

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

October - November 2016

\$3.00

A mixed bag this month, just like our weather. We've got ducklings in the drain (p20), rats in the boiler (p13), lettuce in the loo (p16)... and here's a first: a kiwi in a craypot. Can't get more Stewart Island than that! Thanks to Rachel Keen's dog Roxie who discovered the trapped bird. I'll bet whoever hung the snifter in that pot never imagined a curious kiwi would be poking his beak at it!

Heaps has been happening: a bookbinding course, a massive Search and Rescue exercise revisiting a cold case, Pink Ribbon Day (collected \$300), Kiwis for Kiwi bake stall, and lots more... Hold onto your hats because it's only getting busier.

Have you heard of "Wildboy" Brando Yelavich? He wrote the book *Wildboy* and he is the first person to walk the coastline of New Zealand (North & South Islands). Starting on 10th November he's planning to be the first person to walk the coastline of Stewart Island (including a foray up into the Tin Range) — see details on his Facebook page "Wildboy Adventures."

The Island welcomes our visitors and we hope everyone enjoys



Photo by Carolyn Squires

Gala Day on Saturday 22nd October at the waterfront, and don't forget your dancing shoes for the band Steampie at the Community Centre that night. All for a great cause: Rugrats!

Special thanks to Carolyn Squires for sharing her stunning photos with us.

Shop Talk *by Jules Retberg*

Keep the change

In June 2015 you may remember I wrote an article and wee poem for Shop Talk about plastic bags causing all kinds of death and destruction across the world. From plankton, fish and seabirds in the ocean to camels in the desert. Almost 270 animal species have suffered from ingesting plastic or getting tangled up in it. Discarded plastic bags have clogged sewers that caused floods in

Asia, and a Malaria outbreak in Kenya was attributed to plastic bags filled with stagnant water.

At the time I wrote the article, the Stewart Island Four Square gave all locals a free reusable shopping bag to help discourage the use of plastic bags for grocery shopping. Whilst we have always charged for plastic bags, prior to this we had not been very consistent - but since then we have!

So what happens to all the 10 cents that we charge? Has the Stewart Island Four Square turned into an evil money-grabbing business peddling plastic bags? Has the Staff Christmas Party Fund been boosted to such astronomic proportions that we'll need a week to recover from the hangover? Umm, NO, and NO!

What we have actually done is buy some new equipment for the Stewart Island Medical Centre.

The Stewart Island Four Square is very proud to announce that it has gifted vital ultrasound equipment to the Stewart Island Medical Centre, which is run by Southland District Health Board.

The equipment comprises hand-held ultrasound devices. The Vascular Doppler will enable our awesome clinical nurse specialists to assess the body's circulatory system, identify blockages and detect blood clots. The Foetal Doppler, also known as a baby

heartbeat monitor, does just that - monitors the heartbeat of an unborn baby.

Jill and Sam were thrilled to present the equipment to Marty and Lisa in September and when I asked Marty how he felt, he replied, "I'm over the moon - looking forward to replacing our old dunger!"

There's no denying the feel-good factor for the Stewart Island Four Square and Medical Centre.

However, the bottom line is that we have still bought in these plastic bags and still sold them. Ideally we'd like not to have to, but we wanted some good to come out of a few years' worth of our plastic bag sales.

Worldwide, one trillion plastic bags are used every year; almost two million every minute. In the grand scheme of things, the Stewart Island Four Square may not have made a huge difference environmentally but it has made *a difference*. Certainly it has for our community and health facilities. I hope it has made a psychological difference too - a question of value, in all senses of the word. We will still be charging 3.31 grams of copper-plated steel a.k.a. 10 cents in exchange for a piece of plastic.

Thank you to everybody that brings a bag, backpack, boxes, uses pockets or even those sticky-out-things at the end of your arms, to carry your groceries home - please continue!





The Bunkhouse Theatre opens up on 21 October 2016. As well as daily screenings of "A Local's Tail" we have Other Flicks planned for the season.

Check out what is scheduled for this season below. Further details on our website www.bunkhousetheatre.co.nz

Feature Films 2016/17 Summer Season
Don't miss out on seeing the latest NZ independent films.

All feature films start @ 7.30pm

SHOW ME SHORTS
FILM FESTIVAL

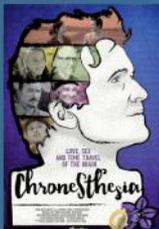
Sat 19, Wed 23, Sat 26 & Wed 30 Nov 2016
Wed 4, Sat 7 & Wed 11 Jan 2017



Sat 28 Jan & Wed 1 Feb 2017



Sat 18 & Wed 22 Feb 2017



Sat 11 & Wed 15 March 2017



Sat 1 & Wed 5 April 2017

Adult \$15
Senior \$13
Child \$10

Bookings suggested!

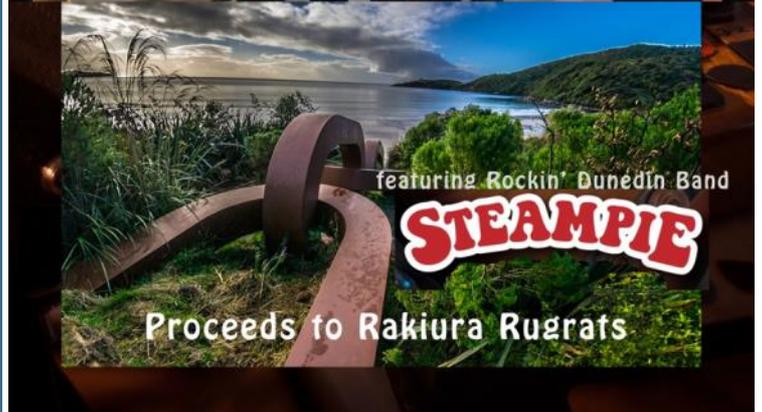
New Junior & Adult Fiction

The library has recently taken delivery of approx. 30 new books, destined for our Junior & Young Adult readers.

The books from popular authors for this age group include Tom Gates, the Treehouse series, 2x Big Nate graphic novels, 4 Boy vs Beast novels, several Alice Miranda & Clementine Rose books, 3 Juliet almost a Vet books & 5 books from the ever popular Jacqueline Wilson.

As the library is still undergoing changes as part of the refurbishment, please ask the friendly Librarian if you are having difficulty finding anything.

Happy reading!



A leopard seal spent a few days at Butterfield Beach recently. If you see a leopard seal, please give it space! Photo by Carolyn Squires.



Kiwi Avoidance Training Day

KIWI AVOIDANCE TRAINING FOR DOGS

The workshop will be run by a qualified local trainer, Sandy King.

The Training Day will be held during Labour weekend, Monday 24th October It will run from 9 am to 2pm, with 15 minute slots.

Location: Moturau Moana



Please bring your dog along. It only takes a few minutes and with the number of kiwi being seen around town, let's all help to keep them safe

For more information or to register please contact Di Morris on 027 7599773 or email Sandy King at sdk@kinect.co.nz or Shona at shona@sircet.org.nz



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Go your way!

Museum Rambles by *Jo Riskem*



"Waikare" Bell

I have to admit that with my passion for anything maritime I get excited when acquisitions come in that are in that category and such was the month of October when we received the ship's bell off the "Waikare". The steamer sunk in Dusky Sound on the 4 January 1910. She became a total wreck but her 141 passengers and 85 crew were landed safely. The Bragg brothers from Stewart Island used the boat "Kekeno" to salvage gear from her. This bell and the seat in front of the shop were two of the items salvaged. This is now on display not far from the shipping cabinet.



The boat, "Kekeno" owned by Tom Bragg & Thomas Crockett

We also had a piece off a wrecked boat come in. This has been identified as from an old double ribbed, double-ender whale boat that carried 8-10 men used when they got off their main ship to go after the whale with spears. We are still doing more research on this piece.



Part of a wreck from an old whale boat

Speaking of boats, our book "Stewart Island Boats" is now down to the last 25 copies. As this book will not be reprinted, be in quick to make sure you don't miss out on having a copy in your home.

**October hours at the museum will be:
 Mon - Sat 10:00 am - 1:30 pm - Noon;
 Sunday Noon - 2.00pm**

UPDATE FROM STEWART ISLAND EXPERIENCE

As you are all aware, we have just had a very busy 2 weeks of school holidays and lovely weather so we have all been busy. But it highlights the fact that we are going to be busier than ever this year so I just want to take this opportunity to publish a few reminders and a couple of new items you should all be aware of.

Paterson Inlet Tour Operating in October - For the first time this year we are operating our Paterson Inlet Cruise in October. Departure is slightly different at 12noon and then reverts to the summer schedule of 12.45pm departure from 1 November. This is a 2.5hr tour including an hours guided walk on Ulva hour and costs \$95 for adults and \$22 per child.

Ferry Timetable – for the rest of October, just a reminder off the Island 8am and 3pm, from Bluff at 9.30am and 4.30pm. November off the Island at 8am, 3.30pm and 5pm and from Bluff, 9.30am, 11am and 5pm.

Fare Increase – from 1 November Island Residents rate will increase to \$50 each way and Ratepayers rate will increase to \$57 each way. This is a \$2 increase and the first increase for many years.

Who is Eligible for Discounted Rates – Obviously the Residents and Ratepayers rates are self explanatory but we are happy to offer Residents Rates to those seasonal workers on the Island as long as the Oban Terminal is given a list of names and dates those people will be working for local businesses. Please send details of these staff members who you would like to receive the Residents Rate to jspraggon@realjourneys.co.nz. If Jon does not have details on file, these people will be charged full price so please make sure you keep in contact with Jon.

Carriage of Firearms – For all of you that enjoy the great outdoors and hunting, which the Island is well known for, just remember we have some strict policies in place for the carriage of firearms on our ferries. Please check with the ferry terminals about what is required to enable your weapons to be safely carried.

Wharf Operations and Freight – With the new Health and Safety Act that came into force earlier this year on 4 April, SIE and Real Journeys are very focussed on the safety of all our passengers and staff in and around our operations. This ranges from

access to wharf areas during loading of passengers around boats and the collection of freight at Oban. Wherever there is a fork-lift working, please ensure that you do not enter the area of operation at any time. We now have new safety cones on the corner of the Oban SIE Terminal so please make sure you do not walk or drive around this corner either side of a ferry arrival/ departure.

Luggage and Bags on Ferries – Again with a Health and Safety focus please make sure you put all bags into freight bins and only take a small piece of hand luggage with you on the ferry. With full boats predicted, we need to keep all the isles clear at all times during the voyage in case of an emergency. We don't want to refuse carriage of any large items into the cabin but if necessary we may enforce that luggage be carried at an alternative time if it hasn't been checked into a bin prior to boarding—this decision will be at the discretion of the Skipper on the day.

Minimum Charge for Account Holders - \$10 is the minimum charge to be put on any account. So if you have a small item that you want to send, it will be best to pay cash.

Charge for Carriage of Fuel - This is a new policy effective immediately. In line with the conditions of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods, we have restrictions on what we can carry and how much. In order to comply with the conditions, all fuel is to be pre booked and every full container will incur a \$5 charge. All fuel is only carried with accompanying passengers. Any fuel container, whether empty or full needs to be carried separately and not put into bins. Any fuel found being carried in our freight bins will be reported to the Branch Manager who may involve the Police if deemed necessary. This is for the safety of all those travelling on our ferries.

If anyone would like to make contact with me, please either email me on jgrant@realjourneys.co.nz or call me on 02102400344.

We're busy getting set up for the summer and I would welcome comments/conversation with anyone, so please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Jane Grant
Operations Manager – Stewart Island Experience

Sarah's Rakiura Remarks

Draft plan for 100,000 wild kiwi by 2030 released and celebrating our volunteers

The Government have recently released a new plan to raise wild kiwi numbers to more than 100,000 by 2030, as part of the \$11.2 million Budget 2016 investment in kiwi conservation.

The draft Kiwi Recovery Plan 2017-2027 will be open for feedback from iwi partners and other stakeholders, including conservation groups, and sets a clear path forward for the conservation of New Zealand's national bird.

Developed in collaboration with Kiwis for Kiwi, iwi, experts and NGOs, the plan has three high level goals: growing populations, maintaining genetic diversity and restoring the bird's former distribution back into safe habitats throughout New Zealand. The plan will look to focus on growing the wild kiwi population and building on the work achieved under previous plans, rather than steadying or managing decline.

The Government is not prepared to accept that our national bird is at any ongoing risk of potentially becoming extinct in their natural habitat.

Wild kiwi numbers currently sit just below 70,000, with an ongoing decline of around two per cent a year caused mainly by predation from stoats and dogs. However, through Department of Conservation's hard work supported by Kiwis for Kiwi and many other organisations a two per cent population growth is achievable in areas like Rakiura, where kiwi are managed. The challenge lies in scaling up those efforts and supporting them.

Kiwi in remote areas like Rakiura need to be protected from predators while remaining in the wild to live, breed and thrive as nature intended. The plan also tackles other challenges, including maintaining genetic diversity, ensuring responsible dog ownership and measuring the effectiveness of kiwi recovery tools over the long term.

Central and local Government, tangata when-

ua, community, and other groups that work with kiwi will now be invited to have input into the plan. Consultation will close on 27 January 2017 and the finalised plan will be released later in the year.

I would also like to congratulate Di Morris and the team at the Stewart Island/Raikura Community and Environment Trust, on winning the Heritage and Environment Award at the recent Trustpower Invercargill Southland Community Awards.

I was so pleased to see the work carried out by the team and volunteers has been recognised. Their contribution to the community with predator trapping, habitat restoration and community education is invaluable in ensuring native wildlife will continue to thrive.

Congratulations once again for your well-deserved award.

From the Office of Sarah Dowie MP

Stewart Island Players Notice

As we are now 'in production' (or at least the School is), please, PLEASE, **PLEASE** respect that Players' Wardrobe is severely restricted regarding entry. Whilst some beautiful gear has arrived (a big thank you to the Anonymous Donating Fairies), some has disappeared. Example: we urgently need The Top Hat and the 'real-hair' wigs – whoever borrowed them, please can you return them to Sue Ford. It's important that we keep tabs on every item for the next while as we sew and fit, so if you have a 'dress-up do' or a themed party, please check-in with Sue (2191282) in the first instance. Looking forward to the return of the hat, the wigs and anything else you've forgotten to bring back....

—Sue Ford

The Community Centre will be holding a **Christmas Market Day** on **Saturday, November 26th**. If you are interested in having a stall, please contact **Lisa Harkness (District Nurse)** or **Karin Dawson (Ruggies teacher)**. **Keep an eye on the notice board for more information!**

Oban Presbyterian Church Chatter – Jo Riksem

With our pretty spectacular weather folks have been out in their gardens. Here are a few suggestions one might not have added to the garden but are a good idea shared with me by a friend:

Firstly plant four rows of peas; Presence, Promptness, Preparation and Perserverence

Next to these plant rows of squash; Squash gossip, Squash criticism, Squash indifference

Then plant rows of lettuce; Let us be loyal and unselfish, Let us be true, Let us be prayerful, Let us love

No garden is complete without turnips; Turn up regularly, Turn up cheerfully, Turn up with determination to make everything count for something worthwhile.



Halfmoon Bay showing the wharf and Oban Presbyterian Church

Speakers Previews:

6 Nov. 2016 – Heather Kennedy: Heather is well known to many of you and always enjoys her time when she comes to the Island and looks forward to participating in our quiz night. She has been writing a book on the history of the Presbyterian Church in Southland which we'll look forward to when it has been published. Her services always come with fun and thoughtfulness.

13 Nov. 2016 – Beverley Osborn: Our retired Methodist minister (who at times doesn't feel very retired) is taking this special baptism service for Joshua Chittenden. A very special time for the family.

20 Nov. 2016 – Linda Beebe: It is lovely to have Linda back again after her being here for Labour weekend, and with her special connection with the Leask family, I'm sure she'll enjoy her time on the Island. She is certainly busy with her nursing work in the surgical ward at Southland Hospital, activities at Central Baptist Church, Tear Fund, and being a wife, mother and grandmother.

27 Nov. 2016 - Brett Walker: is the minister at Taradale in Napier where he has served for 17.5 years. Before that he was minister for 8 years at Flagstaff union in Dunedin. He is married to Sue and they have 2 grown sons (Paul and David). Brett originally trained at Bible college (now known as Laidlaw College) in Auckland which is where he met Sue. They were intending to work in Asia with OMF and were gaining some practical experience doing youth work in Tauranga when David was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis. They moved to Dunedin for ministry training and Brett completed a Masters in New Testament.

For fun Brett likes his computer and going to the gym. He is also a keen cook but not a keen gardener. Sue loves walking her dog and kayaking. Brett used to enjoy fly fishing but has not done much recently (the rivers round Napier are not as fish filled as Southland!) He is hoping to do some fishing while on the island.

He and Sue are involved with Operation Friendship which befriends International students with the hope of sharing the gospel with them. They have a large house so often have several students boarding with them. One week they had men from Saudi Arabia, Laos and Timor Leste.

Church services every Sunday at 11 am. The church is open every day so come in and enjoy the peace and quiet.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AA MEETINGS
WHEN : SAT NIGHTS 7.30PM
WHERE: BACK ROOM OBAN PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH — KAMAHI RD.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PH/TXT 027 238 9046

Thank you to all for the love and support towards our holiday! It was a huge surprise and very appreciated. We are off island for a break and to sort out a wheelchair car for the mainland. When we get back a plan for holiday will be hatched, will keep all posted. Thank you all once again for the friendship and support. *Debs*

A Big Thank You: thank you to all Islanders who took the time and made the effort to vote in the recent Local Body Election. Especially thank you to those who voted me back as Councillor. I take a great pride in seeing the village admired by our visitors, and in the Island making forward moves. The Island is always my first priority and concern with Council. We have a good cross-section of the community on the Community Board too, but we need your on-going input – to your Board Members and to me – so that we can prioritise concerns. It’s a challenging job, but one which brings great satisfaction, and I thank you once again for giving me the opportunity to represent you for another three years.
Bruce Ford, 2191 282

Moturau Moana visiting volunteers will be here from 17th -21st October, please feel free to come up and say hello or lend a hand. These lovely people pay to come here and tidy up the gardens so it would be nice to show them our appreciation! Maybe local businesses could offer them a service, and individuals can bring them some baking.



Trim that Vegetation – Carefully

It is vital that you keep an eye on trees around your property if you have overhead lines. To ensure your security of electricity supply and that you, your family and your friends remain, safe, vegetation management is essential.

Tree owners are legally required to ensure their tree(s) are kept at a safe distance from electricity lines to ensure public safety and to protect the electricity network because:

- In very dry conditions trees close to lines may cause electrical sparking resulting in fire
- Children that climb trees close to power lines are at risk of serious injury or death
- In severe weather conditions, vegetation can become electrically ‘live’ and may electrocute anyone coming into contact with it
- In bad weather, trees can topple or branches break away, causing damage to power lines resulting in a power outage. In snow or icy conditions the additional weight on the tree can cause a similar scenario
- Tree roots can grow around underground electricity cables rupturing the insulation and causing power supply failure

“Protecting the safety of the public and ensuring a secure supply of electricity to customers is important to us,” says PowerNet’s chief executive, Jason Franklin.

He says while tree trimming is important near high voltage lines, it is important to be aware of your surroundings when chopping back the hedge or trees.

“High voltage electricity can jump across gaps – so you should not be any closer than four metres to the wires without our approval. It can be easy to forget about overhead lines if you are operating equipment to trim trees – it’s vital that anyone working near lines knows where the lines are at all times to avoid injury or worse.”

For information on trimming trees on your property please visit our website
www.powernet.co.nz
—*Kathryn McCoy*

9846 or 9818? Ten years ago, the SIN reported that the island had a new post code. It had changed from 9818 to 9846. Now, a decade on, there is still confusion about which postcode to use! Some people use 9846 and some still swear by 9818. I contacted the New Zealand Postal Service to get to the bottom of it and I’m still a bit muddled but here’s what I’ve got:

Basically, the postcode associated with our street addresses is 9818. But the postcode associated with Counter Mail and Post Boxes at the Stewart Island PostShop is 9846. Because we don’t have mail delivered to our home, the 9818 should be irrelevant. But, as anyone who shops on-line knows, there are many businesses, shops and government agencies who refuse to acknowledge a PO Box as a valid ad-

dress for shipping, and insist on your street address.

“Esther” of the NZ Post Complex Investigations (I *DID NOT* make up this source) writes:

The only valid postal addresses are PO Box and Counter Delivery addresses which I have noted below -

*PO Box ???
Oban
Stewart Island 9846*

*Counter Delivery
Oban PostCentre
Stewart Island 9846*

It is likely that people routinely use their street address for mail and we redirect it to the PostCentre and sort it to their PO Box. For all mail to be efficiently sorted

and delivered, residents should use their correct postal address not their street address.

I explained to Esther about businesses insisting on our street address and she said in that case use 9818, even though we don’t get mail delivered there.

One more confusing tidbit:
According to the NZ Post website, the street address for our PostShop is 40 Elgin Terrace...9818.

So what I still don’t understand is why the Postcode for everywhere on the island, including the PostShop, is 9818, with the exception of the counter and post office boxes inside that building which are 9846! If anyone can shed some light on this please do, otherwise I will be pestering Esther again in the name of investigative reporting. —*Jess*

Launch Master – Kiwi Spotting (Stewart Island)



Real Journeys is one of New Zealand's leading tourism operators offering quality sight-seeing activities in Fiordland, Queenstown and Stewart Island.

We seek two qualified Launch Masters for our Stewart Island Experience operation. This role is focussed on delivering quality cruises from Half Moon Bay, Stewart Island to Little Glory Cove in Patterson's Inlet each night. This role will require a high level of confidence operating a vessel at night.

As Launch Master you have complete responsibility for vessel, crew and passengers and to ensure the vessel is operated within legislative requirements and Real Journeys guidelines at all times. Each sailing there will be a dedicated Crew / Nature Guide.

This is a part time, fixed term position starting in early November and finishing at the end of May, 2017. You will be working from 1800 to 0100 each day on a 7 day on 7 day off roster. The successful applicant will be put through training and clearance processes to cover the vessels and operation.

Key requirements for this role are:

Inshore Launch Master or Skipper Restricted Limits (<24m Passenger endorsed) certificate of competency

Full NZ Drivers Licence

Ensure the safety of all staff, customers, contractors and general public on every vessel under your command

Manage emergency situations on any vessel under your command

Implement the Real Journeys safety management system in your role as Master

Ensure that the highest standards of customer service are maintained at all times

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Deliver effective crew training

In return for your effort and commitment we offer development opportunities, a great team environment and a sensational backdrop.

For more information and to apply online, visit www.employment.realjourneys.co.nz

Applications close 21st October, 2016

All applicants must be eligible to work in NZ.

Ringa Ringa Heights Golf Course

As the weather is picking up and golf is back on the menu here are a few reminders about the use of the golf course:

Those playing golf need to pay Green Fees

Use of the course for access to Ringa Ringa Beach and or from walking tracks is approved provided they respect our property and facilities. E.g. No walking on greens etc.

No commercial operation is permitted to be operate or

given access to our property without the authority of the golf executive.

No vehicles on the course unless official club business.

We also have a significant hazard along the cliff edge above Ringaringa beach , so people who walk along the edge need to keep clear of the fenced off area by the 4th green.

Thank you and happy golfing everyone!

—Emily Joy



SIRCET Update—by Shona Sangster & Kelly Bunce

Well there definitely is no shortage of rats to keep us busy! Our trapping results in the Buffer Zone for the past few months have been more than double in comparison to the same time last year – (results as per graph below). We also completed our rat monitoring of the entire project at the start of September which as expected the results also indicate a huge increase in the number of rats in the project area. They also indicate a much higher amount of rats present outside of the Project area. The birds seem to know where the safer place is to be, the amount of birdsong out at Ackers at the moment is amazing!

Rat monitoring tunnels were opened on the 8th of September in clear weather conditions in the HMBHRP area. The Core zone/Ackers Point, the Buffer zone/Ringa Ringa and the Community Zone/Petersons Hill and Deep Bay were all monitored. Monitoring was also completed outside of the project area at Ryan’s Creek – where no rat trapping takes place, which we use as a control measure for our data.

The results of the monitoring are: 35% in the Core Zone, 40% in the Buffer Zone and 35% in the Community Zone. This gives us a 36% result for the entire project area combined. Ryan’s Creek, which is outside of our project area, came back with a result of 70%. The numbers show we are obviously experiencing high rat numbers this year, the most surprising result is the lower result coming back in the Core zone, this area currently only has the Goodnature A24 traps open so they must be having an impact.

In response to reducing the number of rats in our Core zone a number of Victor Rat traps have been opened. Our most successful trapping lines have been opened and also lines that are close to positive monitoring tunnels, at the moment we are trialling Dog food roll as a super strong lure to try and have a hard hitting impact on reducing the rat numbers. We will monitor the area again in two months – with the goal of reducing these numbers by 50%.



Photo: Jason Hosking

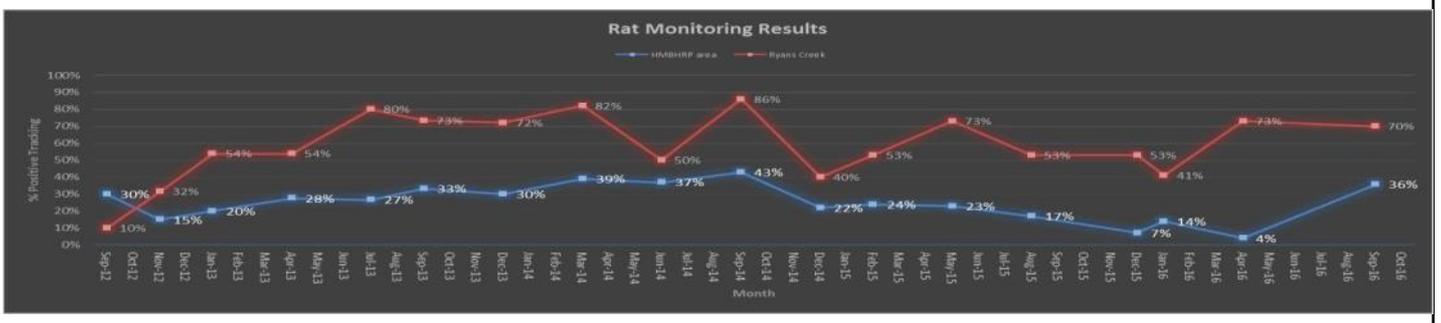
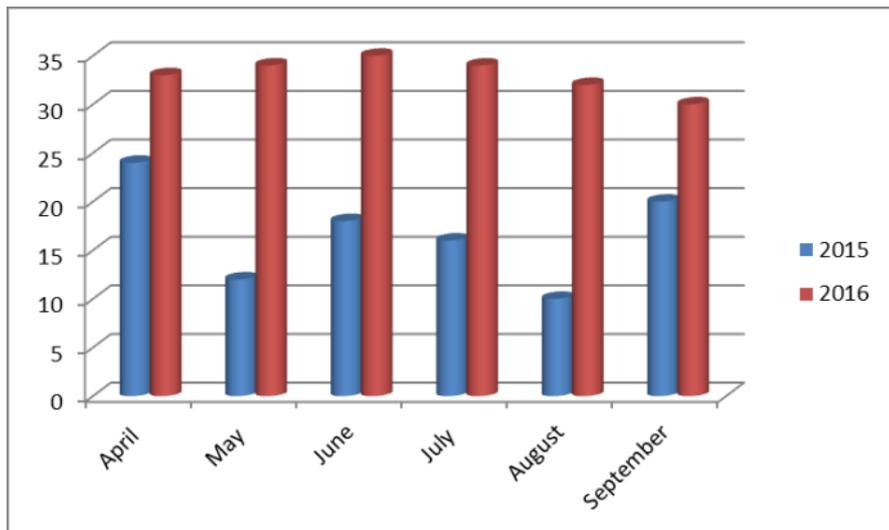
We also have two events coming up: A Natural History Presentation by award winning NZ Photographer Jason Hosking. Jason has won many awards: NZ Geographic Photographer of the Year 2015, Natures Best, LAUPS International, NZ Professional Photography Awards (AIPA), Oceanz International, NZIPP Iris Awards. His work has been exhibited in Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and has appeared in a number of local & touring exhibitions, including the 2016 New Zealand Geographic Photographer of the Year Exhibition. Thanks to the Department of Conservation, Forest and Bird and Real Journeys for their assistance with travel and venue.

When: 7 pm Wednesday 19th October
Where: DOC Rakiura National Park Visitor Information Centre

And the SIRCET AGM will be held on the 20th of October at 7pm at DOC. All welcome, refreshments provided.

Right: Trapping results – Buffer Zone

Below: Rat Monitoring Results - Core, Buffer and Community Zones combined and results of Monitoring at Ryan’s Creek.





Glowing Sky Rakiura



Summer Dresses Now in Store.
Between The Pub and The Shop,
or www.glowingsky.co.nz

Calling all **PALLET MASTERS!!**

There's some amazing stuff that can be built out of pallets, and this Gala Day, Saturday 22nd October, we're running the **RAKIURA RECYCLE CHALLENGE** to see who is the **PALLET MASTER!**

Pretty simple rules — just build something with pallets, bring it along on the day, and the judges will decide the winners.

Prizes for: Overall winner; Most Inventive, Craftsmanship and Junior

All creations will be silent auctioned off on the day, with all proceeds going to Rakiura Rugrats.

Great prizes, including ITM and Mitre 10 vouchers
If you need more information ask Liz, Mel or Leah.

If you're after pallets, ask Sam at the shop.

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or go cheap and green and become an "eSinner" for just \$24
Contact stewartislandnews@yahoo.com for details



Flower photos by Carolyn Squires.



STEWART ISLAND LIONS

Ever wondered what Lions is about or what we do?

We raise money to purchase goods and make donations to various groups both locally and nationally. When we receive requests for donations or help we discuss these at our monthly meetings. We do not limit ourselves to just financial needs but often provide man power to help with various projects.

Listed below are donations and/or purchases we have provided in the last few months.

Monetary Donations

- Foundation for the Blind – Guide Dog monthly donation
- Lloyd Morgan Charitable Trust
- Assistance for a person to attend Outward Bound
- Fares for volunteers to come over and work at Moturau Moana Gardens
- Diabetic Youth
- Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust

Work Carried Out by Lions Members

- 6 hours Planting 100 trees/shrubs at Leask Bay
- 4 hours Firewood delivery
- 4 hours working at Moturau Moana Gardens
- 10 hours Waterblasting and tree removal
- 4 hours working at the cemetery
- 1 hour mowing lawn at the Pavilion
- 13 hours catering and serving BBQ for visiting people (2 BBQ's)
- 3 hours helping with dinner for the Fire Brigade's 50th anniversary
- 1 hour mowing lawn at the Pavilion

We are currently replacing 5 pieces on the chess board

Preparations for the Lions Dance at Easter is underway. Mark this on your calendar now

We hold meetings on the first Wednesday of the month and start our meetings with a meal. You are welcome to come along to a meeting to see if Lions is for you.

**Books Reviewed —Sue Ford
Spring Reading**

Off the Library's 'Hot Pick' shelf comes my Must Read of the Month – **“The Angels’ Share”** by **J.R. Ward**. It's second in a series but an excellent stand-alone, featuring a dynastic Kentucky bourbon family. The patriarch is dead – did he fall or was he pushed? And what has happened to the multi-millions he has siphoned off the company? Three brothers and a sister, their love lives, their connections to the company – all come under scrutiny. But the staff has a vested interest in the family too. Brilliant plot, classy ending and with more than enough loose ends for you to look for the next book without spoiling the one-off plot. Very enjoyable reading – but Barbara Cartland would not have approved....

In any other month, **Liz Nugent's “Lying in Wait”** would have taken the gold. I reviewed her “Unravelling Oliver” last year and was hoping for something as good. This one over-shadowed her first book. What do you do as a hugely unpopular boy when first you find out that your loved and respected parents are murderers – and then you fall in love with the victim's sister? Brilliant writing, excellent plot, characters you can walk alongside.

If you like mystery with your history try **“The Chatelet Apprentice”** by **Jean-Francois Parot**. It combines an evocative picture of Paris in the 1760's with a vicious murder plot and a side-dish of imperial intrigue. Delicious! Or, still mystery-history, **“A Dark Anatomy”** by **Robin Blake** takes place in the English 1740's when police work was virtually non-existent, so it's up to Coroner Titus Cragg and his medical friend, Luke Fidelis, to solve the murder of Dolores Brockletower. The twist at the end of the story completes it.

Laura van den Berg's “Find Me” is an awkward one. Joy tells us she was an abandoned

baby, dragged through a childhood she would rather forget until she ends as a 19-year old, working the 'graveyard' shift at a convenience store. Having deliberately forgotten great chunks of her appalling childhood, it is ironic that when an epidemic hits, she is one of those who are immune to the memory-loss illness. Hmmmm. Interesting. I had problems with **“Far From True”** by **Linwood Barclay** too. The plethora of characters and tragedies in the small U.S. town of Promise Falls was confusing. Then close to the end, I realised the book was from the middle of a series – and the ending bore this out, leaving me wanting to read 'what comes next'. Central to the convoluted plot is the collapse of the giant screen at the last night of the local drive-in movie, but the connections to various unsavoury residents of the town are myriad, and the murders and other tragedies – if they are connected, then how? I look forward to the sequel, **“The Twenty Three”**.

Yet another oddball – **“The Many Selves of Katherine North”** by **Emma Geen**, in which Katie has worked her teen years for ShenCorp as one of many kids ideal for being 'projected' into the bodies of animals - to help science save the planet and its many endangered species. Then Katie finds that ShenCorp is 'printing' humans ... Quirky. Unlike **“If I Close My Eyes Now”** by **Edney Silves-**

tre – which I skim-read because it was too 'difficult' for me. Two little boys find a mutilated body and the victim's husband confesses to the murder which they discover he could not have committed. It translates poorly from the original Portuguese, the dialogue is scrappy, the sheer brutality depicted was a turn-off. Not my cup of tea. I'll stick to fantasy and escapism I think! I'll fantasise my garden will magically become weed-free before summer for one thing....

BICYCLE JUNCTION & AHUNDREDMILLIONTHINGS PRESENT

Tour de Science

All shows \$10/\$5, tickets available from Eventfinda and the door

WANAKA Thursday 17 Nov - Lake Wanaka Centre - Armstrong Room, 7:00 PM

TE ANAU Sunday 20 Nov - Fiordland Community Events Centre - 6:30 PM

INVERCARGILL Thursday 24 Nov - The Lodge, 7:00 PM

OBAN, STEWART ISLAND Friday 25 Nov - Community Centre Social Room 6:30 PM

GORE Saturday 26 Nov - James Cumming Wing - 6:30 PM

www.tourdescience.com

eventfinda

Jenny sent this to me in April and it got lost in my desk's shuffle so here it is now, with an UPDATE below.—Ed

I am very proud of my cat, Monty.

Monty is nearly 8 years old and when he first caught a rat and presented it to us



Brett "Loosie" was at the time setting traps under the Bay Motel and he decided to have a competition to see who caught the most rats.

Unfortunately Loosie only managed a score of 46 when his time ran out but I have kept Monty's score going and only record the rats he has killed and presented to me on a regular basis and of course clean up the remains.

Yesterday I was presented with the 200th dead rat. What a proud moment captured on camera. "Get rid of Monty at the peril of Stewart Island, Gareth Morgan!"

I see very few dead birds as Monty hunts at night and recovers during the day, but with rats he is a master assassin.

Regards
Jenny Twaddle

UPDATE: In the last three months Monty has added another 47 to his score. He managed 3 in one night but has yet to beat Steve and Jeanette's cat George with 4 in one night.

Election Results

Southland District Council Ward:

Bruce Ford

Stewart Island Community Board:

Anita Geeson

Jon Spraggon

Steve Lawrence

Dale Chittenden

Aaron Conner

Greg Everest

Rat Tales

When there's a bad smell in your garage and you put it off for a couple days telling yourself your nose is just imagining things... and then on day three you have to face reality and find the source.

That was my day last Friday so let's just say it wasn't TGIF at my place when I opened up our boiler and discovered not only the source of the terrible smell but why our boiler kept kicking off.

The manual for the thing is in Italian and even if I was proficient in the language, which I wish I was, and which I'm not, I doubt it prepares the owner for four rats nesting inside the boiler using the insulation and stolen shredded mail as bedding, all soaked in rat urine and poos, and then all dying and bloating and oozing dead rat juice throughout all aforementioned.

I don't want to seem uninterested in stuff. I'm interested in space, books, food, my kids, etc. But I am NOT into dead rat juice. Not anytime, not anywhere, and certainly not up in my boiler on a Friday.

The best/worst part was when I was extracting the dead rats along with handfuls of retchy rat-spunked stuffing, dry heaving noisily, and my boys God bless'em sensed a show and decided to get involved.

Here's where I need to mention that a few months ago I'd taken them to Coral Hotchkiss's garage sale and Moby had zeroed in on a folding camping chair. He loves the thing and busts it out on any occasion and this was an occasion.

Charlie seized this as a moment to man up and use daddy's torch. Moby fetched Coral's fold-out chair, unfolded it, and took a load off.

Here I am having one of the worst afternoons ever and now because of my boys I'm wondering if I should make popcorn, and I'm having a laughing fit.

In all seriousness: rats like warmth so if you have a boiler you might want to have a peek under its cover. Rats like to be cosy — one local woman found a rat tucked up under the covers of her guest bed! Rats are mariners...Sandy's dog Gadget has sniffed out some rats and a nest on local boats. And one fisherman thought his crew had stinky feet until he discovered a dead rat mariner *marinating* under his mattress! Rats are smart and opportunistic so be vigilant.

In July I tagged along with Cherie Hemsley and Dan Lee as they did their monthly check of Ulva Island's coastal rat traps. Inspired by the experience, I wrote an article for my favourite on-line magazine about the day. So if you want a glimpse into the great work done by DoC rangers check out "Snogging Mouldy Trees" in The Island Review at www.theislandreview.com or on their Facebook page.

If you have any rat tales send them to SIN and we'll share them in this column.

—Jess



Emergency Management

Southland Text Alerts

Find out more at
<http://www.civildefencesouthland.govt.nz/>



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For all local listings -
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St Andrew's Anglican Church.
 10 Excelsior Road,



Labour weekend "Open Day" |

to be held 22nd & 23rd October. Self guide leaflet available in the Church

St Andrew's 116 year old Church, especially the bronze bells and other relics are historically significant to the Foveaux area.

The restored 1909 Church Hall on the site was formerly the 'Maori Church' from The Neck, the entrance to Paterson Inlet and is open to visitors.

Church service is held 4th Sunday of the month, our team includes, Rev, Richard Johnson – Vicar, Rev, Judy Johnston and Lay Preacher, Wynston Cooper as well as visiting clergy.

October service is on Sunday, 23rd, 1030, All Welcome. Warden...Iris Tait ph.2191151

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Ship to Shore hours will continue to be 7.30am to 6.30pm until 23rd October.
On 24th October (Labour Day) our hours will be 9.00am to 7.00pm
and thereafter 7.30am to 7.00pm for the summer.

What's on at the Community Centre

Tuesday 5.30 pm Boot camp

Wednesday 2pm – 3.30 pm Office open
4pm Taekwondo for Kids

Thursday 3pm Badminton for Kids
(7 years and older)

5.30 pm Boot camp

Saturday 9am Boot camp

11am – 12.30 pm Office open

**Dogs can kill
kiwi and penguins.
Please do not
let your dog
wander.
Please report
wandering dogs to
0800 732 732**

The Stewart Island Senior Cottage Working Committee and Trust

Aim. To establish a number of suitable easy-care cottages for use by tenants in need of enjoying latter years without the practical and financial pressure of a larger property;

It is envisaged that all-inclusive economical rent would keep our seniors in the community rather than having to move to unfamiliar surroundings;

Additional 'community good' would see family homes available for the growth and ongoing community well-being of young families;

Required. The Working Committee is seeking expressions of interest from people who would like to join the committee and take an active part in getting this project up and running.

Required. A Trust also needs to be formed and the committee is seeking expressions of interest from people who could bring experience of a professional nature, e.g. finance and/or philanthropic experience.

Note.

A great deal of work has been progressed and the experience of Habitat for Humanity has been included in the operation to project-manage and operate the tenancies. Habitat would provide the assessment process of ensuring the appropriate needs and affiliations with Government agencies are enabled;

The Trustees would be responsible for the raising of initial capital and set-up principals (expressions of interest have already been received), and beyond that, duties would be minimal as Habitat for Humanity would operate and report on a pre-determined schedule.

There is a questionnaire at the Post Office that we would encourage you to fill in so that planning meets the needs of the community.

Please forward expressions of interest to Bruce Ford J.P., Organiser, P.O. Box 91, Stewart Island. (Working Group also includes Deborah Dillon – Debs, and John Cushen.)

BruceandSue@thefords.nz

For further information please contact Bruce at 032191282

What's Up, DOC? From Jennifer Ross

October is Save Kiwi Month

Since October is Save Kiwi Month we want to remind pet owners to please keep dogs under control at all times. All dogs – no matter the age, gender and size – are capable of crushing the delicate bodies and organs of baby and adult kiwi. The key to saving kiwi in Halfmoon Bay is responsible pet ownership.

Kiwis for Kiwi Afternoon Tea

The Stewart Island/Rakiura Community and Environment Trust (SIRCET) held a Great Kiwi Morning tea on Friday the 14th October from 10:00am. This event raised \$900 due to the generosity of the community. Kiwis for Kiwi then donated all funds raised to SIRCET.

Kiwi Recovery Plan

The most current Kiwi Recovery Plan 2008-2018 is coming to the end of its life. The Kiwi Recovery Group is currently gathering information from many different people and groups to draft a plan that will make up the next key kiwi strategic document for ten years. This document will provide guidance to groups & the Department regarding all things to do with kiwi.

The draft plan is now out for public consultation. This can be downloaded from: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/kiwirecoveryplan>. If you are interested, please download the document, have a look, and provide any feedback, suggestions, or submissions to Senior Biodiversity Ranger Kevin Carter (kcarter@doc.govt.nz). Kevin is acting as a local coordinator for feedback from local community and community groups. The deadline for submissions is 4:00pm Friday 27 January, 2017

Kiwi in a Craypot



DOC got a call in early September to report that someone had spotted a kiwi trapped in a craypot. When James Ware, Bridget Baynes, and Kevin Carter went to investigate the scene at the top of Whipp Place they saw that it was true! There was indeed a kiwi in a craypot. The pot was semi-covered in vegetation and

Saving a kiwi from craypot Photo Credit: Bridget Baynes



Dan Lee and Aristya Marzuki prepare the toilets at North Arm Hut by removing all the foreign object beforehand Photo Credit: Cherie Hemsley

looked like it had been there for a while. There was a fern growing up underneath it, which had lifted the pot up just enough so that the curious kiwi was able to get inside but not back out. Kevin Carter, Senior Ranger Biodiversity called it “the most unusual kiwi rescue” he’s ever done. The kiwi didn’t look like it had been there for very long, and there were no signs of excessive stress (like stress moulting). Kevin opened up the top hatch while Bridget and James encouraged the kiwi toward him. When the kiwi was within reach, Kevin was able to grab its feet and perform a quick health check. The kiwi had no mites in its feathers, clear eyes, and good body condition. After a quick bill measurement and weight, the fit and healthy sub-adult kiwi was released and made its way down the track.

Annual Sewerage and Grey Water Removal

The Department of Conservation carried out its annual sewerage removal (also affectionately known as the “poo suck”) in late Sep-

tember to prepare for the upcoming summer season. This involved teams heading into Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara, Bungaree, North Arm and Port William/Potirepu days beforehand to prep the toilet tanks and remove all foreign objects. The foreign object finds were a bit disappointing this year, with the top three being: a bag of lettuce, a few beer cans, and a pair of women’s underwear. On sewerage removal day DOC Rakiura had support from a few DOC Invercargill/Murihiku colleagues. The operation went smoothly and the team ended up flying out 22 tanks at 700 litres per tank. That’s 15,400 litres of sewerage and grey water removed!



Left: James Ware and Ren Leppens “poo sucking” Right: Two full tanks of sewerage and greywater are lifted out by helicopter.

Halfmoon Bay School Conservation Week Competition Results

DOC Rakiura ran a Conservation Week competition for Halfmoon Bay School. The kids were asked to submit a photo and write a story about what they could do to help the conservation of that place. The whole school did such an excellent job of making and presenting entries that it was very difficult for judges Jennifer Ross, Matt Jones, and Anita Herbert to choose winners! Bridget Baynes awarded Senior winner Zac Chittenden and Junior winner Tessa Allen with money to spend at the Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre. Ten other students were awarded with Highly Commended certificates. All winning entries will be displayed in the Visitor Centre for the month of October so please so come in and have a look!

Halfmoon Bay Weeds Update By Willy Gamble

A review has recently been carried out on the Halfmoon Bay weeds program. All invasive weeds species were individually ranked based on their threat to ecosystems and this has resulted in some new weed species coming on to our radar such as Spanish Heath, Heather and Pampas. We are shifting towards a containment and surveillance approach for Darwin’s barberry to get a handle on where it is showing up outside of the township. The seasonal weeds team and the weeds they are targeting will be featured in upcoming months.

Breakthrough in Selaginella Control

As many of you know, DOC has been controlling Selaginella on several properties and along roadsides for several years. Through hard work and diligence, we have prevented Selaginella from entering Rakiura National Park. A new trial by DOC Otago Scientist Pete Raal using Janola (yes, the stuff you use to clean things around your home) has yielded some excellent results. Stewart Island/Rakiura DOC heard about this

and undertook some trials at 3 sites around the township. These sites were treated once a month and after 3 months 2 of the trial sites had no Selaginella.

The third trial site has been treated monthly over 12 months. This property had a widespread infestation and landowner Holger Lachmann stated that he is “very happy” with the results of janola on selaginella and that “large patches have now disappeared.” Having seen the results first hand, Mr Lochmann is keen for DOC to continue Janola treatment to prevent it from returning.

Where to from here? All sites will be visited once in October/November and sprayed using Janola. We will be asking for your consent to use bleach given that it is a new control method. While on site we will designate the priority

of the site based off the likelihood of it to spread beyond the township; via footwear, boats, or machinery. Once we determine the high priority sites they will be controlled every 2 months throughout the year by the weeds team until the plants are eliminated.

Does it hurt any other species? It kills grass but all other species are okay if you are careful when spraying and direct the spray only at the selaginella. If you have any questions regarding the trials phone Lynne Huggins DOC Invercargill on 0274083405. For all other Halfmoon Bay weeds queries please contact Willy Gamble on 03 2190019



RAKIURA HERITAGE CENTRE



Connecting with our Heritage and sharing it with the World

WE NEED TO TAKE
CONTROL OF OUR FUTURE
BY TAKING CARE OF OUR
PAST - AS A COMMUNITY,
LETS MAKE THIS PROJECT
HAPPEN.

"A concerted effort to preserve our heritage is a vital link to our cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, and economic legacies - all of these things quite literally make us who we are."

Steve Berry

www.rakiuramuseum.co.nz

rakiuramuseum@outlook.com



Our Goals

Our mission is to build a multi-purpose heritage facility on the Island that preserves and makes accessible the stories and artefacts of our past. In addition, it will provide spaces for education, research, cultural, and business opportunities.

Although it's been a long time in the making we are still passionate about the project and have a renewed enthusiasm to have it completed in the short term. Fundraising is in full swing and we hope to put a spade in the ground in 2017 with the aim of a completed facility by 2018.

Why is it Important?

We have the opportunity to invest in the Island's future. Heritage is one of the top priorities for tourism around the world and people move to centres where culture and heritage are valued and museums offer high quality recreational and educational opportunities.

This facility would house the biggest collection of Stewart Island / Rakiura history and it would also:

- Display the beautiful Millennium Log that was carved by Greg Northe & Lance LeQuesne in 2001 (with the help of many others), which tells our Islands story, and has been in storage for 15yrs.
- Provide environmentally controlled conditions for our artefacts and taonga so that they will be around for generations to come.
- Provide adequate storage space for the 10,000 items in our collections so that they can be easily accessed and stored correctly. For anyone who's ever been upstairs at the current museum you'll know there's not much room.
- Have the ability to showcase and tell the stories of items in our collection. Currently only about 5-10% of the collection is on display, it is hoped that this will increase to 30-50% in the new facility.
- Have the ability to rotate exhibitions more easily, showing different items and telling different stories as opposed to long term static displays.
- Be able to assist the increasing number of people wanting to research and confirm their linkage with Stewart Island.
- Provide a world class space for visitors where they can interact with our heritage and discover the connections between our past and what they experience on the Island today.



Frequently Asked Questions?

1. How much it going to cost?

Our budget is approximately \$3.2 million. We already have about \$950k in the bank and we have identified funding of about \$2M. However, in order to get that funding we need to show public and community support.

2. Where is it going to go?

It will be located in the triangular section on Main Road between the Fire Station & DoC (the old Deer Park). Other sites have been looked at extensively but for various reasons are not suitable, this site provides the space and location required for a successful venture.

3. How much road are we going to lose?

0.46m (462mm) of road reserve only. Only the foyer will go over the current boundary line. The width of the road will not change. There will however be some changes to the current lay out to ensure good pedestrian traffic and adequate parking.

4. I don't like the design?

Everybody has different opinions on design, as is your right, and unfortunately we will never please everyone. However, please have faith that the Trust and the Design Team have considered the needs of the community, the space available, and how it all fits into our landscape and feel that the design will deliver above our expectations.

How can you help?

Show us your support, communicate with the Community Board/Council, write us a letter, donate, encourage donations, or simply lend a hand, volunteers are always welcome. If you have any concerns, please raise them with us so we can address them. This is a Community project.

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Photo by Carolyn Squires

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Experienced, reliable handyman (ex Green Acres contractor) available for work on the island

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| Line trimming | Building/assembling garden sheds etc |
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| Tree pruning | Moss and mould treatment |
| Tree removal | Water blasting |
| Chainsaw work | Spider proofing |
| Hedge trimming | Rose pruning |
| Wooden fence and deck construction | |
| Wooden fence and deck repair | And more - just ask |

Office Services

can also be provided

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bookkeeping | Brochure, flyer & business card |
| Office administration | design & printing |

If you want something done, and don't see it in the lists above, just give me ring. You may be surprised just what I can do.



Contact
Geoff

Stewart Island Handyman Services



Phone 973 0959 (Local Number) Mobile 027 253 3106
Email handyman@acadia.co.nz



It takes a village... Recently Matt Jones was walking home and heard a noise coming from a storm drain. He had a look and saw mallard ducklings. He went to DOC to ask if they had a net and he began fishing them out. Some were too far away and by this time Graeme Okey had stopped too. Megan Cowley had a bucket filled with water, Graeme was "flushing" and Matt was catching said "flushed" ducklings. At some point Jen Ross arrived to assist...overall an awesome community effort. Once the ducklings were rescued they were returned to mum who was waiting in Furbana's garden.

Stewart Island News is published on a monthly basis as material permits.
Please send articles and enquiries to Jess Kany at PO Box 156 Stewart Island or email to stewartislandnews@yahoo.com

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