

MAY 2025

FYI

YOUR DCC NEWS



DUNEDIN
CITY COUNCIL

kaunihera
ā-rohe o
Ōtepoti

MAYOR'S DESK



Kia ora koutou

The darker months are a time for both celebration and reflection. ANZAC Day provided an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices of our forebears and give thanks that we live in peaceful Ōtepoti Dunedin. And as we head towards the shortest day, our newest public holiday will soon be upon us. Matariki, which is observed on 20 June this year, celebrates the beginning of the new year in the Māori lunar calendar. Ka rawe!

The Dunedin City Council has been busy running two major public consultations – the 9 Year Plan and Local Water Done Well – and I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to share

their sentiments. This month Council will consider your feedback and use it to inform the 9 Year Plan before adopting it in June. A decision on Local Water Done Well is expected in July/August.

We'd also like to hear your feedback on how South Dunedin might look in the face of increased risk of climate change and flooding. You can find out how to share your thoughts in this edition of FYI.

Water is on our minds with pipe upgrade work both under way and planned across the city. Several Bath Street pipe upgrade project milestones have now been reached: flood mitigation among them. I would like to thank the local community for working with us to ensure the delivery of this essential infrastructure upgrade.

Jules Radich
Mayor of Dunedin



The Dunedin Public Art Gallery is delighted to announce its next major fashion exhibition: **THIS IS NOM*d**.

Since 1986, the iconic Ōtepoti clothing label NOM*d has been a pioneering force in Aotearoa fashion. Steadfastly based in Dunedin, the label has consistently defied convention by merging conceptual design with distinctive local influences — balancing experimental tailoring, darkly poetic aesthetics and regional cultural motifs.

THIS IS NOM*d is a major retrospective exhibition that celebrates nearly four decades of the renowned label's work. It showcases

a curated selection of garments from NOM*d's extensive archive styled and displayed in a contemporary way. The items are presented alongside fashion photography, catwalk footage, and fashion films — emphasising the brand's enduring commitment to creative interdisciplinary collaboration.

Through an immersive environment of imagery, sound and moving pictures, viewers can experience the evolution of one of New Zealand's influential fashion brands. The result is a richly textured portrait of a creative industry that continues to challenge expectations and reimagine the possibilities of fashion. Complementing the exhibition are four short fashion films on view in the gallery's rear window space on Moray Place.

Come to the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and check it out. The exhibition runs until 6 July.

COMMUNITY BOARD UPDATE



WAIKOUAITI COAST COMMUNITY BOARD

Our year got off to a rocking start with the Waitati Music Festival, which had over 1000 attendees and featured 12 hours of non-stop music, art and entertainment, including great food and a popular kids zone. If you missed out this year, be sure to catch it next summer!

Local festivities continued into April with the Blueskin Show, which featured fire and emergency demonstrations, a juggler, pony rides, and a bouncy castle among other delights. The day celebrated local wildlife and our vibrant community.

We're pleased to have some improvements coming to our area, with the Puketeraki Lookout information plaque and handrails to be repaired, and the much-loved ruru mural on the Waitati public

toilet (also known as 'the Turdis') being restored. Our heartfelt thanks to local artist Angela Lyon for very generously restoring the mural for the benefit of the community.

There are also upgrades en route in the transport space. The Waitati to Blueskin Road section of the Coastal Connection cycleway is progressing, and the design for a Karitane Railway bridge 'clip-on' has been lodged with KiwiRail. Speed humps are coming to Karitane to help create an even safer environment for locals and visitors alike.

The Waikouaiti Coast is a beautiful area to visit this May, with stunning scenery stretching from Pūrākaunui through Warrington and beyond. Why not treat yourself to a beach walk, some tasty kai from our fantastic local eateries, and perhaps even some sightings of our beautiful native birds.

Alasdair Morrison
Waikouaiti Coast
Community Board

HAVE YOUR SAY



This month, we're seeking public feedback on some proposed changes to two different bylaws – the Beauty Therapists, Tattooists and Skin-Piercers Bylaw, and the Trading in Public Places Bylaw.

The Beauty Therapists, Tattooists and Skin-Piercers Bylaw aims to protect public health, and prevent the transfer of communicable diseases and skin infections in beauty therapy, tattooing and skin piercing practices.

Key proposed changes include giving Council the ability to alter, suspend, or cancel a practitioner's licence if there are breaches, and requiring a parent or guardian to be present for under 16-year-olds

undergoing skin-piercing or skin-penetration procedures. It's also proposed that operators must complete bloodborne pathogen training, and that only qualified ophthalmologists can administer eyeball tattoos.

The Trading in Public Places Bylaw sets out regulations for trading in public places to protect public safety and protect the public from nuisance.

Proposed changes aim to improve clarity around the definitions and scope of trading activities. They also remove reference to oral permissions for permits as only written permissions are currently provided, and change the term 'pedestrian access' to 'footpath access' to acknowledge not all footpath users are pedestrians.

The public consultation periods for both bylaws open on Monday, 5 May and close Tuesday, 6 June. To find out more or to make a submission, visit our website.

NORTH GROUND NEW TOILET



We've started work on installing a new public toilet in North Dunedin.

In response to community feedback calling for more public toilets in North Dunedin, and a new toilet block is currently being installed at North Ground next to St David Street.

The recreational reserve was strategically chosen to benefit the surrounding mix of residents and commercial dwellings, and sporting matches played at the field.

The new toilet will also sit nicely next to State Highway 1, and be the last toilet stop before heading north.

The reserve has been used as a sportsground for over 160 years, so an archaeological assessment

was undertaken to determine what risk there might be of encountering historical artefacts and infrastructure in the area.

The Dunedin Caledonian Society took over management of the ground in 1862 where it subsequently built a two-storey grandstand. The grandstand was used for recreational purposes, sports, and civic events until it was moved to South Dunedin in 1876.

Before being moved, it was the largest building in North Dunedin.

Although the grandstand no longer exists and there appears to be a low chance of encountering anything significant, archaeologists will be present while construction work is underway.

The work is expected to take about three months and the toilet block should be installed by mid-2025.

TOWN HALL RESTORATION



We've started initial investigative work into the Municipal Chambers and Town Hall as part of its restoration project.

In March, a drilling rig was set in place in the Octagon to complete some geotechnical investigative work as part of a structural assessment of the building complex.

Two boreholes were drilled to collect samples. Using soundwaves, the structure and condition of the surrounding ground was analysed and used to develop an accurate profile of the ground conditions. This will then be used to generate digital models and assess the durability of the buildings in different earthquake scenarios using virtual computer simulations.

The structural assessment will be progressed alongside the Dunedin City Council's planned multi-year restoration of the Heritage 1 category listed Municipal Chambers building, which is the only substantial town hall of the Victorian period remaining in New Zealand still serving a municipal purpose.

Consultants have worked to identify the areas of work and have developed a plan in keeping with the building's heritage status and traditional building practices. The work will involve the restoration of the four roof top pavilions, the clocktower and slate-tiled roof, before moving onto the Town Hall which is a Category 2 listed Heritage building.

The project will use local craftspeople, such as stone masons, slaters, and lead-workers to complete the specialised work.

TOHU WHENUA



Informative tohu whenua (cultural markers/panels) explaining the history of Kāi Tahu have been installed down George Street as part of the Retail Quarter Upgrade Project.

The DCC partnered with mana whenua-owned organisation Aukaha to define the city's identity and convert it into a streetscape.

There has been a strong focus on the inclusion of mana whenua values and design principles in the Retail Quarter Upgrade, and the installation of tohu whenua provide an educational element to complement the other design installations on George Street.

The resulting markers utilise the rich, layered stories of Kāi Tahu in Ōtepoti Dunedin to weave the past to the present.

These tohu whenua highlight significant landmarks, original Kāi Tahu place names, and the evolving nature of the landscape, offering an insight into the carefully curated designs that feature in the George Street upgrade, as well as insight into Kāi Tahu history and worldview.

They also highlight local mana whenua practices, values and pūrākau (stories) so the next generation of Māori, Pākehā and tauiwi alike can learn more about the city's history and identity.

The markers were primarily painted with the colour palette 'Ōtākou Red' – a colour inspired by Ōtākou Marae – to symbolise the link between Ōtākou Marae and the central city. The ocean blue gradients represent the Otago Harbour.

The three tohu whenua can be found in the New Edinburgh Way Block, the Golden Block, and the Farmers Block in George Street.

MINIMUM FLOOR LEVELS

We've made some changes to the requirements for new homes being built in low-lying coastal parts of Dunedin.

From now on, new builds and significant extensions in certain areas may have to increase their minimum floor levels (MFL) to allow for sea level rise.

The new requirements for MFL were updated in March. The latest update sets a new MFL of between 3.05m and 3.17m above sea level in certain low-lying coastal areas. This includes parts of Karitane, Waikouaiti, Warrington, Blueskin Bay, Pūrākaunui, Long Beach, Otago Harbour, Tomahawk, Brighton, the South Coast, and Papanui and Hoopers Inlets.

The changes do not apply in South Dunedin as this is considered a different area. Minimum floor levels requirements vary in different areas and suburbs throughout the city.

All new builds must comply with the New Zealand Building

Code, and this includes having protections against flooding from weather events and sea level rise.

The changes primarily affect floor levels, as well as building foundations, sub-floor structures and septic tanks but can also include surrounding land.

In some cases where the building or land is not adequately protected from natural hazards, consent may have to be granted with a natural hazard notice placed on the record of title.

The changes may affect some new builds already underway, and the DCC will work with any affected parties to help them with their build.

More guidance and information is available on the DCC website.

HELP SHAPE SOUTH DUNEDIN



We're looking at the future of South Dunedin and how it might look in the face of increased risk of flooding and climate change.

There are many options to consider, but staying on our current path will likely lead to the worst outcome. We identified seven possible approaches to meet South Dunedin's flooding challenges as part of the joint DCC-ORC South Dunedin Future programme.

There are two major reports that analyse the risks facing the low-lying South Dunedin area and the different options for responding to them. The reports are key building blocks for making a long-term climate adaptation plan. The reports include information on the costs and benefits of each option.

The futures are made up of a status quo option, and a further six options along a spectrum of 'fight and flight'.

They range from making changes to infrastructure and elevating land to keep the land dry, to making space for water with introduced wetlands, as well as relocation or retreating options.

Consultation is ongoing and we have some drop-in sessions and workshops this month. We encourage people to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Drop-in sessions:

Forbury Park

Friday 2 May | 10am-2pm

Saturday 3 May | 10am-2pm

St Kilda Bowling Club

Thursday 8 May | 2pm-8pm

Friday 9 May | 10am-2pm

Public workshops:

Forbury Park

Saturday 3 May | 10am-12pm

St Kilda Bowling Club

Thursday 8 May | 6pm-8pm

Visit our website for more information and to sign up to our newsletter.

dunedin.govt.nz/southdunedin

SHORT AND SWEET



WASP WARNING

There has been an increase of wasp-related issues being reported around Dunedin. Wasp numbers rise during late summer and autumn as nests reach peak size and wasps leave their nests in search of food and new homes for winter.

This year, it seems, much of New Zealand is experiencing a surge in wasp numbers following a relatively warm and dry autumn. Our contractors are working hard to remove nests and control these pests as they pose risk to the public and impact our taoka flora and fauna.

If you see a wasp nest on DCC-owned land, please exercise caution and give us a call on 03 477 4000 to report it.

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.

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

DUNEDIN MODEL TRAIN SHOW



The Dunedin Model Train Show is back with a variety of layouts ranging in scale. It also features nine new layouts that never been displayed at the Dunedin show before.

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 May | 9.30am – 4pm |
Taieri Bowling Club | Adults \$10, Children \$1, Family \$20

STEINER SCHOOL FAIR

There will be delicious homemade food, woodfired pizza, ice cream, coffee, music, games, crafts, second hand clothes, marionettes and much more at this family friendly fun day out.

Sunday 4 May | 11am – 2pm | Dunedin Steiner School and Kindergarten | FREE



THE MICHAEL JACKSON HISTORY SHOW

Showtime presents this spectacular music tribute and full-scale stage production honouring the one and only King of Pop: Michael Jackson.

Friday 9 May | 8pm | Regent Theatre | Various ticket prices and plans

MOVIE SCREENING: LOST CITY OF Z

Celebrate Archaeology Week with a free screening of The Lost City of Z. Based on the story of Percy Fawcett, a British explorer intent on finding an ancient city lost in the Amazon. Saturday 10 May | 2pm | Barclay Theatre, Tūhura Otago Museum | FREE

TAYLOR'S STORY – A TAYLOR SWIFT TRIBUTE



The number one Taylor Swift tribute show is coming to Ōtepoti. Described as being so good that she “is Taylor Swift”, Shannon will take you as close to the real deal as possible.

Saturday 10 May | 7pm | Regent Theatre | A Reserve \$89 (+BF), B Reserve \$79 (+BF)

ABBA – THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC

Check out this spectacular tribute concert that will take you through the songs, the life and magic that made ABBA one of the most successful bands of all time.

Thursday 15 May | 7.30pm | Regent Theatre | Various ticket prices and plans

THE BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT



This film festival features the best short cycling films from around the world featuring everything a cycle-centric audience could want: action, drama, humour, and plenty of inspiration.

Sunday 18 May, 4pm | Monday 19 May, 7pm | Rialto | Adults \$23.50, Under 17 \$18.50, Under 12 \$13.50

THE FIREBIRD WITH MY BRILLIANT CAREER



The Royal New Zealand Ballet presents Loughlan Prior's The Firebird – a fairy tale of a desert world where water is infinitely precious. Expressive choreography done to Stravinsky's epic score.

Saturday 24 May, 7.30pm | Sunday 25 May, 1.30pm | Regent Theatre | Various ticket prices and plans

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 DunedinCityCouncil

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

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

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DESIGNER: Vinka Lucas | **MODEL:** Ngahuia Williams

PHOTOGRAPHER: Derek Henderson

PRINTER: Spectrum Print

WANT TO READ ME ONLINE?

A digital version of FYI can be found on our website, and you can subscribe to our email list to have the latest copy sent your inbox at the start of each month. Head to: dunedin.govt.nz/fyi

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