

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

August 2023

\$4.00

~ What's inside? ~

- Creatives in Schools exhibition
- A clean hull pass for Rakiura?
- Winter Greens
- Sanford Salmon Tales
- **Phred's fame spreads**
- Conservation Week activities



Above: Nico Hare and Luca Simpson practising their photography at bush school
Riki Rudin-Jones

Above left: Rain on leaves *Elise Simeon*
Below: Museum exhibits *Bella McRitchie-King* Red flower *Betty Taylor*

Island building boom *by Shona*

We seem to be experiencing a building boom, with at least 19 building consents issued by Southland District Council this year. I asked Nathaniel Topi and Jennifer Jamieson why they chose to build **rather than buy**. Here's what they said: When we started looking at houses the only thing we could afford was a section. So we decided the best approach for us was to buy a piece of land and put our money into it whilst we planned our build. What challenges did you encounter? We had issues with our suppliers which had a flow-on effect throughout the build and delayed certain significant aspects. However, an unconventional approach kept the build on track. What challenges were specific to the island? Due to the high volume of building, getting supplies to the island proved logistically challenging regardless of the exceptional service of the freighter. However,

we did have the luxury of using both the Aurora and Foveaux Express. What are the benefits of building? Our draftsman, Andy Johnson, designed the house specific to our demands so we got exactly what we wanted from the exceptional hands of Renew Building, Chris Hope. Also having a new house on the island frees up rentals for other islanders in need. Something you wish you had known prior to building? In hindsight, we should've ordered furniture and appliances earlier than we did as we are having to wait a month for certain items to arrive.



Thankyou Stewart Island Community



Thanks to your generosity our helipad is now all paid for. We are hugely appreciative of the support you have provided and hope you never need the service. But if you do, it's there. Thanks again to all those who helped make this project happen.





About now, while the winter menu of hearty casseroles and soups is fortifying and comforting, there is a craving for crunchy, crisp, flavoursome salad vegies. Coleslaw is great, of course but not always hitting the spot.

As for the traditional salad, well, the price of tomatoes in June/July would make your eyes water. And rightly so, when you consider that they must require huge amounts of unnatural, nasty-for-the-planet heat to ripen at this time. So what can be substituted in this winter season?

There are some stand-out lettuces which keep on keeping on through winter. These are often pink, red or purple, which adds colour to the salad bowl. A deep purple/black one came to me via a friend who got it from **Bruce Ford**. When I asked Bruce what it was, he wasn't sure but referred me to two seed websites, Terra Nova Seeds and South Pacific Seeds. Spoilt for choice! I like the look of Salanova Klee Rz and Rosaine RZ – winter hardy and gorgeous colours.

Radicchio, *Cinchorium intybus*, is becoming a firm favourite. Known as Italian Chicory, it looks a bit like a mini red and white cabbage, its leaves tightly packed together and remaining fresh and crisp well into winter. High in zinc, copper and Vitamin K, it's a great cut-and-come-again crop, excellent in stir-fries and also a welcome addition to a winter salad.

French Sorrel, *Rumex scutatus*, if you can get hold of it, is a tasty herb with a tart flavour. A perennial, reaching 18-24 inches, it is considered good for the digestion. However, it contains oxalic acid, which does not suit everyone. I've seen it for sale at plant nurseries and a wild version can be found on Stewart Island roadsides but it may have been sprayed in the intermittent weed control efforts of S.D.C., so caution is advised.

Miners' Lettuce, *Claytonia perfoliata*, snuck into my garden, I know not how nor whence. It is a prolific but inoffensive invader, easily controlled, with small white, occasionally pink flowers. Great groundcover actually and offering bulk, taste and a richness of Vitamin C to the salad bowl.

Chickweed – yes, Chickweed! *Stellaria media*. This insidious usurper of garden spaces is a Houdini, hiding its intentions until the conditions are right and then it is everywhere. Hens love it and so perhaps should we. It has a long history as a medicinal plant, considered as a healing and purifying agent.



Radicchio and Lettuce *Drunken Woman* both grown outside and harvested 4 July.

Nasturtium, the common or garden variety, *Nasturtium officinale*, is still growing and flowering here in July. Its peppery leaves and colourful flowers add a wow factor to salads. A big thank you to Diane Smith who gave me seeds of a beautiful variety – blue-green leaves and a zinging red flower. The seeds can be pickled and used as a substitute for capers.

Happy Gardening and Bon Appetit!
Raylene

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RAKIURA RAIN
RAKIURA BOTANICALS
RAKIURA BOTTLED

Church Chatter *by Jo Riksem*

There's nothing like a sturdy old wharf, but like any structure, it needs to be maintained and looked after. Much like us we need to be maintained and looked after, and if we all work together both structures and people will survive for many years. Look around you and see what you can do to help others. It is so worthwhile.

Services for August

Sunday 13 August – Helen Rook - lives in Riverton with her husband though originally from England. New Zealand has been their home for nearly 18 years and are now citizens, though the accent is still to be achieved. They belong to the Waimatuku Presbyterian Church, which is between Invercargill and Riverton, and runs on similar lines to our church, which is how she finds herself up the front on Sundays.

Sunday 27 August – Rev. Richard Aitken from Invercargill. Communion will be served.

During these uncertain times with covid still in our midst, our church will stay closed except for



Thule 2008

Sunday services. At the moment we are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays till the end of October.

As of November through April we will meet every Sunday.

If anyone would like to visit the church on other days please contact me at jriksem@gmail.com or **027 455 2191** and I'll do my best to arrange a time.

ANIMAL FLOW® This system is designed to improve strength, power, flexibility, mobility, and coordination for all levels of fitness enthusiasts.

A group of us trains regularly here on Rakiura. For the next few weeks: Saturday morning 10.30 – 11.30 and/or Wednesday evening 5.30 – 6.30 at the St Andrews Hall, Excelsior Road. (Small koha to cover the cost of the hall). Please can you phone/text me if you are coming so I can plan the session.

W J (Bill) Watt, *Certified Level 1 Animal Flow Instructor*, 027 495 9288.



www.rakiuracalendar.com

Find out what's happening on the island

Want to add an event to the calendar?

Contact rakiura.future@gmail.com or go to www.rakiuracalendar.com/form



Sanford salmon tales

San Little Glory is our new heavy work vessel for the salmon farm in Big Glory Bay. She was launched with little ado last November and since then has been used to lift nets, move mooring blocks and help with the harvesting of mussels. She is bespoke, a one-off design that represents the collaborative work of our salmon farm crew saying what they needed and our engineers working with the boat builders. San Little Glory was built in Vietnam by a company that specialises in building aquaculture vessels. Her distinctive features are 18 meters long, steel construction catamaran with a very wide beam that keeps her stable and a crane capable of lifting 10 tonnes. No surprises on the colour, all Sanford new vessels are painted dark blue. The vessel has two local skippers who have done an excellent job commissioning the vessel and developing the techniques the vessel performs around our farms.



This brand new boat is a great addition to our fleet. Charlie Park our salmon farm manager is open to the vessel being used for community projects such as beach clean ups or dropping equipment off around the island for community groups. Please feel free to reach out to Charlie via cpark@sanford.co.nz if you have an idea that needs a bit of transport.

Becca our Big Glory Bay mussel farm manager was spotted recently hauling in one biggest salmon **we've ever grown on the farm**



Fly Agaric *Amanita muscaria* by Sam Allen

Stewart Island News archives and contact information can be found at www.stewartislandnews.com Keep up with island news on our Facebook page Find subscription information for SIN on the back page

Coastal Heritage Explored

As part of our project, [Connecting to our coastal heritage places](#), we're co-creating ~6 months of workshops and other events with Rakiura locals. These combine archaeological perspectives with exploring current cultural values and mapping environmental change. We aim to help communities reflect on the cultural and social values of coastal places (i.e. what's important where) and plan for how these can be maintained in future.

On the 19th July we spent a fantastic day with the whole school exploring the idea of middens and coastal heritage places. The students became pros at identifying midden material, as well as many cultural sites important to them and their community.

In September and November we'll be back working with the school (and alongside the museum) and will also be offering several different community-wide workshops...

Save the date: 16-17 Sept (Community Centre) for free printmaking workshops exploring your coastal heritage.

More details soon. (Or contact us sooner!)

Jenny Rock (jennifer.rock@otago.ac.nz) biologist and social art practitioner)



Karen Grieg (archaeologist)

Sally Carson (marine biologist and educator)

... and friends!

(We're funded by the Coastal Peoples Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence based at the University of Otago <https://cps.org.nz/connecting-coastal-heritage/>)

(Photos by the school, see their fb page for more!)





Funding options available now



Funding options available for community projects:

Southland District Council has a variety of funding options available to assist community projects and initiatives.

More information can be found in the Council or the Community & facilities section on our website www.southlanddc.govt.nz

The Community Partnership Fund is administered by our nine community boards. Applications closing on **31 August** are for the Northern, Oraka Aparima, Tuatapere Te Waewae and Wallace Takitimu community board areas. Applications closing on **30 September 2023** are for the Oreti, Ardlussa and Fiordland community board areas. Applications for the Waihopai Toetoe community board close **15 September** with Stewart Island/Rakiura community board applications closing on **31 October**.

Applications for the following funding options all close on **30 September**,

- » For projects of a larger scale which benefit for the whole region, or at least two community board areas, the District Initiatives Fund supports the development and implementation of initiatives.
- » Local arts initiatives can benefit from Creative Communities funding, while the Ohai Railway Fund provides grants and loans for the benefit of the residents of the former board area.
- » Junior school and club sports teams (children age 5-18) could be eligible for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund to help subsidise transport costs to games when competing regularly in a local competition.

Application forms and criteria are available at www.southlanddc.govt.nz/cpf

Nominations are now open for the annual Southland District Council community service awards.

Designed to recognise outstanding contributions, it's a fantastic opportunity to honour and celebrate those people in our communities who truly go the extra mile to make a difference.

Community members may nominate an individual or group who have provided a significant contribution to their community board area through leadership, volunteering, or community service.

Nominations now open!



Nominees contributions could be in the education, youth, health, sport, heritage, art, culture, environment.

Nominations close on **30 September 2023**. Southland's nine community boards will then consider any nominations received and allocate up to two community service awards from their respective areas.

Nomination forms are available from SDC offices or online at: www.southlanddc.govt.nz/community-and-facilities/community-service-awards/

Creatives in Schools wraps up with exhibition

by Shona

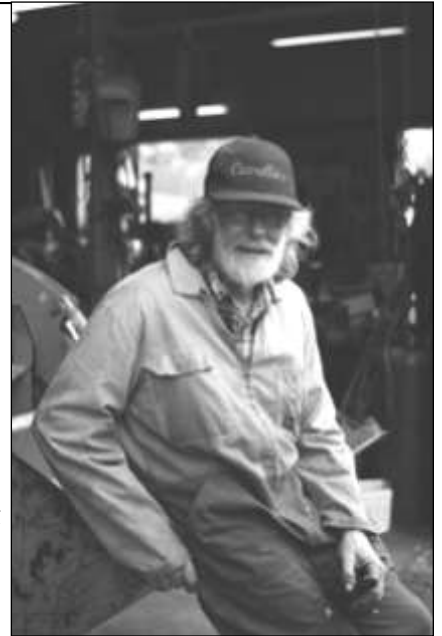
The Rakiura community were recently treated to an exhibition of Halfmoon Bay School students' photographic work as a result of the Creatives in Schools programme. The Creatives in Schools programme is a wellbeing initiative delivered by the Ministry of Education in partnership with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage Te Manatū Taonga and Creative New Zealand. Creatives in Schools aims to provide creative learning experiences that enhance the wellbeing of students and develop their knowledge and skills in communication, collaboration, and creative thinking and practice.

Hannah Watkinson and Riki Rudin-Jones spent time working with the kids on a place-based photography project called 'Rakiura through the lens of tamariki'. Year 7 & 8 students focused on documentary style photography of people in their work places, and took technical workshops to enable an understanding of the photographic medium, process, and use of DSLR cameras. Years 4, 5 & 6 students focused on technical elements of using a DSLR camera, gaining an understanding of exposure and composition, to document the local flora and fauna. Junior students used iPads to compose, frame and capture landscapes which focus on lines, shapes and colours, as well as some of their favourite things—boats, fungi and the ocean.

The project culminated in students selecting works for an exhibition at the Community Centre which opened with waiata from the students and was well attended by whanau and friends.

I went along to the school and asked Tessa Allen, Archie Ware and Indi Jenkinson what they thought.

taking photos of mushrooms, people at work, mini-figures and textures. The textures included things like leaves after rain, carpet, and images where it was hard to guess what you were looking at. We photographed the mini figures to make them look bigger than they were and to set up a scene, to tell a story through the image. We had to write down what it was about. It was cool visiting people at work, they liked having us come and talk to them. We went to the Snuggery, DOC, the garage, the hotel, Flights, and the Kai Kart. Stu the policeman came and we set up a scene with the police car where he breathalyzed someone. Every session was different with lots of



hands on learning and not too much talking. We all got a nice camera each to use.

Indi: Taking the photos was the best because we got to choose what we took a photo of. I learnt how to use a camera. I liked my mushroom photo best. The teachers were good. I will keep doing photography.

Teachers at the school say "It is cool to see how engaged the kids have stayed and now they are using the vocabulary they have learned to think about

and critique images they see. A big shout out to Riki for stepping in to help, thank you to Hannah and thank you to Laire Purik and Emma Jenkinson for the cameras they donated to the school."



Archie:

We learned about taking pictures for this thing called photography, and how to use cameras to take good photos, ones that aren't blurry and where the lines are straight (unless you mean them to not be straight). I liked Betty's red flower photo (see cover) and the close up photos were cool.

Tessa:

We worked with Hannah and Riki

Tippy and Iona Betty Taylor

Ann Tessa Allen





Kia ora

The Graduated Driver Licence system has been in place since 1988. This was set up to make people better and safer drivers, by having an experienced sober overseer seated beside a learner driver as a requirement to allow for coaching.

A Restricted licence as suggested in the licence type, restricted time frames and no passengers. This was to allow for individual practice without the distraction or potential pressure from carrying friends or associates that would not meet the criteria of being a sober, qualified overseer.

Brain bucket, skid lid what ever term or reference you may use or have for a Cycle/Motorcycle Helmet, it is recommended and required by law you wear one when on the respective conveyance. Having seen first-hand the damage caused from not wearing one whereby simply toppling over and connecting the head against the curb caused a brain injury that contributed to health issues and the individual's death several weeks later. Wear a helmet. When you add speed to this equation the opportunity for serious injury goes up exponentially. If you like having a nicely shaped scar free melon, enjoy the ability to clean, dress and feed yourself without assistance, **Wear a helmet.**

All Firearms Licence Holders check out the following website for the Firearms Registry.
<https://www.firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/firearms-registry>.

This is all about registering your firearms, there is no charge and recommend that you get online and get things actioned promptly, there is no charge for registering firearms.

Kia pai tō rā

Senior Constable Stuart NEWTON
 Halfmoon Bay
 Stewart Island

400 Words

by Beverley Osborn

In July, I wrote a letter to several newspapers and, in this month's 400 Words, I want to enlarge on my reasons for that.

The trigger for me has been the impossibility of effectively challenging DoC's decision to build at Observation Rock a viewing platform similar to many others around the country

I mourn the loss of the magic of that awesome, unmodified view as one emerges from the track, even though I recognise DoC's obligation to work with health and safety rules in all sites under their care, including those with no accident history.

Underlying that sadness, however, is a greater concern – the inability of ANY small community to protect a place unique and dear to them from decisions made by national, regional or corporate power holders.

On Stewart Island, we are invited to meet from time to time to consider the future, but all plans must comply with or be approved by off- Island powers.

Recently we have seen the effects of decisions that are flavoured with a "one size fits all" ethos. The old and memory-surrounded hawthorn tree at Horseshoe Bay was eliminated because the offer of an exclusion to the rule was disregarded by regional personnel, grasses, the "everywhere" bank- planting solution for regional authorities, disfigure the slope down to Mill Creek, even though they are totally out of keeping with surrounding vegetation, Observation Rock will have its national variety platform with information panel right in the middle of the view and discussion and disagreement about the replacement wharf at Ulva continues between SDC and DoC

I quote again the words of Leonard Cockayne 114 years ago.

"The face of the earth is changing so rapidly that soon there will be nothing of primitive nature left. In the Old World it is practically gone forever. Here then, is Stewart Island's prime advantage. It is an actual piece of the primeval world."

Today's tourism industry might have surprised the Leonard Cockayne of 1909 but he did want people to visit this island so that they COULD experience its untouched quality.

Most residents live on Rakiura/ Stewart Island because of love for this incredible home-place. Its pristine beauty is both its selling point and the gift we have for present and future visitors. Our challenge is that of ensuring that all decision makers respect the nature of the goose that provides the golden egg.

Conservation Week/Te Wiki Tiaki Ao Tūroa

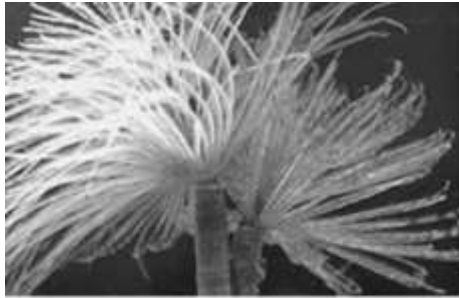
14th - 20th of August



SIRCET are planning some activities to celebrate Conservation week, including a beach clean up, planting natives around the helipad, a talk on marine mammals and a trap building workshop. Keep an eye on our social media for more information, or if you wish to be emailed let us know at community@sircet.org.nz

A Clean Boat is a Good Boat *by Sayla Ware*

Pollution to our marine environment comes in many forms, such as in plastic or oils but this report concerns pest pollution. The number of invasive marine pest species that hitchhike on the hulls of boats is concerning. Stewart Island/Rakiura has a lot of visiting recreational boats, fishing boats and cruise ships. It's extremely important to protect our waters from harmful marine pests, we already have Undaria in the waters surrounding our beautiful island and everyone is working super hard to get rid of it.



Mediterranean Fan Worm (Sabella Spallanzanii)

There are eleven species of marine pests that the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) has identified and are of particular concern, they are;

The Asian paddle crab, Chinese mitten crab, European shore crab,

Mediterranean fan worm, Northern Pacific seastar, Australian droplet tunicate, Clubbed tunicate, Pyura, Aquarium Caulerpa, Wakame/Undaria, and the Asian clam. The three that Stewart Island should be most concerned about are: Mediterranean fan worm, Undaria, and Clubbed tunicate. Mediterranean fan worm because it can form dense colonies of up to 1000 individuals per square metre that exclude the settlement of other organisms. Undaria can change the structure of ecosystems, especially in places where native seaweeds are absent and could potentially impact biodiversity by outcompeting native species for space, and also because we already have it on Stewart Island. The clubbed tunicate is of significant concern to New Zealand's aquaculture industry. This species of Tunicate can foul aquaculture gear such as mussel lines and compete for space and food with farmed species.

The Fiordland communities were also concerned about



Clubbed Tunicate (Styela Clava)

this issue and decided that to protect their marine life, they must first put in place a clean vessel pass. The Fiordland clean vessel pass asks questions like, What sort of vessel do you

have? How often do you clean it? And when and where will you be in Fiordland? Their clean vessel pass is valid for 12 months for as many trips as you make during that time. Their clean vessel pass applies to EVERY vessel (no matter how big or small) coming into Fiordland. Its standard for cleanliness is that the hull and niche areas have no more than a slime layer and goose barnacles.

I contacted local marine guardian and marine biologist, Rebecca Guest, to get a better understanding of the dam-

age marine pests can cause.

“We know from experience that it is extremely hard, and often impossible, to get rid of marine pests once they have infested somewhere new. So preventing them from getting there in the first place is by far a better option. At the end of the day, prevention all comes down to human behaviour. People need to be aware of the risk their vessel and gear carries, know how to reduce the risk (through hull cleaning, antifoul treatments, gear treatment) and **also CARE enough to do the right thing.**”



Undaria (Undaria Pinnatifida)

I asked local boat owners what they thought about this issue and all but one said they wanted a clean hull pass. None of them said that it would affect them that much, they all said that it would be a good idea, but that it would, of course, have some difficulties and disadvantages.

One boat owner brought up a very interesting point, that there were not enough places where you can clean your boat, also that it was quite expensive, and that if we were to get a clean hull/vessel pass then we would need more boat cleaning stations around Stewart Island/Rakiura and Bluff. Another boat owner also brought up the problems with cruise ships that travel all around the country and could easily end up giving us awful marine pests.

In case the Stewart Island community decided that they do want a clean hull pass, I contacted MPI and Environment Southland to ask how to start this process. In Fiordland, a Marine Regional Management Pathway Plan was established and included the clean hull pass. For the Stewart Island marine protection, a similar pathway plan would need to be developed

Prevention is better than cure, especially regarding marine pests. One of the best ways to prevent this is to educate people about this threat. Controlling and/or eradicating marine pests is often expensive and requires lots of time and effort. Often it is unsustainable to continue control of marine pests. By simply putting in a few measures such as a clean hull pass, the risk of marine pests becoming established is reduced and people are more aware, this is more sustainable marine management.

“We need to respect the oceans and take care of them as if our lives depended on it. Because they do.”-Sylvia Earle

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<https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/weeds/common-weeds/asian-seaweed/>

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/sylvia-earle-quotes>

Thanks to Rebecca Guest for her time.

FABULOUS FUNGI COMMUNITY EXHIBITION

THANK YOU

Fungi have captured our imagination throughout history. Fungi are truly glorious with their intricate and varied structures, patterns, colours and textures. Their delicate beauty is without question and allows us to peek into an ethereal, complex and hidden world, fundamental to our health and that of Rakiura. Fungi are both recyclers and networkers, often working symbiotically with other fungi and plants within a community. It was in this spirit that during June and July we mounted a community exhibition

of Fabulous Fungi-inspired artwork at Rakiura Museum Te Puka o Te Waka and SIRCET's Rakiura Environment Centre between Glowing Sky and the Four Square. The exhibition was open to those with a connection to Rakiura. We received 62 pieces. The variety was superb; photographs, paintings, woodturnings, crafting, crochet, needlework, feltwork, pencil drawings, scientific sketches, ceramics, carvings, icing creations... The work was displayed alongside the museum's Dorothy Jenkin collection of fungi watercolours.

Thank you to the artists, young and old, beginners and professionals who shared their talents and imagination with our community. If you missed it, we hope you enjoy a sample in this SIN. We will be donating Liv Sisson's wonderful new book, *Fungi of Aotearoa*, (for sale at the Museum) to the Stewart Island Library. We are grateful for the support of Rakiura Museum Te Puka o Te Waka, SIRCET, Dill Belworthy & Glowing Sky, The Warehouse, Liv Sisson and our guest speakers Shona and Nico. We would love to hear your feedback on the exhibition and ideas for what you would like to come next, which can be shared with us:

Emma -community@sircet.org.nz and/or
 Bridget = bridgetscarter@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you - Bridget and Emma



Celebrating the close of a successful exhibition



By Mazza



by Rose



by Ai



by Josie



by Rowan Holt



by Karin Lewis

SIRCET AGM

The AGM will be held at 5pm, on the 26th of September, at the RSA Pavillion

What's up, DOC?

Southern New Zealand Dotterel Tūturiwhatu Recovery Project

The team have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming breeding season. Additional trapping lines have been cut and marked and traps are busy being installed. As breeding starts in the alpine zone on Rakiura the predator control work will pivot to provide protection to nesting birds directly. Through winter our efforts have been primarily in the forested valleys where feral cats are in great numbers. As we move into spring, we'll shift the focus into the alpine zone. The project team and Technical Advisory Group will be revising the operational plan for predator control and seeking to ensure we are using the most effective combination of techniques to give the birds their best chance.



Photo by Daniel Cocker - DOC

Despite having worked actively with this population since the early 1990s there are still some things we don't know. A key knowledge gap is whether an unknown breeding ground exists. This is a possibility given the fact that we only find a few nests each year relative to the assumed breeding population size. We are working with the University of Otago to attach GPS transmitters to birds in August and track their movements through the breeding season. We hope to build on this work transmitting additional birds during the next banding season in early 2024 to get a clearer picture. If there is evidence that unknown breeding grounds exist in unmanaged locations, follow up confirmation surveys will be scheduled to determine how best to protect those areas as well as our traditional management sites.

Observation Rock platform



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

A blessing was carried out at Observation Rock in July by kaumātua Phillip Smith.

The contractors, Supreme Excavations, have taken over the site and are in the process of carrying out excavation work for the foundations of the platform. The DOC Rec team also went in and carried out vegetation trimming in preparation for the construction. Our DOC works officer Nigel Badcock has been on site assisting contractors and seeing work is progressing as per the specifications. Just a reminder that the site is closed to all unauthorised personnel. No unauthorised access is permitted.

Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara

The long awaited toilet has now been installed at West End Beach track junction. Thanks to the Ulva Island Charitable Trust for their patience and dedication in pursuing this and also to the Southland District Council for donating the toilet. Also underway are new hand rails for two staircases on the track linking Sydney Cove to the four way junction.

Biosecurity System

The on-island biosecurity surveillance system on Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara is being upgraded in line with a revised plan. We worked closely with a range of experts, including independents, to develop a new biosecurity system factoring in lessons learned since the last revision. The new plan increases the number of traps around the coastal fringe which is the preferred habitat for Norway rats which are the main invader species. Motion activated trail cameras are another key upgrade, replacing tracking tunnels that don't perform as well in the presence of weka and with cautious, device-shy rats. Cameras will be paired with automatic lure dispensers, Motolures developed by Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP). The team are working hard to get the hardware in place ahead of the planned re-eradication delivery. Training is scheduled to ensure the biosecurity team are familiar with the latest best practice standards. – Photo Kristen Clements – DOC



Recent Kiwi deaths

Recently we have had another kiwi found dead in the township. This bird was in the vicinity of Miro and Horseshoe roads and early indications are that it was hit by a car. Last month another kiwi was found near Rata street/Morris Street. This bird also appears to have been hit by a car. Both kiwi will be sent away for necropsy to determine their cause of death.



Photo by Letitia McRitchie - DOC

On Rakiura we are incredibly privileged to have these taonga living in our town. Please take care driving as like most animals, they can be unpredictable when faced with the bright lights of cars and the faster you are going the less chance they have to avoid you.

Conservation Week – Take Action for Nature

Conservation Week this year is running from 14 to 20 August and the theme is *Take Action for Nature*. Whilst planning is still underway for events, DOC would like to invite you to join in on the SIRCET beach clean-up day being held on Tuesday 15 August. For more information contact stewartisland@doc.govt.nz or community@sircet.org.nz

Endangered Species Aotearoa with WWF

If you missed the episode with our very own Biodiversity Ranger Phred Dobbins representing Te Papa Atawhai and Rakiura on Monday night, you can watch it on TVNZ+. Phred takes Pax and Nicola out on an adventure to find the most elusive species of the series!

Congratulations! – Daniel Cocker, our local 2023 Matariki award winner.



At Te Papa Atawhai, these awards will be an annual celebration acknowledging individuals and teams who have made an extraordinary contribution to enhance te taiao and living our vision of Papatūānuku Thrives.

Daniel won the Uruangi award. Uruangi is the star that is associated with the winds. This award looks at high country work, tussock and wilding conifer programmes. Work with braided river systems, visitor experience and tourism.

Daniel has been passionate about conservation before starting at Te Papa Atawhai. He worked to save species from near extinction and inspired many individuals to spread the message. Daniel has been on a te reo journey, including studying for three years, participating in Marae Kaupapa, self-researching and learning local sites of significance, and encouraging his colleagues to use these names relevant to the local iwi. Daniels passion for conservation and te reo has seen him research the ingoa Māori of the sub-species of Tuturiwhatu and more specifically their local iwi name, known as Rako

Well done Daniel!



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

SEA KAYAKING WITH BILL



The bays, islets, and inlets between Golden Bay and Ryans Creek or Te Wharawhara (Native Is). 2 – 2/12 hr on the water. 1 – 4 people. \$90.00 each. We can get lovely settled, calm, ideal paddling weather over winter.

Bill Watt 027 495 9288
Or (if I'm paddling) Jo (027 455 2191)

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How to contact the editor

We welcome questions/comments/chats about the SIN, however Freya is working full time elsewhere. If you want to talk about anything SIN-related with her, please make contact by email stewartislandnews@gmail.com in the first instance, or text 02041796127. She will respond to you out of hours when she is available. We appreciate your patience and understanding. We are also looking for anyone who wants to contribute to SIN, be it with stories, photos, or whatever you can dream up. Help us make this a better read!

Congratulations to Isabella Carrick and Sam Wohlers on the arrival of baby boy Edward James Friedrich Wohlers

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