

JULY 2025

FYI

YOUR DCC NEWS



DUNEDIN | kaunihera
CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o
ōtepoti

CEO'S COLUMN



We really are incredibly fortunate to live in the wonderful Ōtepoti Dunedin – you only have to look around the world today to see that.

Our city continues to thrive and we rightly celebrate our southern hospitality and manaakitanga, access to nature and wildlife, and shared prosperity.

I want to thank everyone who is putting themselves forward to stand in this year's local body elections. Local democracy matters and it's more important than ever that the best possible candidates seek a seat at the table.

While I am confident we're well placed for the future, the next Council will face significant challenges.

We continue to grapple with the impacts of an uncertain economic climate and new mandates from central Government. Everyone is concerned about affordability, but many people also want to see more progress. This includes investing in the performing arts sector, the Taieri Gorge train service, 3 Waters upgrades, and improving our roads and footpaths.

Council has listened and made decisions accordingly. There is no magic wand to deliver everything our community wants and needs, and Council's role is to strike the difficult balance between this.

Given the challenges, it's important to find ways of having a positive and open relationship between elected members and staff. We need to work together to achieve the best for our city.

So, while the challenges we face are significant, there's also plenty to be excited about in Ōtepoti Dunedin.

Sandy Graham
DCC Chief Executive Officer

dunedin.govt.nz



CITY OF LITERATURE

The City of Literature and the Caselberg Trust are thrilled to announce poet, editor and classicist Sihle Ntuli from Durban City of Literature as the 2025 Caselberg Trust Margaret Egan Cities of Literature Writers Resident.

This unique residency was established in 2023. The partnership between the City of Literature and the Caselberg Trust was made possible through a generous bequest from Margaret Egan.

Sihle's application was selected from 79 submissions representing 28 Cities of Literature from around the world. His application impressed the external judging panel with its creative vision.

This spring, Sihle will spend six weeks living and writing at Caselberg House in Whakaohorahi Broad Bay on Ōtepoti's Otago Peninsula. His visit will coincide with the Dunedin Writers and Readers Festival from 17 – 19 October.

Sihle has earned numerous accolades including the 2024 Patricia Kailis Fellowship and the Diann Blakely National Poetry Prize. His published works include *Zabalaza Republic* and *The Nation*, as well as *Owele* which is to be published this month. During the residency, Sihle will work on *Blues for King Kong*, a multilingual blend of Afro-Jazz and Blues-inspired lyric poetry.

He says he looks forward to exchanging cultures and engaging in rich dialogue with the Ōtepoti Dunedin community.

The City of Literature and Caselberg Trust look forward to extending a warm welcome to Sihle and to introducing him to our vibrant community.

WINTER DRIVING



The cold weather this winter is a good reminder to take care when travelling and to slow down and drive to the conditions when it's wet, icy or snowy.

The DCC and its contractors work to alleviate hazards on the roads especially during wintry conditions. Keeping the main arterial routes clear is the first priority. Busy roads that feed on to arterial routes are the next priority.

When there is a chance of a frost, patrols assess road conditions early in the morning to see which areas need grit or de-icing. Major traffic routes are treated before 7.30am. Most residential streets are not gritted.

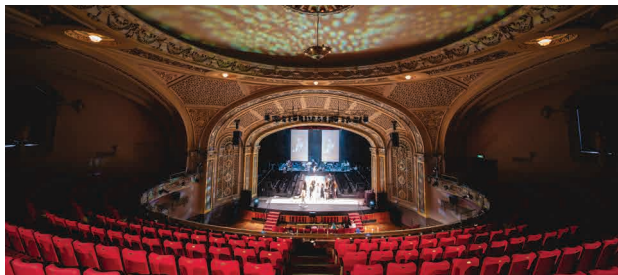
Gritting and de-icing are travel aids, but it's still important to drive carefully. Allow extra time for travel, and leave greater distances between your vehicle and others on the road. Try to use main roads when possible.

Frosts can happen any time of the night and in different areas from one day to the next. The hardest frosts tend to arrive at sunrise; so while it may not be frosty first thing in the morning, it could soon be frosty an hour or two later as the sun appears.

Before starting your journey, make sure you de-ice and de-mist your windscreen. There are free ice scrapers available from DCC service centres to help with this.

If cycling, make sure your lights are working and your reflectors are up to standard. Wearing bright or light-coloured clothing also makes you more visible.

BOOST FOR ARTS



The Ōtepoti Dunedin performing arts sector is getting a boost following a number of Council decisions to lend it a helping hand and ensure the vibrancy of our creative city is preserved.

Council met to deliberate feedback received on the draft 9 year plan. Based on the feedback, Council agreed to establish a Performing Arts Governance Group to help develop a Theatre Action Plan for the city.

There have been strong calls from the performing arts community to establish new theatres and performing arts spaces, and the new governance group will work on a plan to do just that.

Funding has been allocated to go towards a new Performing Arts Facility in the 2030/31 financial year.

Council also decided to include funding for the Dunedin Repertory Theatre Society to help refurbish its Playhouse Theatre at Albany Street, as well as funding to further develop the Anathaeum as a central city performance venue.

And lastly, the Dunedin City Council will team up with the Dunedin Fringe Arts Trust for its community performance venue Te Whare o Rukutia.

All of these decisions came off the back of feedback from the public asking for more support and funding for the performing arts in Dunedin.

DOG BYLAW CHANGES



Changes to the Dog Control Bylaw and Policy have now come into effect – meaning dogs can now be taken through the central city area, and must also be on a leash at all times in coastal areas.

The updates to the policy aim to balance the needs of dogs and their owners alongside public safety and wildlife protection.

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

Dogs are now 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 came into effect in May.

HYDROSLIDE REVAMP



Work is underway to revamp and refurbish the hydrosides at Moana Pool.

As part of a multi-year refurbishment of Moana Pool, the popular hydrosides will be getting a makeover.

Last month, contractors started cleaning the exterior of the slides, refurbishing the support structure, re-grouting tiles, and repairing the access ramp and enclosure area.

To enable contractors to complete the work, the hydrosides will be closed for about five months. There will also be some disruption to the rear car park. Some parks will have access restricted but contractors will work hard to minimise any impact.

Staff will roll out alternatives to the hydrosides to ensure Moana Pool is still a popular recreational attraction. These include pool inflatables, diving board sessions and the return of the Water World indoor water park over the school holidays.

Work on the slides is one part of the wider refurbishment plan at the pool which includes upgrading family changing rooms, new tiling, improving ventilation, seismic strengthening, accessibility improvements, and asbestos removal.

In addition, contractors are installing new fire alarm and emergency lighting systems, and will soon install a new ceiling in the area between the main pool and the leisure pool.

The hydroslide refurbishment project is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

DUNEDIN RAIL TRAIL



Work has begun on the first stage of the Dunedin Rail Trail.

Once complete, the trail will form a return trip for pedestrians and cyclists from Dunedin to Fairfield and on to the Taieri, or vice versa. It is to create a safer way for recreational riders and walkers to commute between the two areas.

The initial stage will run off road from Gladstone Road North, along a disused rail alignment, through the Chain Hills Tunnel and beyond.

The work involves construction of an unsealed trail, drainage works, fencing, installation of seats, plantings, handrails, some retaining and signs.

During construction, the tunnel and surrounding area will remain closed to the public.

Recreational users will be able to experience the historic Chain Hills Tunnel (first opened in 1875) and surrounding regenerating bush and views.

This first stage is fully funded by the Dunedin City Council with a budget of \$1.8million. About \$400,000 has already gone towards design, consents and land purchase. The remaining budget will be used to complete construction.

The plan in the long term is to continue the trail to Fairfield, Abbotsford Road and Green Island through the Caversham Tunnel and into Dunedin city.

Some preparation work on existing infrastructure in the tunnel has already been undertaken.

The DCC is developing the trail in partnership with the Dunedin Tunnels Trail Trust under a Memorandum of Understanding.

RUBBER ROUNDABOUTS



Have you ever wondered why we sometimes use rubber in our roundabouts instead of concrete?

You might have noticed the increase in the number of roundabouts in Ōtepoti Dunedin over the past few years. Roundabouts are a great alternative to conventional intersections as they help with traffic flow and reduce the number of serious crashes in residential areas.

Instead of building new, concrete roundabouts, the DCC has been using rubber as the main material in the installation of some roundabouts – mainly as trials. This enables us to evaluate how the roundabout impacts the area and new

intersection layouts, provide data about layout and road use, and assess whether a more permanent and durable roundabout would be appropriate. They're easier and cheaper to install, and provide a short-term solution for known trouble spots or areas with high incident rates.

Rubber roundabouts are not suited to areas with heavy traffic, and require smooth road surfaces, so it's important to be careful where and when they are installed. The rubber roundabouts work best as a permanent option in residential streets with low-volume and low-heavy vehicle use.

Some research shows the roundabouts can also potentially save ratepayer money by reducing wear and tear on roads as drivers lower their speed and sometimes adjust their driving behaviour.

With that in mind, the DCC is considering using more rubber roundabouts as a long-term solution in low-volume, residential areas.

FLUSH YOUR TAPS



The drinking water that comes from our network supply is safe. However, metals such as lead can leach from your pipes and fittings into the water if it's been sitting for a while, such as overnight.

The Ministry of Health notes that taps are the main source of heavy metals found in drinking water in most houses, and advises flushing a small volume of water – about 500ml – from the cold tap before you use water for drinking, cooking or brushing your teeth. You should also run a cold tap for about 30 seconds each morning, to flush out the water sitting in your pipes overnight.

This flushing should reduce the risk of drinking water containing metals.

This is all that most people need to do, but longer flushing is advised in a few situations, such as if your building has large diameter pipes, is located a long way from the road or has high-risk fittings.

If you think this might apply to you, go to our webpage for specific advice.

Flushing your taps daily is good practice no matter where you live in Aotearoa New Zealand or the world.

SHORT AND SWEET



The new toilet block constructed at North Ground next to St David Street will soon be open for public use. Final compliance is expected to be approved this month.

Work to have the new toilets built started in March and was mostly completed last month. It took a few more weeks of minor work to

ensure they were properly connected to infrastructure. The new toilets are similar to other public toilets installed and constructed by the DCC over the past few years.

A number of people have wanted more public toilets in North Dunedin for some time, and North Ground was strategically chosen as a location due to the surrounding mix of residents and commercial dwellings, and sporting matches at the recreational reserve.

dunedin.govt.nz

COUNCIL MEETING TIMES

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.

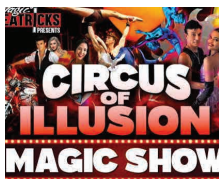
dunedin.govt.nz/council-meetings

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

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

KEY:  Family event

CIRCUS OF ILLUSION MAGIC SHOW



A magical illusion and circus spectacular that will appeal to all ages from pre-schoolers to grandparents and everyone in between.

Sunday 5 July | 2.30pm | Regent Theatre | \$57 Adults, \$27 Children

UNDER THE DOME: CAPCOM GO! AND HIDDEN FIGURES



Celebrate 56 years since the Moon landing and enjoy the immersive documentary CAPCOM GO!, followed by a screening of Hidden Figures.

Friday 11 July | 5.30pm | Perpetual Guardian Planetarium, Tūhura Otago Museum | \$20

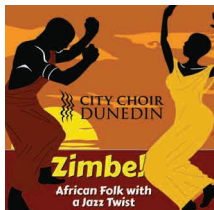
BE-LOVED VINTAGE AND PRE-LOVED CLOTHING MARKET



The Be-loved Market brings the best of vintage and pre-loved clothing from local sellers. Donation proceeds support Hospice Otago.

Saturday 12 July | 11am – 3pm | Māori Hill Community Centre | Gold coin entry

ZIMBE! AFRICAN FOLK WITH A JAZZ TWIST



Go on a musical journey with this celebration of African music and culture. Perfect for all ages that will have your heart singing and feet tapping.

Saturday 12 July | 7pm | Knox Church | \$35 Adults, \$25 Concession, \$10 Students, Children free

DSO PRESENTS: SUBLIME SCHUBERT

Although Schubert's fourth symphony is nicknamed 'Tragic', its bubbly vitality and sublime melodies will impress. The Dunedin Symphony Orchestra is sure to bring this classic work to life.

Saturday 19 July, 5pm | Sunday 20 July, 3pm | King's & Queen's Performing Arts Centre | Various ticket prices and plans

MUSIC SALE AT THE REGENT



It's time to have a sale! Expect to find CDs, DVDs, cassette tapes, records, music sheets and books, instruments and musical memorabilia.

Saturday 26 July | 10am – 6pm | Regent Theatre | Free Entry

MURDER AT THE MUSEUM



Love a murder mystery? Now you can be part of one! Be taken back to the Victorian era and find murder and mayhem in the Otago Museum galleries.

Saturday 26 July | 6.15pm | Tūhura Otago Museum | \$79

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 [dunedincitycouncil](https://www.youtube.com/dunedincitycouncil)

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