

FEBRUARY 2025

FYI

YOUR DCC NEWS



DUNEDIN
CITY COUNCIL

kaunihera
a-rohe o
Ōtepoti

MAYOR'S DESK



**Kia ora koutou –
Kā mihi o te tau hou!**

I hope everyone had an enjoyable past couple of months and a pleasant holiday period. I also hope you are feeling refreshed and ready to take on what looks like an eventful new year.

Everything is set to kick into high gear right away as we welcome the Year of the Snake with the Chinese New Year Celebrations.

This is followed by the inaugural George Street Market on Saturday, 8 February. With live music, food stalls and arts and crafts, this new and exciting festival market day promises to be a hit with locals and visitors alike.

As for the new southern region tertiary hospital, we continue to send clear messages to decision makers that a fit-for-purpose, state-of-the-art Hospital for Otago and Southland is what was promised and is expected to be built.

I look forward to seeing the new South Dunedin Library and Community Complex finished and opened this year. So far, we are on budget and on track to have this delivered as promised. It will be a vibrant hub for the South Dunedin community.

Also at this time, I extend a warm welcome to students, both returning and new to Ōtepoti Dunedin. You bring a culture of energy and vitality to our city and we appreciate your positive contributions to the place you call home while you are here.

Jules Radich
Mayor of Dunedin



This month we welcome the Year of the Snake as it slithers its way into our lives with the dawn of the Chinese New Year.

The snake is a symbol of transformation and promises to bring wisdom, adaptability, and a sense of change this year.

At Lan Yuan Dunedin Chinese Garden, we scaled up our traditional Chinese New Year celebrations to acknowledge this new era.

The Dunedin Chinese Cultural Festival kicked off on 26 January, and will continue to run until 9 February. The whole city has been brought to life as streets and business are adorned with Chinese

lanterns, and a number of themed events are held over the 15 days including heritage tours, festivals and more.

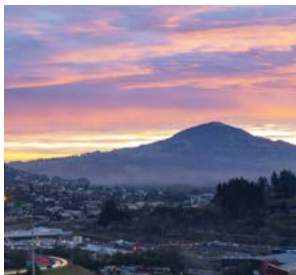
We have had our traditional new year celebrations with the Dragon Parade and Lion Dance alongside cultural performances. These are traditionally performed as a symbol of good luck and to usher in good will for the year ahead.

As well as symbolising transformation, the snake offers the opportunity for growth and learning, with a focus on strategy and intuition, and is the sixth animal in the Chinese zodiac. This is an ideal year to make plans and prepare for change.

Lan Yuan is open all year round for the community to experience and enjoy different seasons.

As summer comes to an end, enjoy the peaceful and tranquil environment of Ōtepoti Dunedin's own miniature of a traditional Chinese garden landscape.

COMMUNITY BOARD UPDATE



SADDLE HILL

While the summer weather hasn't quite kicked into gear at the time of writing, it was great to see locals making the most of opportunities for fun and getting outdoors around our area during the school holidays. Over Christmas, many homes had put a huge effort into putting up festive light displays and it was great to see families getting out during the longer evenings to go and spot these.

With the sea lion/pakake breeding season in full swing, we have seen many appearing around our coastal areas searching for the perfect spot to rest and/or birth their pups. If you see a Pakake, remember to stay at least 10m away

and ensure your dog is on a leash within 20m of any wildlife. It's fantastic that our part of Dunedin, wildlife capital of New Zealand, has such amazing species as part of our everyday life in the Saddle Hill area. It's awesome to see when people are being respectful of these special taonga.

With the year getting underway, keep an eye out for Saddle Hill Community Board events and opportunities coming up, such as our Emergency Management information event, applications for our Youth Ambassador award and applications for funding from community organisations and groups.

A huge thank you to our emergency services and surf lifesavers for working through the holiday and summer period while many of us get to enjoy everything our area has to offer.

Paul Weir
Saddle Hill Community
Board Chair

STILL BIN GREAT



Ōtepoti Dunedin has proven itself more than capable of adjusting to our new kerbside collection service and cutting back the amount of waste going to landfill.

A remarkable 7377 tonnes of food and garden waste was collected from the green-lidded food scraps and garden waste kerbside bins from July until the end of December 2024.

Previously, that material would have gone to waste and buried in the landfill, creating methane (a potent climate-changing gas) as it decomposed. It's great to see residents use the new service so enthusiastically ensuring that material is composted and reused instead.

Unsurprisingly, summer growth has seen green-bin collection volumes rise significantly, putting pressure on our kerbside contractors. December was the biggest month with 1633 tonnes collected from green-lidded bins.

Contractors have made changes to help with the demand. Red trucks that complete their rubbish bin collection runs are sometimes sent out again to help with green-lidded bin collection.

Food scraps and garden waste are still being recycled, even if it is collected by a red truck. It's another example of just how popular our enhanced service is.

Remember, the contents of the new green-lidded bins is composted and put back into the earth to help plants grow – so it's super important to have zero contamination. Only put in food scraps, meat, bones, and seafood, garden waste, hair and animal fur. Never put any plastics, metals, paper or other household items in your green-lidded bin.

CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP



A creative collaboration between Otago Polytechnic and the Dunedin City Council has helped students develop their design and marketing skills.

The Creative Partnerships team at the DCC have been looking at ways to rebrand the Community Gallery in Princes Street.

As part of this, the creative team recently engaged with Otago Polytechnic Bachelor of Communication Design students to task them with developing brand design concepts for the Community Gallery.

The degree requires students to work with external organisations as part of their second year course.

After initial discussions with Creative Partnerships, the students developed four brand design concepts, and then chose one of these to carry forward as a group, which involved the development of a marketing plan for the Community Gallery.

The Creative Partnerships team was impressed by the concept designs produced in the project, and hope to carry the collaboration forward and use the basic concept for branding the Community Gallery.

The benefits of the relationship between the DCC and Otago Polytechnic flowed both ways.

It gave the students an opportunity to think strategically about the role of the Community Gallery in the city's creative ecosystem, work to a real-life brief for a real-life client, and introduce them to ways in which local government can be involved in creative activity in the city.

25 YEARS OF FRINGE



The Dunedin Fringe Festival turns 25 next month, celebrating a milestone of creativity, connection, and experimentation in Ōtepoti.

From 13–23 March 2025, the city will come alive with over 85 fresh events. Audiences will be able to explore a bold and eclectic programme showcasing local, national, and international talent.

Dunedin's own James Mustapic will be joined by his mum Janet in *All Good If Not*; a sharp, satirical hour of multimedia comedy featuring his iconic self-deprecating wit and dry observations on modern life. Meanwhile, local Kāi Tahu artist Nick Tipa's *Babyface* explores identity through music, visual art, and professional

wrestling, with a soundtrack by Zac Nicholls (*Koizilla*) and dramaturgy by Bronwyn Wallace (*Late Bloomers*).

Family-friendly highlights include *The Tiny Show*, an award-winning performance of a quiet clown and her troupe of toys, as well as Art at Heart: *Kids Exhibition*. Curated by 11-year-old Sylvie Wardell, this showcase of tamariki and rangatahi artwork celebrates the “big feelings” of young creators and invites visitors to contribute to a shared canvas.

Frangi-Galoorre Art Workshop offers an all-ages opportunity to explore Pasifika art through hands-on carving led by local artist Ana Teofilo.

Dance lovers can experience the innovative *Motion Sickness* which blends contemporary movement with New Zealand Sign Language, or Eliza Sanders' *Manage Your Expectations*; merging dance, clowning, and absurdism. This year's partnership with Dunedin Pride brings *SoliloQueens: Act 2*, a celebration of the city's vibrant Drag talent.

MUSIC ADVISORS



A new Music Advisory Panel features a blend of experience, youth, passion and highly tuned knowledge.

The Dunedin City Council established a Music Advisory Panel to advise and support the implementation of the Ōtepoti Live Music Action Plan, which aims to enhance the communities who contribute to, participate in, and create live music in the city.

The Music Advisory Panel aims to be an important platform for the voices of the city's diverse music communities to be heard.

Five representatives were selected from a large applicant pool to fill the community vacancies on the

advisory panel, as well as a youth representative, and elected members Councillors Mandy Mayhem and Steve Walker.

Charlie Brough was nominated as the youth representative while Dave Bennett, Karl Brinsdon, Francisca Griffin, Stephen Stedman and Abby Wolfe were the chosen community representatives.

The final selection balances both the experienced and emerging voices of Ōtepoti's music ecosystem and it is hoped the skills and knowledge of representatives will be carried into the future.

Mana whenua are currently in the process of nominating a representative to the panel.

Members of the Music Advisory Panel will meet at least four times per year to advise and support the DCC's implementation of the Action Plan, monitor its progress, and share developments with their communities and other stakeholders.

AOTEAROA BIKE CHALLENGE



This month is your chance to take part in the Aotearoa Bike Challenge.

The month-long competition from Love to Ride aims to get more people riding bikes. The idea is to ride your bike for ten minutes or more throughout the month of February, record your ride and progress online, and start earning points to win prizes and climb the leader boards.

Taking part is easy. Head to the website to register, join with your business or team, log your bike rides to earn points, and encourage your friends and whānau to take part for even more points. You can register for the event throughout February.

For the Aotearoa Bike Challenge, it doesn't matter if you're used to riding every day or if you haven't ridden a bike in years. The challenge aims to get people on bikes, even if it's only for a ten-minute ride to the local dairy.

There are many benefits to cycling including improved physical and mental health, reduced stress and anxiety, and environmental benefits due to a reduction in your carbon footprint.

At a time when environmental issues, wellness, and money saving are important factors for many, there has never been a better time to ride a bike. Love to Ride has lots of resources to help, including tips and tricks, articles and small courses, as well as goal-setting functions and rewards.

Register for the Aotearoa Bike Challenge to elevate your energy, axe your anxiety, protect the planet and heighten your happiness.

DOG BYLAW CHANGES



The Dunedin City Council recently reviewed its Dog Control Bylaw and Policy, with new rules set to take effect in May this year.

Updates aim to balance the recreational needs of dogs and their owners with public safety and wildlife protection, following a thorough review as required by the Dog Control Act 1996.

Key changes include expanded access for dogs on leashes, a new public space dog limit and increased leash restrictions in coastal areas.

Dogs will soon be allowed on a leash in several central city locations, including The Octagon, Library Plaza, parts of Princes Street and George Street (from the Exchange

to Knox Church), and King Edward Street in South Dunedin (between Hillside and Macandrew Roads). Dogs must not be left tied up and unattended in these areas.

Other changes mean that an individual can have up to six dogs in their care in a public space. Written permission is required for exceptions, with permit details to be released in the coming months.

And, in order to protect wildlife, dogs must now be leashed in all coastal dune areas, including access paths.

These changes aim to create a dog-friendly city while ensuring safety and conservation, and come into effect from Monday, 5 May 2025.

SHORT AND SWEET



LIBRARIES' 2024 CITATION WINNER

Every year, we acknowledge the work and support our residents provide for our library services.

The Library Citation Award goes to a Dunedin resident who has made a long and outstanding contribution to library collections, its services or programmes or the promotion of libraries and reading.

In December last year, we proudly presented Russell Walker with the 2024 Library Citation Award at a celebration to thank volunteers and others for their contributions.

Many at the event congratulated Russell for his dedication and passion. Russell, who has served on the Friends of the Library committee for 12 years, was recognised for his collaborative nature, reliability, and outstanding contributions.

BRAILLE DAY

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature recently collaborated with Julie Woods, aka 'That Blind Woman', on an international initiative in honour of World Braille Day.

Julie's latest project, the *Wish List Coasters*, shares the remarkable story of how she achieved her goal of visiting 50 countries by the time she turned 50. Coasters were produced featuring paintings by Julie's husband, artist Ron Esplin and words by Julie.

The coasters will be shared with 16 other UNESCO Cities of Literature across nine countries she visited.

Julie learnt Braille at the age of 35, and attended Louis Braille's 200th birthday celebration in Paris in 2009. World Braille Day is held on 4 January.

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Here's a small selection of what's going on in Dunedin this month. To the best of our knowledge this information was correct at the time of publication.

KEY:  Family event |  Free



GEORGE STREET MARKET

Retailers, stallholders, eateries, and performers will come together to transform the redeveloped central city into a vibrant premier street market event.

Saturday 8 February | 10am – 4pm | George Street | FREE

BUG DAY!

Celebrate the wonders of bugs with this family-friendly day packed with exciting activities, hands-on workshops, and fascinating bug science.

Saturday 15 February | 10am – 3pm | Level 1 Atrium, Tūhura Otago Museum | FREE

TODDLER TIME @ TOITŪ

Bring your babies, toddlers and under-fives to Toitū for story time with Josephine, our beloved locomotive, then make tracks into the museum for a child friendly tour.

Tuesday 25 February | 10.15am | Josephine Foyer, Toitū Settlers Museum | FREE

DUNEDIN SANITARIUM WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON™ 2025

Open to Kiwi kids aged 6 to 15 years of all sporting abilities, this time-tested event is a fun and rewarding day out for everyone.

Sunday 2 March | From 7am | Taieri College, Mosgiel

OTAGO HOSPICE STREET APPEAL

A fabulous crew of volunteers will line the streets of Otago shaking buckets and collecting donations for the Otago Hospice to help support Otago people faced with terminal illness.

Friday 7 March | All day | Dunedin

SOUTH DUNEDIN STREET FESTIVAL

Come and experience this vibrant multicultural carnival showcasing and celebrating the wider South Dunedin community. Enjoy live entertainment and check out local artists, crafters, and businesses.

Saturday 8 March | 10am – 3.30pm | Lower King Edward Street, South Dunedin

MEETINGS

All council, subcommittee and community board meeting times can be found online. Check the DCC website regularly for livestream links and updates as meeting times can change from what has been advertised. Meetings are held at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery unless otherwise stated.

The public is welcome to attend all meetings. A public forum will be held at the start of each ordinary Standing Committee, Community Board and Council meeting. Those wishing to speak should contact the Governance Support team – phone (03) 477 4000 – at least one clear working day before the meeting.

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