftware of local artisans. Ph (03) 465 7869 or a/h (03) 465 8448

To amend your listing or add

a new one contact the
Editor at powa.editor@gmail.com



At last month's Garden Club meeting Christine Irvine talked on working with succulents. Here is Tommy the tortoise which will eventually fill out.



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