

NOVEMBER 2024

FYI

YOUR DCC NEWS



DUNEDIN
CITY COUNCIL

kaunihera
a-rohe o
ōtepoti

MAYOR'S DESK



Kia ora koutou. First and foremost – I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Ōtepoti Dunedin for the calm, compassionate, and resilient response to the recent extreme weather. It's been truly inspiring to witness our community support each other.

The weather undoubtedly caused significant disruption, but it could have been far worse without the tremendous efforts of our council staff, contractors, first responders, and volunteers who worked tirelessly, often in horrendous conditions, to protect our city. Their dedication ensured our community's safety, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

This resilience was also on full display during the recent march against the proposed downgrade of our New Dunedin Hospital. An estimated 35,000 people rallied together protesting the government's decision to scale back or potentially abandon plans for a new hospital. This march made it clear that Dunedin, the South, and indeed the whole country, will not stand for broken promises.

We've sent a strong message to the government: we will not accept a hospital that fails our region. This is no longer just a local issue; it has become a national concern about health funding and priorities. The people of Dunedin have spoken and we are not going away. In fact, we are just getting started. Visit the [Save Our Southern Hospital](#) website, sign the petition and send Ministers a postcard explaining why hospital cuts will hurt you.

Thank you for your strength and support.

Jules Radich
Mayor of Dunedin



CITY OF LITERATURE

Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature and the Caselberg Trust are excited to welcome the first writer from Aotearoa to the Caselberg Trust Margaret Egan Cities of Literature Writers Residency: Kāpiti Coast poet Alison Glenny.

Alison's residency is particularly special as this year marks the ten year anniversary of Dunedin being recognised as an UNESCO City of Literature.

Alison will reside and write at the beautiful Caselberg House in Whakaohorahi Broad Bay for six weeks from November to mid-December.

Alison is excited about having a period of uninterrupted

time to focus on the early stages of bringing a new project into being.

She also values the opportunity to spend time in Ōtepoti and to deepen her connections with the writing community here and to experience the environment of Caselberg House and its surroundings – which she says is inspiring.

Alison cannot wait to join the community of writers who have benefited from the legacy and generosity of Margaret Egan.

This is the second year of the residency which alternates between hosting writers from Aotearoa and internationally. Shu-Ling Chua 蔡淑玲 from Melbourne was selected as the inaugural recipient last year. In 2025, the judges will again select a resident from one of the other 52 Cities of Literature across the globe.

The City of Literature team and Caselberg Trustees are excited to introduce Alison to our community and the inspiring landscapes of the Otago Peninsula.

COMMUNITY BOARD UPDATE



The West Harbour Community Board was pleased to help out with some roofing repairs to the 85-year-old Pioneer Hall. This Art Deco Hall was originally gifted to the Port Chalmers community in 1939 by prominent local businessman and ex-Mayor Isaac Stevenson, founder of Stevenson and Cook Engineering at Carey's Bay. Ownership of the hall later transferred to the Dunedin City Council, which later decided to sell it. Locals opposed the sale, which ultimately led to the Pioneer Hall returned to the Port Chalmers community. Today, Pioneer Hall offers an affordable well-equipped space for a wide range of activities and events,

including markets, public meetings, yoga classes, and some gigs by local and touring acts. It's a real taoka.

Last month, we celebrated the long awaited reopening of the Port Chalmers Maritime Museum after extensive renovations and refurbishment. It's great. Come check it out. We've got a new shared path and new bike stands. Buses run regularly, and there's still car parking right outside!

Finally, I'd like to note the Board's deep unhappiness with the pause on the Albertson Avenue social housing rebuild by Kāinga Ora. The state housing block was demolished and the tenants were moved so the rebuild could happen. It has already had significant costs associated with it, so we're calling on Kāinga Ora to finish the job that was started. The longer it takes, the more it will cost.

Duncan Eddy
West Harbour Community Board

NEW PLAYGROUND OPEN



The new children's playground at the Dunedin Botanic Garden opened in the first week of the recent school holidays and is proving popular with young, and not so young, children.

It is the biggest overhaul of the playground since it was first opened in 1985. Mana whenua lead a whakawātea to officially open the playground last month.

The new playground continues to cater to younger users, but a range of new structures expands play opportunities for both younger and older children – and offers a more inclusive, accessible experience.

The playground includes a new tower with two tube slides, as well as an accessible stainless steel slide, a large wooden climbing structure, a wheelchair-friendly trampoline and two other trampolines, an accessible roundabout, a new series of swings and balance-challenging steps.

The overall design incorporates wider spaces to enable a more inclusive environment, with new soft-fall surfacing, seating and an improved picnic area.

The Dunedin City Council worked with mana whenua through their consultancy arm Aukaha to develop playground designs inspired by the legend of Mahuika and Māui, a well-known narrative that showcases Māui's playfulness and trickery.

The DCC worked closely with the Friends of the Dunedin Botanic Garden, and acknowledge the generous contribution they have made to the cost of the community playground.

We hope the new playground brings much joy to youngsters, parents and others.

CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDEN



Christmas is coming to the Dunedin Botanic Garden this month!

A new flower-themed and family-friendly event will mark the start of the festive season here in Ōtepoti Dunedin with Christmas in the Garden on Saturday, 30 November.

The fun-filled event will replace the lighting of the Christmas Tree in the Octagon as a new council-led event aimed at the whole family.

Enjoy a relaxed evening with friends and whānau listening to live music and munching on delectable treats.

There will be food trucks on-site with a variety of cuisines.

Otherwise, feel free to pack a picnic box and rug, and lounge out while our musical performers get you in the festive mood.

Music and entertainment will be provided by Em and Me, The Foxy Tones and the Dunedin Youth Orchestra. Tahu McKenzie will lead the night as the Master of Ceremonies. There will also be fun activities for children and a creative maker space. Make yourself a flower headband and get ready for summer.

With the event situated right next to the recently renovated playground, it also provides the perfect opportunity for tamaraki and adults alike to get into the swing of the holidays and see what the new playground has to offer. Don't forget the sunscreen and let the music wash over you.

See you there on Saturday, 30 November, with the festivities kicking off at 4.30pm and going until 7.30pm.

2GP DISTRICT PLAN CHANGES



We will soon be consulting on proposed changes to the 2nd Generation District Plan (2GP).

The 2GP is the key document that sets out the rules and requirements for land use and development in Dunedin.

Public submissions on the proposed Plan Change 1 to the 2GP open from 20 November and will run until 18 December.

The plan change will make targeted minor improvements to the 2GP. Some of these changes will help protect more heritage buildings, public land with significant biodiversity values, and significant trees, and create a more enabling rule framework for health activities.

Other proposed changes will make provisions easier to interpret and rules more flexible, making it easier to do things such as building garages in yards.

There are also proposed changes to help better manage environmental effects from activities where existing provisions have been assessed as insufficient, and to correct errors in the current 2GP.

For most people, the changes will not significantly affect what can be done on their land. Those who may be directly affected will receive letters outlining the specific change for their property.

For more information, visit our website.

LICENCE PLATE RECOGNITION



More of Dunedin's car parking buildings have been upgraded with Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) technology to make parking easier and more streamlined.

The DCC's Wall Street and Lower Moray Place carpark buildings both had LPR installed last month.

The installation of the technology at the two buildings follows on from DCC's Great King Street carpark building, which had it installed earlier this year. The LPR technology makes parking easier and more efficient as it removes the need for drivers to have paper parking tickets.

Cameras scan vehicle licence plates to record the times they enter and exit the carpark. Users then enter their licence plate number when they go to pay prior to exiting the building. This saves drivers from having to keep their parking ticket on hand and avoids any lost tickets. Switching to the paperless parking technology also reduces the amount of repairs and maintenance work on meters.

All the pay stations can be found in the same place as they were prior to the installation of the technology, and building users have a small window of time to exit once they have paid.

The prepay stations take PayWave cards, Apple or Google Pay, and coins only. Payment by notes or insert/swipe EFTPOS cards will not be available.

Users can pay at the exit barrier; however it only accepts PayWave cards and Apple or Google Pay.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE



We know alcohol is a major contributor to crashes on New Zealand roads, yet Otago residents and people of Dunedin are still getting behind the wheel after drinking, hurting our communities, and causing unnecessary harm.

Too many people have been seriously injured or killed on our roads in Otago, and now is a timely reminder about the dangers of drinking and then driving.

NZ Police and a number of partners, including the DCC, are putting in an effort to let people know that, as a community, drink driving is not to be tolerated.

Throughout November, people will be reminded of the consequences with an educational approach, advertising, all backed up on the ground by vehicle checks and enforcement.

You can expect to see police out on the roads and at checkpoints.

When people drink and drive, they're putting not only themselves, but their passengers and other people on the road at risk.

There is no excuse for drink driving no matter how much someone has had. Even a little bit of alcohol can cause impairment or delayed reactions.

If you're over the limit, not only can you face fines, demerit points, or loss of licence – you put others at risk of death or serious injury. Make choices that keep yourself and others safe, because there's more to lose than just your licence.

AUSSIE FLIGHTS RETURN



Dust off your boardies and sunnies! International flights between Dunedin and Australia are back.

A new flight connection to the Gold Coast will jet off from next year.

Jetstar will operate three departures and three arrivals a week out of Dunedin, from 24 June 2025, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Direct flights to Brisbane stopped in 2020, and the new direct route between Dunedin and Gold Coast, Australia was announced earlier this year.

The team at the airport have been working with and engaging with airline partners over the past four years to activate a new service from the city.

While it is exciting that Dunedin residents can now enjoy direct flights to Australia, having Queenslanders come and visit Dunedin will be of benefit to the local economy.

The destination marketing team have already launched a campaign concentrating efforts on Australia and the wider Gold Coast catchment area.

It is important to ensure tourists come here and experience the varied attractions Dunedin – and the rest of the lower South Island – has to offer.

The goal is to make sure this route is a success, so JetStar and Dunedin Airport can increase the frequency of this service and ultimately consider expanding to other Australian destinations.

Tickets for the flights next year are on sale now.

SHORT AND SWEET



The Dunedin City Council recently voted to retain ownership of Aurora Energy after receiving overwhelming feedback from the public.

The decision reflects the views of many of the people who took time to make submissions during public consultation.

While Councillors also considered feedback in favour of selling the company, the overwhelming majority – about 80% of submissions received – favoured keeping the company in DCC ownership as a strategic asset.

This has been a significant issue for Councillors and the wider community, and a wide range of people, groups and experts provided feedback during the consultation period.

The focus now shifts to the DCC's upcoming 9-year plan process.



Mosgiel's BMX community will be riding high following the opening of an enhanced Seddon Park facility that includes a new pump track.

The Dunedin City Council's Play Space Plan, adopted in 2021, identified the need for more challenging play areas for children aged between 10 and 14 – including BMX and pump tracks.

During consultation, the Mosgiel community indicated it wanted the Seddon Park BMX track to be upgraded with a pump track for riding bikes, scooters and skateboards.

The project also provided scope for stormwater upgrades, fencing, furniture and minor landscaping works.

The track will only be open during daylight hours.

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

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

KEY:  Family event |  Free

DUNEDIN CRAFT BEER AND FOOD FESTIVAL

A vibrant celebration of the finest craft beers from local, national and international brewers, mouth-watering food, and world-class entertainment.

Fri 8 November | 3pm – 10pm | Sat 9 November 12pm – 7pm | Forsyth Barr Stadium | Tickets from \$60

DUNEDIN DIWALI FESTIVAL

Immerse yourself in the vibrant joy of Diwali with dazzling cultural performances, delicious flavours, festivities, and merriment.

Sat 9 November | 3pm – 8pm | More FM Arena Edgar Centre | FREE

DSO PLAYS ABBA

The Dunedin Symphony Orchestra will perform a slew of Abba's greatest hits showcasing the extraordinary talents of some of Dunedin's finest musicians.

Sat 16 November | 7.30pm | Dunedin Town Hall | Tickets from \$59

CELTIC ILLUSION

Immerse yourself in one of the most unique productions touring the world. This breathtaking show fuses Irish Dance with magic and illusions.

Thurs 21 November | 7.30pm | Regent Theatre | Various ticket prices and plans

CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDEN

A new flower-themed and family-friendly event to mark the start of the festive season here in Ōtepoti Dunedin with musical entertainment, fun activities and food.

Sat 30 November | 4.30pm | Dunedin Botanic Garden | FREE

OROKONU CHALLENGE

Test yourself in a tough 18.7km course over rugged hills, along the coast, and through the protected Orokonui Nature Reserve. Limited to 100 entrants so booking is essential.

Sat 30 November | 7.30am – 2.30pm | Orokonui Nature Reserve | \$95

SANTA PARADE

Exciting floats, bands, marching, fire engines, animals, clowns and of course – Santa. The parade is followed by a family concert in the Octagon.

Sunday 1 December | 3pm | George Street | FREE

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.

THEY SAVE

WE PAY

HOSPITAL CUTS HURT

theysavewepay.nz



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