

# STEWART ISLAND NEWS

## CELEBRATING RAKIURA

March 2023

\$4.00

### Stewart Island Emergency Helipad Update *from the Stewart Island Health Committee*

In the past 4 months since its opening on December 3rd, 2022 the new Stewart Island Emergency Helipad has been used 7 times. These medivacs have saved lives and positively changed the outcomes of seriously ill patients, both Rakiura residents and Island visitors alike, and their families.

Last year's fundraising for this project garnered just over \$64,000. With this we believed we had a cushion for cost overruns of just under 10%. However, by late December, when all invoices for the project were submitted, it became apparent that like many projects undertaken during the last three years, we were looking at a near 50% increase in the costs we were initially quoted.

This was partly due to the time lapsed between quotes and material purchasing, COVID and the spike in charges for steel, lighting structures and the electrical components required for the job. It was also because whilst underway, measures required to make the site safer for use and more user-friendly to emergency vehicles, were instigated.

In early January we began seeking further funding and by the end of February we had reduced the amount outstanding to \$22,000 with a generous donation from the RMLT, SouthPort and a number of private donors, including grateful patients.

By mid-March, with a sizeable contribution from the Stewart Island Health Committee, the outstanding figure for which we are seeking contributions now sits at \$12,000. For the first time we are seeking financial support directly from the community and those who visit the Island regularly to try and reduce this figure to zero. All contractors and individuals associated with the project have been paid in full and this has been made possible by the Otago Southland Rescue Helicopter Fund who have loaned us the outstanding amount.

Should you feel you are in a position to make a donation towards this project it would be greatly appreciated. The benefits of an emergency helicopter link to mainland hospital care has never been in doubt.

The Stewart Island Health Committee bank account is **03-1355-06097687-00** and you are invited to make donations directly or you may approach any of the Stewart Island Emergency Helicopter Project Committee members directly (Constable Stuart Newton, Mary Chittenden, Kirsten Hicks or Julie Asher). We sincerely thank those who have already donated to the project whether it be with their time, labour, materials or financially. It is truly a whole community asset and one which couldn't have happened without your support.



Aurora captured by Daniel Cocker on the 27th February near Observation Rock



Kōtuku/White Heron at Mill Creek  
Photo: Raylene Waddell

Some belated news...  
Congratulations to Mike Douglass and Andrea Young on their appointment to the Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board

### What's inside?

Hoiho rehabilitation centre update  
Waitangi Day celebrations  
Upcoming events  
Museum news  
Garden relish recipe  
& more!



**Ivy - Hedera helix  
(also known as English Ivy)**

Ivy is an introduced evergreen climbing plant that smothers tree trunks and can form a large mass in the canopy, smothering branches and sometimes bringing down trees. On the forest floor it can takeover, and prevent native seedlings from growing. Wasps are often attracted to it especially when flowering. It is spread via birds, and dumped garden waste.

**To identify** - It has a woody stem with aerial rootlets, dark green or variegated shallow lobed leaves. It has tiny yellow/green flowers form March to May, then deep purple to black berries.

**To remove** - If growing up trees cut off at ground level, then remove all the roots and stems. Or, cut and paste stumps (many products are labelled for use with Ivy). Sprays can be used but not will also harm the tree underneath so are best used on smaller areas on the ground. The area will need to be rechecked regularly as new growth may appear. Any waste needs to be taken to the rubbish transfer station or buried deeply.

**Plant instead** - Puawānanga / Native clematis ( clematis paniculata ) or Akakura / climbing rātā ( Metrosideros diffusa )

Image - Jon Sullivan (CC BY-NC 2.0)



**SIRCET Update**

SIRCET has had a busy summer especially with weed control. We are working to meet our Darwin's Barberry targets, with our field team grid searching and removing barberry around the Restoring Rakiura project area. We had a visiting team from Highline Rope Access assist us with Barberry removal on the Lonnekers cliff. We have been trying some different baits for rat traps, rolling out automatic A24 rat traps with chirps that collect data.



New D-Rat Supervisor Max trap

With five months left on our Jobs for Nature contract, we need to start to transition back to volunteers assisting us in the Halfmoon Bay Habitat Restoration work, especially with predator control. We are trying to make this as easy for volunteers as possible, with some lines being changed over to D-Rat Supervisor Max traps where possible. This work involves going for a walk in our beautiful surrounds, checking, clearing and rebaiting traps. We have lines available to suit various abilities.

**Please email [community@sircet.org.nz](mailto:community@sircet.org.nz) if you would like more information about volunteering.**

SIRCET will be celebrating it's 20th Anniversary this year. Watch this space for more information!

### Herbert Hansen – 1943 - 2023

A long-time resident with a Stewart Island history going back many generations, died recently in Christchurch. Herbert Henry Hansen junior, son of Herbie and Lottie Hansen, lived on Stewart Island nearly all of his life, only shifting away in recent years because of ill health. Young Herbie came from a long line of seafarers and continued the tradition of working on the sea, first as a fisherman and then as a tourist boat operator. His Great-Grand parents, Christian and Petrina Hansen came to New Zealand from Norway about 1887, farming and fishing at Port Adventure until they moved to Halfmoon Bay. Herbie's grandmother was Margaret (Annie) Scollay, daughter of seafarer and boatbuilder Robert Scollay, who arrived from the Shetlands in 1861. Annie and Henry Hansen owned Oban House, a hotel and store which was on the site of the current South Sea Hotel. Their three children Dorothy, Herbie and Ron attended Halfmoon Bay School as did young Herbie and his children after him.

Growing up on Stewart Island, Herbie Hansen's passion was boats and he was a very competent seaman. He fished the vessel *Jo Ann* at Lords River before taking over his father's boat the *Kiwi* in the 1970s. He made alterations to the boat and continued fishing and tourist charter work. After he stopped fishing, Herbie became the main tourist boat operator on the Island and over many years he carried hundreds of hunting parties to their blocks and thousands of tourists and school children to view the scenic beauty of Paterson Inlet and beyond. In 1993 Herbie and Loraine proudly launched their new vessel *Southern Isle*, built in Invercargill. Many school children will have happy memories of fishing and boating with Herbie while on school camp and hunters from all over New Zealand appreciated Herbie's local knowledge and the service he provided.



Herbie was always interested in history and what we were doing at the Rakiura Museum. His help with answering queries about boats and providing information during the writing of the '*Stewart Island Boats*' book was invaluable.

In his retirement Herbie spent many long hours in his Halfmoon Bay boatshed restoring a beautiful old clinker dinghy. One of the sights we missed when the Hansens left Stewart Island was Herbie standing in his dinghy sculling out to his boat in Halfmoon Bay. It was an age-old seafaring skill that Herbie was very accomplished at.

Herbie and Loraine were married for 56 years and enjoyed their beautiful home and garden in Halfmoon Bay where their children Kirsten and Karl grew up, and where their grandchildren had many wonderful holidays with their beloved Poppa. Herbie will be remembered and missed by many.



- Margaret Hopkins & Elaine Hamilton

**Hoiho update** by *Trudi Webster*

The yellow-eyed penguin rehab centre is up and running again this year at Mamaku Point. The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust team (Trudi Webster and contractor Sandy King) have been out and about searching for underweight birds that need help to get through their annual moult. Hoiho must increase their weight to 7.5kg before moulting to ensure they survive for 3-4 weeks on land whilst they replace all of their feathers. They can't go to sea and fish because they're not waterproof, and if they aren't heavy enough they starve!

There are now ten penguins at Mamaku Point that need extra care and a big feed of fish. At various stages of losing their feathers the penguins have some pretty unique styles!



We finally managed to catch up with the pre-moult penguin who had been sighted regularly at Golden Bay thanks to all the reports from locals over the last couple of weeks. The penguin has been nicknamed *Leo* and he has a large patch of missing feathers on his back (as well as being underweight for a pre-moult bird). Hopefully, he will grow replacement feathers to cover these bald patches once he moults.



Leo with bald patches - by Trudi Webster

standing supporters, and ensure that Trudi and Sandy get out to different penguin colonies, and safely return them back to the wharf with their precious (but often fairly stinky!) cargo.

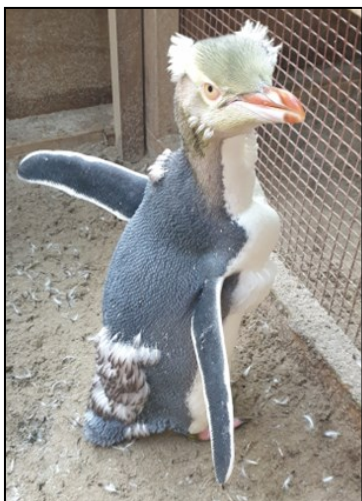
In addition to the ten birds in rehab we also found an exceptionally underweight chick and injured adult that needed to go to the Wildlife Hospital in Dunedin for specialist care. The chick is making good progress and is now taking solid food. Thanks to the skilful vets and staff the adult has made it successfully through its first surgery, but has a long road to recovery ahead.

As well as penguins there have been a flurry of human visitors to Mamaku Point too. Ackers class from Halfmoon Bay School visited last week as they had been learning all about hoiho. It was a fantastic opportunity to be able to show the tamariki these special birds and support their learning about our local environment. Rakiura Māori Lands Trust have also been supportive and Jill Skerrett, Lou Sanson and Shane Anderson paid a visit to see the penguins that came from out near the Neck.

We couldn't do this work without the kindness and support from the local community. The crew at Mamaku Point Conservation Trust have been pretty instrumental - Ant Simpson and Matt Hare for building a new shed for storing and preparing fish (amongst other things) and to Rachel and Roy Thompson for allowing us to set up camp. Thanks to the team at Southern Seafoods, in particular Helen Cave and Carolyn Squires, for allowing us to store additional fish supplies at the fishermen's coop so that we don't run out.



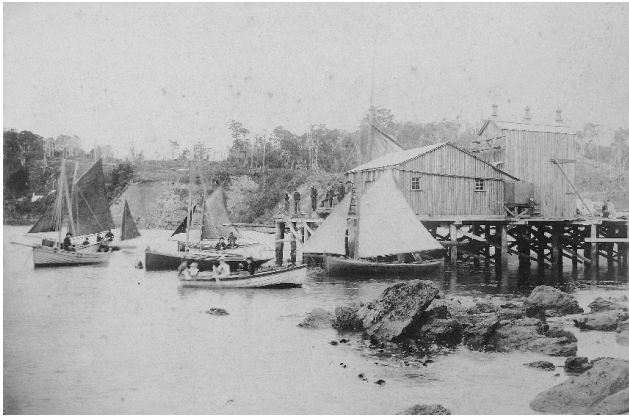
Hoiho at different stages of moult – by Carolyn Squires



Unique styles mid-moult - by Trudi Webster

The hoiho (currently in rehab) are from various islands and locations in and around Paterson Inlet. Matt and Alina Atkins and the crew at Rakiura Charters and Water Taxi have been long

### Rakiura Museum Te Puka O Te Waka.



**Halfmoon Bay's first wharf – 1879.**

Rakiura Museum has been invited to be part of The Coastal Heritage Climate Change Project which is about considering the values of coastal heritage places for communities and how communities can respond to changes and the associated loss of coastal heritage as the result of climate change.

The project is funded by the Coastal Peoples Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence based at the University of Otago and is led by Karen Greig (senior lecturer in archaeology) and Jenny Rock.

For their part in the project Rakiura Museum plans to display images and recollections of how Rakiura looked in times gone by. If you or anyone you know would like to share memories of changes in our physical surroundings due to environmental changes over the years please do forward them to the museum at [stewartislandmuseum@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stewartislandmuseum@xtra.co.nz) or come in to tell us in person.

Social arts in the form of a printmaking workshop will also be part of the project. This has the aim of giving participants the opportunity to identify objects/places of personal value and expressing this in their art. This will take place sometime in July.

The Oral History panels of Peggy Wilson, Olive Nilsen and Noeline Fife which were on display in the foyer have been lovingly returned to storage. They have been replaced with the oral history panels of Maureen Jones and the Leask Family (John and Marion.) One can almost hear them speaking from the wall! Please do take the time to come in to view these.

### Oral History News from Toi Rakiura Arts Trust Stewart Island *by Gwen Neave*

In 2006 Toi Rakiura launched a project to record Rakiura seniors and their stories in a very unique way.

Photographer Juliet Nicholas and writer Halina Ogonowska-Coates spent a year recording and producing large banners which combined life stories and images of Rakiura residents. Their commitment to, and interest, comes from a deep-seated connection to Rakiura through the whakapapa of their husbands and the shared love they have for this Island's small and remarkable community.

An exhibition of the banners was held on the island in 2007 before they were displayed in the rooms of the Community Trust of Southland (as it was then known) for six weeks, before being transferred to the Gore District Council chambers for three months then the Southland District Council offices in Invercargill. The complete collection and individual banners have since been displayed in the Community Centre at various times.

With the opening of Te Puka o te Waka in December 2019, several of the banners were hung in the museum foyer. The museum board and staff kindly look after the banners in secure and safe conditions. Visitors to Te Puka are constantly entranced with the stories and images portrayed on the banners. They are the tangible records of life experiences from one of Aotearoa's most beautiful islands of resilient and hardy people who have loved this island and lived here most of their lives. Even after sixteen years the banners are luminous and compelling, their images still beautifully vibrant. Two new banners are now hanging on display. They are of Maureen Jones QSM, and the late John Leask and his sister Marian. Take some time to view them in the foyer of Te Puka o Te Waka, and enjoy the rest of the taonga held in this whare pataka ataahua – beautiful storehouse.

### Rakiura Museum - Assistance sought

With the return of visitor numbers to pre Covid levels the museum has been very busy. A comparison to Railway Central would be relatable to those who work and volunteer at the reception desk. To help ease the workload on our small number of available helpers we are urgently seeking extra help with reception desk duties either at weekends and/or to cover lunchtimes. This can be voluntary or as a paid assistant on an hourly rate.

If you are interested and would like to find out more please contact the museum.

**Reminder for Household Collection**  
**Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre**



**Rubbish bags**

All rubbish bags left out for pick up should be in the brown Council bags supplied and should weigh less than 14kgs.

NO SHARP OBJECTS to be placed in the bags, broken glass is to be wrapped in paper and placed in the middle of the bag. Only rubbish should be placed in the bags, offal and animal parts will not be collected.

Used toilet rolls, wet wipes, used tissues, plastic food packages, pie wrappers and small goods trays and wrapping are not recyclable and should be put in your rubbish bags. Paper and plastic wrapping items are no longer recyclable items, DO NOT put them in your recycle bin please, we will not collect rubbish from your recycle bin. (red sticker)

**Recycle bins**

Please remove all TOPS of bottles plastic and glass.

**What is recycled**

**Note Contaminated items are not recycled**

Glass, plastic bottles, clean and tops removed. Milk bottles, drink bottles and other plastic containers should be rinsed clean. Steel and aluminium cans clean and flattened labels removed, glass bottles washed clean and tops removed. Cardboard boxes must be flattened and clean of contamination all cardboard should be tied in a bundle, and kept dry if possible.

**Please Note!!** The use of fish tubs for extra bottles will only be collected if you have a Council bin as well. Bins may be purchased from the Council office or at the recycle Centre at Horseshoe Bay.

**Safety and General information**

Over the last year there have been a number of challenges to overcome with the COVID lockdown.

Staff would have been some of the most vulnerable on the Island dealing with every household and many items mentioned above (used wipes and nose tissues that were put in the recycle bin that are hand sorted). There were several sharp objects in rubbish bags that caused four injuries to staff and should not have been in the rubbish. All rubbish to be at the gate by 8.00am on Tuesday morning for collection (the collection is not always done the same so be aware and have your rubbish at the gate by 8.00am Tuesday morning). If you miss the rubbish collection day, you may bring it out to the Resource Centre on the following days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (9.30am to 4.30pm) and Saturday (9.30am to 12.30pm).

**How do we sort?**

As we collect the rubbish, cardboard and recycle bins, it is sorted into bins on the truck ie, glass, plastic, tin and aluminium. This is done by hand and involves sorting through your recycle bins so any sharp objects or broken glass are likely to come into contact with staff. Please no more knife blades or broken glass in the bins.

When we get back to the yard the bins on the truck are checked sorted and emptied into fadges for crushing and freighted to the mainland. The glass is put into bins for

crushing and there are about a thousand bottles a week crushed and that's just from the household collection. The rubbish bags are emptied into the compactor bin and can range from 300 to 400 bags of rubbish per collection. Each compactor bin can take 180 bags which keeps them under the required weight.

**Second Chance shop**

At the yard we have the second chance shop with many items from flat TVs, fridges, sports goods, construction goods, second hand windows, plumbing and electrical bits and pieces. There are clothes, shoes and plenty of reading books for the wet days. Also, there is a collection of toys and kitchenware.

**Burn bin**

We have a burn bin that is used to get rid of building materials and general household burnable rubbish, paper and non-recyclable, wet or damaged cardboard is burnt. The fee to use the burn bin is Household \$12 and Commercial \$20, please pay at office.

**Braggs Bay greenwaste**

The greenwaste has had to be closed for a short period during the complete fire ban and was opened as soon as the ban was lifted. There has been some indiscriminating dumping of mixed waste in the clean waste area which has caused extra costs to clean up and close this area until the work can be completed.

Please follow staff instructions when using Braggs bay facility or run the risk of loosing the consent .

Contact Bruce or Karl for further information should it be required.

Bruce Miller  
 Project Lead,  
 Rakiura Resource Centre.  
 Ph.2191581



Photos: (top left and bottom left) unwanted waste, (bottom right) waste incorrectly put in the recycling bin

A big thank you to the people that have been presenting their rubbish and recycling appropriately. Many people are sorting their recycling, flattening the cans, removing tops and labels and making sure that the items are clean. Thank you, it is appreciated.

# Have you seen these weeds?

## GUNNERA

*Gunneraceae – Gunnera tinctoria*

Gunnera, also known as Chilean rhubarb, is a giant, rhubarb-like herb with huge prickly leaves that can reach up to 2.5m wide and suppress native vegetation under its dense colonies. Gunnera dies back in winter to large creeping stems which are unaffected by frost.

**The spikes are covered in little flowers that are followed by tiny orange fruits, each seed head can produce up to 80,000 seeds. It is very important that we remove all plants from the island as one plant can re-populate the entire township.**

On Rakiura, gunnera is still being found in gardens, roadsides, drains, along the coast, and in damp areas. It prefers full sunlight but tolerates some shading.



## PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

*Lythraceae – Lythrum salicaria*

The highly aggressive purple loosestrife is an ornamental plant that grows 1-2m tall, overtopping native species with its dense, bushy growth. It has woody four to six-sided square stems and narrow leaves, which are usually paired and are heart-shaped at the base. From December to March purple loosestrife produces 20-25cm long spikes of pink/purple-magenta flowers followed by black seed capsules 3-5mm long.

Purple loosestrife invades damp ground, wetlands and shallow water. It tolerates hot and cold conditions, as well as low to high nutrient levels.

Purple loosestrife was sold in nurseries and has been planted in gardens in the past but is now regarded as a serious pest due to its ability to escape into significant native ecosystems.



## INDIAN/HIMALAYAN KNOTWEED

*Polygonaceae – Persicaria polystachya/Polygonaceae – Persicaria wallichii*

Knotweed is a multi-stemmed, dense-growing, perennial shrub which is capable of excluding other species and preventing native seedlings from establishing. It can reach up to 1.8m high. The stems die in autumn and re-grow in spring from woody rootstalks. The leaves alternate from heart to lancet-shaped and can be up to 40cm long.

On Rakiura, knotweed tolerates wet to moderately dry conditions and warm to cold temperatures, but is intolerant of shade. Shrublands and waterways are vulnerable to invasion.

Knotweed is very strong and can grow directly through concrete, resulting in damage to infrastructure including buildings, foundations, plumbing and roads. We are still finding knotweed in Oban around homes, gardens and places where green waste has been dumped.



Visit [www.pesthub.es.govt.nz](http://www.pesthub.es.govt.nz) for more detailed plant descriptions and information. If you have seen any of these plants, please contact Environment Southland's biosecurity team on 0800 76 88 45 or email [service@es.govt.nz](mailto:service@es.govt.nz)





Well, so much for predicting a drought. Summer and early Autumn have been warm but with lots of rain; the vegetables have gone mad and I am pursued by courgette chaos and runaway runner beans. For reasons which have all to do with forgetfulness (mine), I mistakenly ended up with six courgette plants, the leaves of which have grown so luxuriantly that they conceal a great deal of

surreptitious activity from view. Yelps of dismay signal the discovery of yet another sizable green torpedo, aka marrow, lurking in the undergrowth. Fortunately I have found homes for many but still they keep coming .....

It is one of the charms of living here that sees us occasionally gifted with the left-over pantry items of neighbouring cribbies. Off they go, back to work or whatever, leaving us with an interesting mix of this and that. So it was a couple of weeks ago. There on the doorstep was a box of goodies, including green and yellow sweet peppers, a fiery looking red chili pepper and much else besides. Thank you, whoever you are, and please come and collect a jar of the relish I made, using your contribution and the many courgettes, beans and snowball swedes at hand. Recipe below.

A dear friend came to stay, bringing with her more capsicums – and what was even more welcome – a ready pair of hands to help process beans and marrows into more relish. Needless to say we have been trying out every which way to turn the glut into appetising meals. My freezer, never well organised, has packets of beans stuffed into whatever space I can find and I am looking forward to approaching the vegie garden with less trepidation, as the weather cools and growth slows. This makes it all the more distressing to contemplate the plight of our North Island cuddie bros, cleaning up after the devastations of the floods and Cyclone Gabrielle of ghastly memory. It's got us all talking about vegetable and fruit shortages in the next year or so. Resilience, especially of the food basket variety, is quite the mot du jour.

I've never had much luck with onions here but shallots and Giant Garlic – actually a modified leek – crop reliably and keep well. Tree Onions, also known as Egyptian Onions or Walking Onions, look like giant chives and, like chives, revive and keep on through the cooler months, if their tatty leaves

are cut right back. They are great chopped up in savoury crumbles and in soups and stir-fries. And most intriguingly they produce bulbils of small onions, cocktail-size, at the tips of their leaves. If left, these drop to the ground and form new plants, hence the name Walking Onions. I included some in my Garden Glut Relish. Fiddly to peel but a fun addition!



Tree onions with ripe bulbils



Tree onions - re-growth after a haircut

We are advised to 'eat the rainbow' and this will not be difficult as Rainbow Chard and dusky purple Russian Kale will be winter staples, along with Majestic Red carrots, which I cannot recommend highly enough.

**Garden Glut Relish** – sort of like Chow Chow  
2kg mixed vegetables – whatever is in plentiful supply.

- 1 cup sugar
- 250gm onions or shallots etc.
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ cup salt
- 2 tablespoons mustard powder
- 2 litres of water
- 2 teaspoons turmeric
- 1 teaspoon celery seeds
- 4 ½ cups white or cider vinegar or mixture

Chop up all the vegetables, put in a large pot, cover with salt and water and leave overnight.

Heat slowly till boiling and then simmer for 5 minutes. Drain well.

In another pot combine the sugar, flour, mustard powder, turmeric and celery seeds.

Mix to a paste with a little of the vinegar and then add the rest.

Cook slowly, stirring constantly and simmer for a few minutes.

Add to the drained vegetables and mix carefully together.

Pour into hot, sterilised jars and seal.

Makes about 8 medium-sized jars.



Happy Gardening!  
Raylene



**Dear Organisers of Waitangi Day celebrations for Rakiura,**

I want to express to you my gratitude for organising such a thoughtful and inclusive event for our community. The pōwhiri was moving, and I really appreciated the extra explanation about the protocol and significance. The guest speaker was fantastic and I loved the way it felt like a real conversation with the audience in the way Stu facilitated the questions from the floor. The music was excellent - felt like just the right variety, length and balance. And of course the food! Which was cooked beautifully with obvious care and attention. It was an honour to participate and be involved - and the first time I've been able to celebrate Waitangi Day in a meaningful way.

- Rowan Holt



Waitangi Day 2023  
Photo: Les Pullen

Photo: Te Pā Rakiura



Rakiura tamariki  
Photo: Te Pā Rakiura



Te manawa tītī whanau with special guest Black Fern Selica Winiata  
Photo: Craig Stonyer

Preparing the hangi  
Photo: Te Pā Rakiura



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NOW AND AGAIN**

**Lisa Benson**

**Opening Event  
20th April 2023  
5.30 pm**

**Gallery Open  
Weds to Fri 11 - 4pm  
Sat 11 - 3pm**

**Art Attic  
43 Tay St Invercargill**

**Exhibition closes  
27th May**

From 1 – 25 April 2023, **The Boy With Wings** tours the length and breadth of New Zealand as the April national Arts on Tour NZ tour, and will be performing in Oban, as follows: **Monday 24 April 4pm Stewart Island Stewart Island Community Centre**  
Gold Coin Donation

[Full Tour Details:](#)  
Nelson based couple Bridget and Roger Sanders are Birdlife Productions Theatre and have performed and toured their children's puppet shows around New Zealand and Europe. *'My passion lies in taking high quality work out to New Zealand children to enrich their lives and inspire the creative artists of the future,'* says Bridget. Full press release, and publicity images attached

Using puppetry, songs, storytelling, and exquisite hand-crafted sets that magically

unfold out of boxes, award-winning theatre company Birdlife Productions promise laughter, tears and thrilling adventure when a young man's epic journey unites with the miracle of Kuaka/Bar-tailed Godwit migration.

Melded with a real-time ornithological lecture, this is a comic, touching, and environmental story using the ageless wonder of puppetry that dares us all to follow our dreams.

**Designed specifically for children ages 5 to 9 years, but loved by all ages!**



# Bottle-O Bluff

## Now We R Starting Delivery To Stewart Island..!

### Below is the process for ordering Start Ordering From Today..!

Our Website:

[bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz](http://bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz)

Our Application:

The Bottle-O NZ

9814 Bluff



we are now online

[bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz](http://bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz)

+64 3-212 7521

70 Gore street, Bluff, NewZealand

## How to Order Online??



- 1 Go to website [bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz](http://bluff.shop.thebottleo.co.nz)
- 2 or download our app **the bottle-o-nz**
- 3 Select **bluff 9814** as your store click & collect
- 4 We pack & put your order in boat from **bluff ferry terminal**
- 5 Customer Recieve there order on the **stewart Island side ferry terminal**
- 6 They pay the freight there & collect the order

+64 3-212 7521

70 Gore street, Bluff, NewZealand

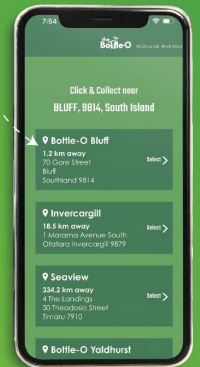
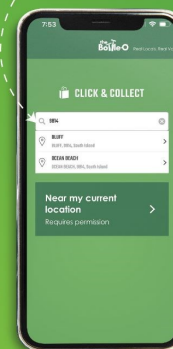
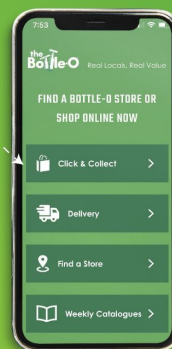
## How to Order on App?



Select , Click & Collect

Enter 9814 & Select Bluff

Select Bottle-O Bluff store & Enjoy Ordering



+64 3-212 7521

70 Gore street, Bluff, NewZealand



# DELIVERY STARTED

@STEWART ISLAND

+64 3-212 7521

70 Gore street, Bluff, NewZealand



Note: Delivery Charges have to be paid by Customer @ Stewart Island side ferry terminal

@STEWART ISLAND

+64 3-212 7521

70 Gore street, Bluff, NewZealand

**Stewart Island Senior Citizens Club**

All residents 60 and over who would like to join the Club and take part in any activities arranged are invited to contact Marilyn Spinks on [jrandmv@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jrandmv@xtra.co.nz) or phone 03 2191363 or 0274487129. To our current members, if there have been any changes to the information we have on our database, please let us know.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Future Rakiura, Stewart Island Promotion Association and Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board warmly invite you to join us for a community get together on the evening of **Wednesday 31st May at the Community Centre**. If you are interested in your group presenting or if you have any questions, please contact [rakiura.future@gmail.com](mailto:rakiura.future@gmail.com) or speak with Rakiura Herzhoff, Rose Bowman, Emma Simpson Boyce, Bridget Carter or Kirsten Hicks. More info in the next edition of SIN.

Stewart Island News  
archives and contact  
information can be found at  
[www.stewartislandnews.com](http://www.stewartislandnews.com)  
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**RAKIURA MARINE GUARDIANS**

C/o Box 157, Oban, Rakiura, 9846  
By Bill Watt (Chairman)



*the event of commercial failure of the applicant company, in the event of a catastrophic weather event causing major damage to the aquaculture installations or structures, or if the aquaculture operation ceases to be viable for any other reason.*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The (rather belated!) AGM of Rakiura Marine Guardians (RMGI) was held on 10 February. Of interest: Officers were elected as follows: Chair: Bill Watt; Secretary: Jo Riksem; Treasurer, Roy Barnsdale; Committee Members: Colin Hopkins, Ken McAnergney, and Bev Cowie Subscriptions: Remain at \$10.00 for 2022 – 2023 but it was agreed that this would also cover 2023-2024.

WHARF WORKS AT ULVA

RMGI had been identified as an affected party to the proposals to erect a new wharf at ‘Bathing Bay’ and demolish the old one at Post Office Bay. Overall, RMGI considered that the current proposals are probably the best long-term solution although it regretted the intrusion of works/ structures into a bay that is currently unmodified. It was decided (at the AGM) not to give ‘written approval’ as an affected party because this would have locked RMGI out of the process from here on.

HANANUI AQUACULTURE

RMGI had been invited in the context of the fast-track consenting process to comment on this application. A summary of our comments is as follows:

***The need for ‘effects’ of the proposed development to be confined to the area specified in the application:*** RMGI notes that permanent moorings or storage of equipment anywhere along this coast outside the area of the application would have a significant adverse effect of the visual character of this area which is of outstanding natural character and enjoyed by many as such. ***The need to address the potential for extreme weather events of low probability but high consequence. Responsibility for clean up:*** RMGI is concerned that responsibility for ‘clean up’ including removal of all equipment and structures be clearly identified in

FISH FRAMES

RMGI notes that people dumping fish ‘frames’, after fish have been landed ‘in measurable state’ then filleted, has again resulted in revolting messes on some of our local beaches this summer in places where people otherwise love to enjoy the beach. We will continue our efforts to encourage people to be more considerate and also to draw this issue to the concern of relevant authorities.

**400 Words – by Beverley Osborn**

Years ago, Rev Robert Allan gave me a copy of a story he had written. It was about a young man who found something strange and very wonderful growing in a country hedgerow. It was a wild idea, so amazing that he dug it up, took it home and carefully replanted it in a pot. He felt its specialness needed to be shared, so he took it to researchers who would publish international papers about its uniqueness. The scientists were enraptured and assured him that it would definitely receive that publicity.

Many years passed before he was asked to join the huge crowd of guests invited to the public unveiling of the amazing wild idea they had been researching for so long. Imagine his shock when he couldn't recognise it! Its colour and shape and texture had all been changed, along with its taste and smell. The scientists had altered it to fit with their personal perceptions of what would make it more marketable and outstanding and less threatening because of its novelty.

In the last edition of Stewart Island News, the focus of this column was "Kindness". The day after I submitted it to the editor, Jacinda Ardern's resignation was announced, together with mention of the enormous

volume of ill-will, hate speech and physical threats to which she and those close to her had been subjected for so long. Our government implemented strategies which succeeded in protecting Kiwis from the huge covid death toll suffered by most other countries, and all through those difficult times its leader recognised the pain and urged us to be kind to each other.

A researcher pointed out that the intensification of violence in opposition to unpopular policies has become a world-wide phenomenon. Very recent news has informed us that the kind of hate speech that radicalised the Christchurch mosque terrorist has increased rather than diminished.

Out of all the animal species, humans have developed the most sophisticated language skills. Technological developments in communication have made it possible for people to experience the amazing variety and wealth of customs and cultures, faiths and foods, scenery and social structures of our world.

Language is a treasure that opens so many doors to wonder. We need to guard our own tongues from turning it into a weapon that shuts those doors to variety and encloses us in a uniformity bound by prejudices.

**Church Chatter - by Jo Riksem**

The town has been very busy and it is good to see visitors from many parts of the world visiting our beautiful island. Also good to see, is Islanders who have lived here before and have come back for visits, enjoying the friendly faces greeting them. Easter is upon us and again a time to get together with friends and family. Let us remember that holidays are not the only times we should get together with each other, sharing and caring. Every day is special. Don't let the hustle and bustle keep us from enjoying each others company. Let us especially remember the folks in the North Island who have suffered so much, but have joined together in so many ways to get through a very difficult time with help from all over the country and the world.

Services for April 2023 are:

**Sun 2 April 2023 – Rev Heather Kelly -**  
Methodist Lay Minister

**Fri 7 April – Good Friday Service 7 pm –**  
**Rev Ian Crawford** – working with many different parishes in Southland.

**Sun 9 April – Easter Sunday - Rev Ian**  
**Crawford**

**Sun 16 April – Rev Glenda Hicks** – part of big Island family.

**Sun 23 April – Rev Richard Aitken –**

Anglican minister from Invercargill. Communion will be served.

All services start at 10:30 am except Good Friday.  
**Sun 30 April – Rev Lloyd Ashworth –**  
Theme: "Overcoming Life's Challenges."

Nice to see so many ministers returning to our shores.

During these uncertain times with covid still in our midst, our church will stay closed except for Sunday services. If anyone would like to visit the church on other days please contact me at [jriksem@gmail.com](mailto:jriksem@gmail.com) or 027 455 2191 and I'll do my best to arrange a time.

Halfmoon Bay



**Litter Intelligence Update** by Bronwyn Graham

Hi all  
I had a great time on Rakiura and it was great to connect with you all either before or during my trip. Thanks to all involved in Litter Intelligence (LI) on the island.



HMB students in survey mode at Deep Bay site - lined up ready to cover the survey site collecting litter within the survey area

I thought it would be great to give an overview of my visit and state of play for the LI programme - so that you know what is happening...the people involved, the sites on Rakiura and what litter is being found, and where you can find the kits.

Thank you for welcoming me to Rakiura, and taking an interest and contributing your time to the Litter Intelligence programme. It is great to have the LI programme up and running with enthused people on the island again. I am only an email or phone call away (and hope to get back to the island again soon).

Please stay in touch. You'll hear from me again closer to when the next survey is due.  
Bronwyn 021 152 1857

**People**

It is the people that make such a programme work - so thanks.

Citizen Scientists (anyone who has done a LI survey/audit before is a citizen scientist): HMB School students and teachers Emily and Julie came out with me on 23 Feb and we surveyed the Deep Bay site. Check out the results of this at the Litter Intelligence survey website. The student citizen scientists did a fantastic job setting up the survey, carrying out the survey, and undertaking an audit. We had students get hands-on using the app during all stages. Ad hoc surveys can be carried out using the app by citizen scientists.

Lead Citizen Scientists - Cristina and Brook are both trained Lead Citizen Scientists, have access to the app and can lead a survey (meaning official surveys can be undertaken, rather than ad hoc ones). Kath and Emily have access to the app but are yet to be trained as lead citizen scientists - this can be done online or over zoom - let me know if you are keen (less than an hour if you have already

done a survey). I have a couple of names from Rakiura Herzhoff who couldn't make it when I was on the island, that I will follow up - with the aim of getting them out with Cristina and Brook at the next survey - I'll be in touch.

**Survey areas on Rakiura**

There are now 3 sites set up as part of the LI programme on Stewart Island (as you will see below covid interrupted in getting the programme running on the island). Our aim for 2023 is to have sites surveyed 4x per year (once a school term). If the different monitoring groups (Stewart Island Community, and Halfmoon Bay School) can work together to get sites repeatedly surveyed throughout the year, a great idea.

- Deep Bay - set up in 2020 and the site has had 3 surveys completed - 2 by Jensen Bay House Monitoring group and Rakiura Herzhoff in March and July 2020 and the latest by Halfmoon Bay School (February 2023). Next survey is due end May 2023.
- Ulva Island - set up in 2020 and the site has had 3 surveys completed - in March 2020 and August 2020. Thanks again to Rakiura. I resurveyed Ulva on my trip - see the results online. Next survey is due end May 2023.
- Halfmoon Bay—a new site set up and first survey/audit carried out on 24 February 2023 (as part of Brook's Lead Citizen Scientist training) - see the results online. This will be a great site for repeat surveys, being closer to Oban and the school, and may be the priority site for Rakiura if capacity of monitoring groups means only one site can be surveyed. Next survey is due end May 2023.

Check out <https://litterintelligence.org/data/> for more info. You can search by site.

**Kit location**

The LI kits (3x big black bins) needed for surveys/audits have changed location. Prior to my visit the kits were kept at HMB School. I talked with Emma (SIRCET) and Shona and kits were dropped off to Emma at SIRCET (Elgin St office/downstairs from pouamu carving on Friday 24/2/23). Thoughts were that kits could be kept at the nursery for ease of access and Emma would get them to this site. This site is further away from the beach sites, but I'm sure between you all you will sort access and make it work. If an alternative location is found, just let me know this location so I can update our records to keep a track of the Sustainable Coastlines kits, thanks.

**Wandering Albatross/ Albatros Errante** by Pablo Neruda from 'Art of Birds/Arte de Pájaros', 1966

Submitted by Bridget Carter

The wind sails the open sea  
steered by the albatross  
that glides, falls, dances, climbs,  
hangs motionless in the fading light,  
touches the waves' towers,

settles down in  
the disorderly element's  
seething mortar  
while the salt crowns it with laurels  
and the furious foam hisses,  
skims the waves  
with its great symphonic wings,  
leaving above the tempest  
a book that flies on forever:  
the statue of the wind



Wandering Albatross (Diomedea exulans)  
Photo © vladsilver/Shutterstock

# What's up, DOC?

## Rare Southern New Zealand dotterel sighted near township!



Southern New Zealand Dotterel/Tūturiwhatu at Ringaringa beach. Photo: DOC (Daniel Cocker)

On Tuesday 7th of March, DOC Rakiura Rangers sighted a critically endangered Southern New Zealand dotterel on the beach at Ringaringa just below the Wohlers monument while following up a distressed sealion report. The bird was unbanded and is believed to be a juvenile potentially making its way over to Awarua Bay near Bluff. Southern NZ dotterel breed on the mountain tops of Rakiura but feed along the coastlines of Southland.

Unfortunately, these birds are an easy target for feral cats. Sightings near the township are rare with the last recorded sighting in the area being in 2020 at Horseshoe Bay of an unbanded bird.

## Banding the Southern New Zealand dotterel / Tūturiwhatu



Daniel Cocker and Rose Collen banding dotterel at Awarua Bay. Photo: DOC (Guy McDonald)

The Southern NZ dotterel team have been busy undertaking our annual banding operation with the goal of banding any unbanded birds, particularly young birds that have recently fledged during the previous breeding season. The team have been catching birds out on the dunes at Mason Bay/Te One Roa where many birds roost at high tide. They have also been catching at Awarua Bay near Bluff where about 1/3 of the dotterel population gather to feed.

Birds caught are given a health check-up and some trendy leg bands which can help the team identify each individual. This also helps with our population estimates and to see how long birds are surviving. Southern NZ dotterels remain critically endangered and can live up to 20 years old but due to the high predation threat, the average life span is only five years.

Bird bands can be read like a book (from the left, top to bottom). The bird's left leg first then the right leg. The birds will always have a metal band on the left leg (with the exception of one bird). For example, the bird in the photo below can be read as black-metal-orange-yellow. If you see a Southern NZ dotterel with leg bands, it would be fantastic if you could report your sightings as well as the band colours to the DOC Rakiura Visitor Centre.



Banded Southern New Zealand Dotterel/Tūturiwhatu at Awarua Bay. Photo: DOC (Daniel Cocker)

The total population was estimated at 144 birds in April 2022 but after what has been a tough breeding season for the dotterels due to the high number of feral cats, the population could drop from the previous year's total. The next population census will take place in mid-April 2023.

The other half of the Dotterel team are working on cutting new trap lines through the areas with the highest numbers of feral cats that pose a risk to dotterel breeding areas. A large consignment of traps are on the way from the USA and we aim to have these installed and activated in the winter to remove as many feral cats as possible before the breeding season starts.

### Dune Restoration Programme



Phred pointing out the planned work to Islay and Jasmine, Northern Mason Bay dunes. Photo: DOC (Belinda Dobbins)

Our summer staff Islay and Jasmine have been busy out doing mahi for the dunes restoration project this summer.

Jasmine was born and raised in Scotland and moved to Dunedin in 2010. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Geography and Environmental Management from the University of Otago last year. Her passion for the environment extends beyond her studies, previously working at Smith's Creek restorative forest and volunteering for the Otago Peninsula biodiversity group.

Islay grew up in the Waikato but lived in Melbourne for the past five years, where she completed a Master of Science in Ecology. She has previously worked in bush restoration, on ski fields, and with horses.

Jasmine and Islay arrived at the start of November and have found the dunes work amazing. They have had trips to Mason Bay, East and West Ruggedy beaches, Smoky Beach and Doughboy Bay.

### Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara rodent eradication this winter

The feasibility study for the eradication of Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara was presented to the decision maker on 7 March 2023 and after careful consideration, the option to eradicate rats using aerial brodifacoum was chosen.

#### Next Steps

- **Develop an operational plan:** This will cover how the bait operation will be undertaken. The framework for this is taken from DOC's Animal Pest Operational Planning toolkit.
- **Develop a monitoring plan:** The monitoring plan will look at marine sampling and monitoring of native fauna pre and post operation.
- **Consulting on effects:** We are working on understanding the effects that this operation will have and will then consult with stakeholders and the community to give you a chance to tell us how the operation will affect you.
- **Biosecurity upgrade:** We are working with a range of local and national biosecurity experts to draft an updated biosecurity plan. Once the plan has been approved, we will have staff on the ground upgrading the existing biosecurity network.
- **Planning for and undertaking the removal of deer from the island:** This is an important step to ensure that deer don't remove bait, making it unavailable for rats.

#### Timeline

The eradication will involve two aerial applications, both taking a single day. These are weather dependent but planned to be undertaken from July 2023. Before the aerial operation:

- Consultation on effects will be undertaken in April and May 2023
- Operational and monitoring plans will be completed
- The improved biosecurity plan will be developed, and the existing network physically upgraded
- Deer will be removed.

Contact Letitia McRitchie [lmcritchie@doc.govt.nz](mailto:lmcritchie@doc.govt.nz) if you have any questions.

### SEA KAYAKING WITH BILL

#### 'Local' Paddle

The bays, islets and inlets between Golden Bay and Ryans Creek or Te Wharawhara (Native Is). 2 – 2/12 hr on the water. 1 – 2 people. \$90.00 each

#### 'Secret waters'

Water taxi one way. Explore the northern shore of Te Waka a Te Wera (Paterson Inlet) between Millars Beach and Golden Bay. A day trip involving 3 – 3 ½ hr paddling. Min/max 2 people. \$200 each. Settled weather only. Prior booking essential.



Bill Watt 027 495 9288

Glowing Sky Merino

Between The Shop & The Pub / glowing-sky.co.nz

#### Anzac Day Commemorations 2023



Anzac Day      Tuesday 25th April 2023

0700 hrs      Parade will assemble outside shop

0715hrs      Parade marches to the Memorial

Laying of Remembrance Wreath  
 Public to lay poppies and wreaths  
 Readings of Official Messages  
 Prayers

Reading of the Ode  
 Last Post, Minute's Silence observed & Reveille  
 Parade dismissed

Any members of the public are welcome to make and lay a wreath.

After the parade everyone is welcome to adjourn to the RSA Pavilion in Ayr St. for refreshments: Tea Coffee & Rum toddies.



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