

BROOKLYN TATTLER

what's happening in your community



HISTORY
Happy Valley
CHRISTMAS EVENTS
SUMMER
What's On
COMMUNITY NEWS
OUT & ABOUT
Brooklyn dōjō

*Photo: Our native pohutukawa
flowers at Christmas, taken from
Dorking Road, Brooklyn*

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Brooklyn Tattler was started in 1990 by a local resident, then Gwen Devereux was Editor for 15 years.

Katie Underwood was in the editor's seat for five years before handing over to Nicci Tong in 2014.

The basic look hasn't changed for over 270 editions, put together by a community volunteer.

In September the BCA acknowledged that the now 20+ pages of content needed to be overhauled into a design reflecting our vibrant village and community centre.

This December edition is the first step to achieving that. You will see refinements happening over the next few months.

COPY DEADLINE

for the next Brooklyn Tattler
30 January 2016

Email your contribution to:
brooklyntattler@gmail.com

*Brooklyn Tattler is published monthly by
Brooklyn Community Centre
18 Harrison Street, Brooklyn*

from the COORDINATOR

EUAN HARRIS
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE &
VOGELMORN HALL PH 384 6799
brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our new look Tattler which we hope you enjoy reading during the Christmas and New Year period. Special thanks to Nicci Tong for doing such a great job as our Tattler layout person over the past 18 months. We welcome Karen Pinnell who has taken over Nicci's role. For all Tattler contributions please now email: brooklyntattler@gmail.com

2016 The Brooklyn Tattler will take a break during January with our first issue for 2016 due out early February, followed by our home delivered edition in March.

EXTERIOR REPAINT The Brooklyn Community Centre building is looking better than ever thanks to the exterior repaint which was completed in November. You can view a photo of the new look on our home page at brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz In February Kapiti Coast based artist Ellen Coup will begin work painting murals onto the front entrance panels.

VOGELMORN HALL Recent improvements to Vogelhorn Hall include widening of the wheelchair access ramp enabling the fire exit doors to fully open which has increased the hall capacity, plus the heaters have been remounted to angle towards the floor to better heat the hall and an internal

door has been installed to allow hall users access onto the Vogelhorn Green. Repair work to the floor surface is planned to take place over the Christmas New Year period when many of the regular groups take a break. New grass is to be sown on the Green to improve the surface and make it more appealing for outdoor summer activities.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA We are selling 2016 Historical Calendars on behalf of the Brooklyn Kindergarten from our office at \$15 a copy. Each calendar is packed full of photos from Brooklyn's past. These make great Christmas gifts, so call into the Brooklyn Community Centre for your calendar before we sell out.

OFFICE HOURS The office at the Brooklyn Community Centre will be closed from 24 December to Monday 25 January. The Afterschool Care office will also be closed from 24 December and will open earlier on the 5 January for the start of the summer school holiday programme. Phone and email messages will be checked from 18 January 2016.

HAVE A GREAT BREAK On behalf of all the staff, including myself, Adam Hendry, Julie Seevens and Phillip Bolton, plus our Brooklyn Community Association President Kay Miller and committee members, Perry Aspros, Philip Duncan, Beth Beard, Jeremy Macey, Dinesh Gupta, Jessica Fa'aea, John Barnhill, Jeremy Chang, Jenny Ralston, Chris Rabey and life members Gwen Devereux, Min Janssen and Ruth Fitchett, and our wonderful volunteers John Groom and Leonie Flint, we wish you an enjoyable Christmas, safe holidays and all the best for 2016.

from the COUNCILLOR

DAVID LEE PH 021 220 2357
David.Lee@wcc.govt.nz

NO FREEDOM CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY – FOR NOW!

In November the Council's Environment Committee agreed that the Happy Valley site will not be available as a freedom camping location. This was the right result in my view, and I believe the solution lies in a collaborative, regional effort.

While we want to welcome freedom campers, we need to be realistic about what we can provide. The proposed Happy Valley site would have cost up to \$450,000 to establish and \$303,000 per year to maintain. All for a mere 33 spaces and an expected return of \$100,000 per year.

The high operating costs would have covered an on-site manager, security, waste management and environmental protection. The requirement for so many measures to operate such a facility, and the associated costs, highlight how unsuitable the site is for freedom camping.

The reality is that there is a shortage of large, flat, open spaces close to public transport, shops and other amenities that can viably be used for this purpose in Wellington City. This has been in front of our civic leaders, on and off, since the eighties.

I believe we can work with neighbouring councils to address the need for freedom camping facilities at a regional level. Porirua and Hutt City are likely to have


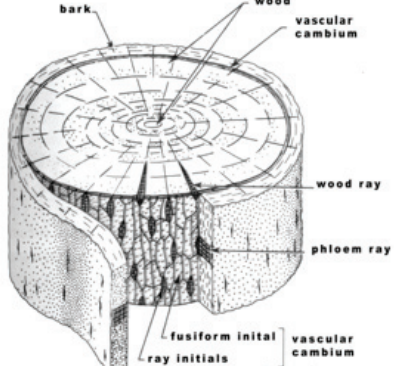
FROM THE COUNCILLOR . . .

suitable sites within a 20-minute drive to interisland ferry terminals and many Wellington attractions. I've had informal conversations with several Councillors from those councils and they have indicated a willingness to work with us.

Meantime, despite the November resolution, several of my council colleagues continue to support a freedom camping site at Happy Valley. The possibility is still live, despite a clear majority of submissions from the local community opposing such a development. While the official consultation period has ended, I urge you to email all Councillors with your view on this proposal.

I wish you all a safe holiday season and a happy new year.

He mihi nui kia koe

BROOKLYN www.livingplanet.co.nz
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971 8583

Your MP in Wellington Central
Grant ROBERTSON

220 Willis Street, Wellington
 office@grantrobertson.co.nz
 04 801 8079



Your MP in Rongotai
Annette KING

172 Riddiford Street, Newtown
 rongotai.mp@parliament.govt.nz
 04 389 0989



Labour



HAPPY VALLEY

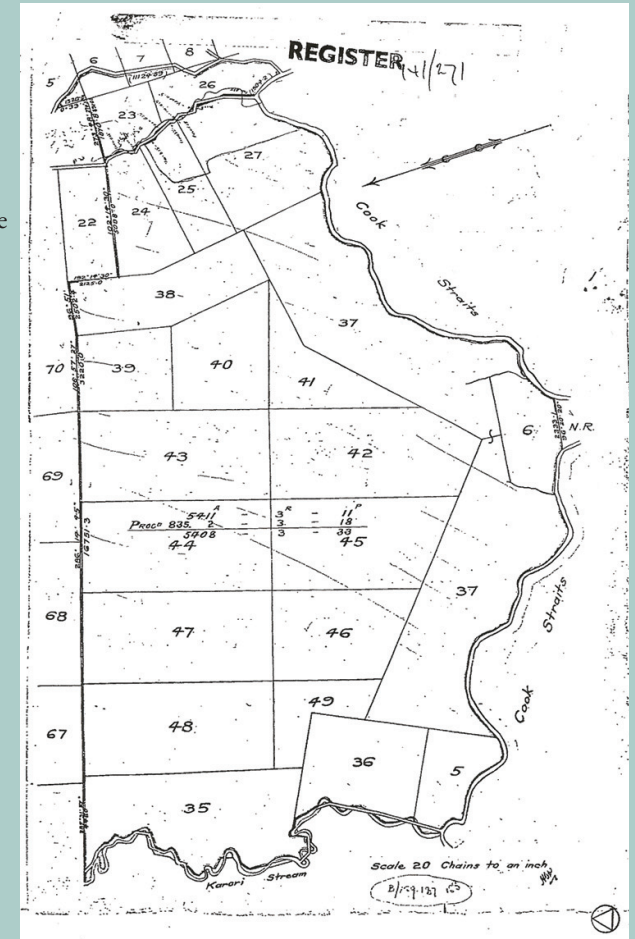
BY CHRIS RABEY

Happy Valley, our lovely little piece of nature stretching down to the South Coast. I wonder how many people have wondered why it was called this? Early settlers in the area wondered as well.

One old timer many years ago was sure he had the answer. The owners at Fitchett's Farm were exploring further south and discovered a cattle track down the valley leading to a gully heavily timbered but offering great potential.

There was a good stream, plenty of cover, likely areas to carve out homes, good timber, and plenty of shelter. They began moving sheep on to the site and a survey a few years on proved all they had hoped for. One of the farmers, Thomas Guthrie, who gambled on settling in this new area, announced to his friends, "This indeed is a happy place."

At the turn of the 20th century the valley area was being farmed, though not by the Fitchetts. The substantial acreage of around 6000 acres was farmed by Jacob Joseph, a prosperous landowner who, along with John Fitchett and JF Evelyn-Wright, farmed most of the area we now know as



Map showing the extent of the land Jacob Joseph owned.

Brooklyn. When Joseph died in 1903 the land was subdivided and Wellington City Council purchased the land in the gullies beyond the valley for tipping purposes. Much of the demolition of old Lambton Quay now lies in its various gullies.

The first bus service into Happy Valley was by a Daimler with Bill Adams at the wheel, one of a fleet operated by Wellington Tramways.

HISTORY . . . Owhiro Bay School was opened in June 1930 with a roll of 34 pupils, after many years of protracted bargaining over the price of land and a suitable site. A Mrs Grindron was instrumental in persuading the Education Board to accept Happy Valley as a suitable site for a school instead of the children having to go to Island Bay. For one year it was known as Happy Valley School. At the time the stream ran between the road and the school with an old foot bridge connected to the school, though this was replaced in 1932 with a more substantial bridge. In later years, the stream was diverted to behind the school where it happily flows today.

The school has fulfilled many varied roles, as a Church and Sunday School, the home of tennis and indoor bowls clubs, and as a Community Hall.

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KAKA PROJECT

VOGELMORN PRECINCT

The feasibility study took flight in late November with the first in a series of participatory design workshops that will continue over summer. Workshop #1 was well attended by a cross-section of locals, who took time out of the pre-Christmas rush to begin collectively contemplating the future of the precinct area. The workshop was facilitated by Cally O'Neill of Co-Op Cooperative Ltd (non-profit design studio operating out of a co-working space in the VBC). Nick Mouat and Sam Donald provided support and continuity from the Kaka Group community consultation. This design collective will oversee the development of the feasibility study through to a submission to WCC's 2016 Annual Plan.

The workshop began inside the beautiful Vogelhorn Hall, with its fabulous acoustics well suited to introductions from Cally, Nick and Sam and representatives of key Stakeholders the Vogelhorn Tennis Club (Paula Ash), Brooklyn Community Association (Euan Harris & Beth Beard), WCC (Jaime Dyhrberg), Ridgway School (David Bagnall) and the Vogelhorn Community Group (Turi Park). Ben Zwartz then gave a brief glimpse into some local history of the Precinct.

Upstairs in the VBC, Cally gave participants an introduction to participatory design and collective decision making, before everyone broke into smaller groups for a game of Kaka Cards. This exercise sought to unpack ideas from the Kaka Project submissions and allowed the groups to think about which values (Community, Sustainability, Heritage, Growth, Resilience, Ecology) were most applicable to various ideas for the Precinct. Participants were encouraged



Local participants listening to the workshop

to add more ideas, engage in discussion and practice group decision making.

Sunscreen was required on the old Bowling Green and at a pop-up community space on Mornington Rd (the back of a flat deck ute) as participants sweltered in 21°+ conditions. Other groups congregated in the Hall and the old Bowling Club. The groups rotated locations as the afternoon progressed.

The event wrapped up with a BBQ in the shade. Big thanks to Tim Foote and Bronnie Clatworthy for their efforts on the day, and to WCC, Films for Change, Adprint, Café Caribe, Baker Gramercy, Garage Project and Island Bay Butcher.

Next workshop Sunday 31st Jan 2016, 2-5pm and the following two fortnights. All are welcome, whether you attended the first workshop or not and no matter where you live. We'd love to see you there to



help explore and progress ideas and celebrate our community.

To stay in touch with the Vogelhorn Precinct project you can follow updates at www.vogelmornprecinct.wordpress.com or email

vogelmornprecinct@gmail.com to be added to the email distribution list.

BROOKLYN HUB The Steering Group (Brooklyn Community Association, Ministry of Education, Brooklyn School and Wellington City Council) is finalising its contracting processes. A professional is being brought on board to consider the information collected from the community earlier in the Kaka Project, and this will help form potential options for what a Brooklyn Hub could be. Once these design options have been developed, the community will have the opportunity to engage with these and tell us what they think. We'll keep you informed of progress over the coming months!

BROOKLYN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

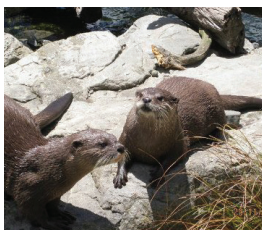
Children from the Brooklyn Early Childhood Centre (BECC) recently had an exciting excursion to Wellington Zoo, capping off a wonderful year for the BECC children, teachers, and whānau, before our big Christmas party this month.

The trip began with all of the BECC children boarding a bus. As adults it's easy to forget the sheer thrill so many children get from riding on buses! Waiata plays a big role in learning at BECC and our children loved being able to ride a big bus together given Wheels on the Bus is such a hit at the crèche. We also sing a lot of songs about New Zealand wildlife so it was wonderful for the children to see the animals they've learned so much about.

Watching the chimpanzees eat was very entertaining. At BECC, kai is celebrated, enjoyed and respected, and the children sing 'Kai in the Basket.' Very different to the chimps behaviour! The children thought this was very funny.

At BECC our focus is on learning through child-initiated play, and the children chose to go to the Zoo. It made them feel invested in their learning and empowered that they were being heard by their teachers. In the lead-up to our excursion there was much excitement.

It was a great experience for all.



BROOKLYN BROWNIES

Kathryn Marsh ph 04 802 5049
brownies@gmail.com
GirlGuidingNZ.org.nz

We had a fun Term 4 working on the badge 'My Community' learning about our own culture, three different religions and our local community. You might have seen us last Monday trying out some disability aids to test how accessible Brooklyn's shops and services are!

We've also been carol singing at a rest home and planning a Community Action project to create Birthday Boxes for children of Brownie age who are less fortunate than us. These will be donated to City Mission at the end of term.



We also had a fun two-night camp in Tawa with a Treasure Hunt theme, geocaching and crafty "upcycling" treasure from trash. For some of the 18 girls on camp it was their first night away from home, but we all had a great time.

In Term One 2016 we will be getting our gardening gloves on and getting outside for our 'One with Nature badge.'

Brownies is for girls 7-9.5 yrs, Monday nights in school terms. Pippins is for younger girls, Guides and Rangers for older girls. If you're keen to get involved or know someone who is please get in contact.

SCHOOL NEWS

JULIE SEEVENS

Another term and another year are drawing to a close. Each year seems to zoom by faster than the previous one. Our schools have been busy preparing for end of year activities including Christmas carol evenings, assemblies and morning teas for parent helpers, collections for "Pack the Bus," talent shows, and prize givings. The inter zone athletics were also held at Newtown Park recently with all Brooklyn schools being represented, an awesome achievement.

St Bernard's students had a day out in November exploring the city as part of their social sciences programme. Ridgway students are getting ready for their big end of year production to be held at Wellington High School, and Brooklyn School had their fair which was a huge success. Fundraising from the fair will go towards a spring floor for the new school hall/gym.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a fantastic 2016. I will be back in the new year with more updates on the happenings at our schools. Look out for some exciting changes to the St Bernards uniform in Term One!

School finishes on 16 December for St Bernards students and 17 December for Brooklyn and Ridgway students.

Term One 2016 starts on 2 February for Brooklyn and Ridgway Schools and 3 February for St Bernards School.

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

A number of items were discussed at the last meeting of the Brooklyn Residents Association Inc. (BRAI) in late November. A local group of members has formed to discuss improvements to walking and cycling in the area. Get in touch if you would like to join this group.

We continue to advocate for a policy change and the return of a bus stop Go Wellington removed last year. This particular downhill bus stop at the Brooklyn Road / Ohiro Rd intersection is well used by people in the Tanera Cr, Helen St, Ohiro Rd area.

We continue to collect information on the increase in aircraft noise due to the Civil Aviation Authority allowing aircraft to fly lower and in a more independent manner due to aircraft being individually fitted with modern GPS systems. This is leading to planes flying lower and across different areas of Wellington. While saving airlines fuel, this is increasing noise and disruption to residents from Eastbourne to Strathmore to Island Bay. Email kt@danzat.co.nz if you have anything to add to this topic.

Members have attended the first two local Emergency Preparedness meetings facilitated by WREMO and a local response plan is beginning to emerge.

We have received and distributed updates from Meridian regarding the replacement of the existing Wind Turbine.

Email to be added to the distribution list:
brooklyresidentswellington@gmail.com

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

what's on at your BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

To book Brooklyn Community Centre for classes, groups or events
contact Evan Harris on 384 6799 or brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

BROWNIES	Monday 6.00-7.30pm school terms. Contact Margaret 389 3028
CHILDCARE PROGRAMMES	Before and After School Care finishes Thursday 17 December, starts Tuesday 2 February 2016. Holiday Program runs from 18-23 December 2015 and Tuesday 5 January 2016 to Friday 29 January. A teacher only day childcare program is offered on Monday 1 February. Contact Adam Hendry on 385 0089 or Brooklyn.hp.asc@gmail.com
EKKAALLAM CHURCH	Tamil Christian worship and service. Sundays 10.00-12.00. Contact Robert tec.wgtn@gmail.com or 027 858 9916
HIP HOP & DANCE ACADEMY	2016 Hip Hop + Junior Jazz contact Stephanie on 027 292 9921 or stephanieamandalee@gmail.com Fun Fairy Ballet for pre-schoolers and primary school children contact Fiona on 476 7046 or 021 721 020
MONTHLY MARKET	Next market is on Saturday 27 February 2016, 9.30am-1.00pm. To book a stall contact Evan Harris on 384 6799
PATRICIA REILLY REMBUDEN	Summer classes contact Patricia 383 9371 or 027 297 6049
PILATES	Starts 1 February 2016. Monday 9.00-9.45am. Friday 9.00-10.00am. Contact Beth renewpilates@gmail.com
PILATES AND DANCE	Starts 4 February Thursday 9.00am. Contact Beth on renewpilates@gmail.com
PORSE PLAYSCHOOL	Starts Term One 2016. Wednesdays 9.00-11.30. Contact Susan 801 6814 or susan.rudd@porse.co.nz
ST JOHN CADETS	Starts again on Tuesday 9 February 2016. 6.30-8.00pm. Contact Carol on 388 3838
TABLE TENNIS	Tuesdays 9.00am and Wednesdays 8.00pm. Contact Phillip on 934 7445 or email codwg@paradise.net.nz
TAI CHI	Starts 28 January. Thursdays 6.30pm. Contact Ferne McKenzie on 389 1433 or ferne.david@xtra.co.nz Over the summer break meet 9am Thurs, Fri, Sat in park by entrance to Kilbirnie pool.
ENCORE! TOTS MUSIC CLASS Encore School of Music	Last class for 2015 Tuesday 15 December. 2016 starts Tuesday 2 February. 3-5yrs 9.45-10.15am. 1-3yrs 10.25-10.55am (and potentially 11.05-11.35am). info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz or call 976 8742 or 022 645 6943

Cut out and pin up

what's on at VOGELMORN HALL & GREEN

Cnr Mornington and Vennell

To book Vogelmorn Hall & Green for classes, groups or events
contact Evan Harris ON 384 6799 OR brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

AEROBIC DANCE	Tuesday & Thursday 9.15am-10.15am 9 Feb to 28 April 2016 Contact Gill Clark on 021 100 4851
BABY SENSORY	SPECIAL 3 week school holiday classes 22 January-5 February. Term one 2016 runs from 12 February-15 April. Contact Mel on 022 510 1987 or wellingtoncitynz@babysensory.com
FELDENKRAIS	Monday 10.00-11.00am and 7.00-8.00pm. Wednesday 10-11. Starts again on Monday 15 February 2016. First class free for beginners. Toni 475 3355 or temcwhinnie@gmail.com
FIONA HAINES DANCE	For 2016 enrolments contact Fiona on 476 7046 or 021 721 020 or f.haines.dance@gmail.com
KARDIO POWER	Mondays 5.40-6.10pm. Patricia 383 9371 or 027 297 6049
POSITIVELY ZUMBA	Starts again late January 2016. Tuesday 7.15 – 8.30pm. Contact Beth on positivelyzumba@gmail.com
SPIRIT TAEKWON-DO CLUB	Sunday 9.15am-12.45pm. Thursday 4.45pm-8.45pm. Louise 021 585 119 or louise@spirit.net.nz
STRETCH & TONE	Mondays 6.10-6.40pm Patricia on 383 9371 or 027 297 6049
TAMARIKI YOGA FOR KIDS	For 8-12yrs. Starts again Monday 8 February 3.45-4.45pm. Janelle 977 4991, 021 0229 2806 or tamarikiyoga@yahoo.co.nz
WELLINGTON IAIDO	Learn the art of drawing and cutting with the Japanese sword. Last 2015 class Saturday 12 December. Starting again mid-January 2016. Cam 021 263 0361 or info@wellington-iaido.com and www.facebook.com/wellingtoniaido
WELLINGTON NAGINATA	Women's Martial Arts Group starts again on Friday 8 January 5.30-7.30pm. Contact Alice at henryjonesjnr@yahoo.co.uk

Cut out and pin up

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE OFFICE is closed 24 December 2015, re-opening Tuesday 26 January 2016. (Monday 18 January week phone messages will be cleared).

CHILDCARE PROGRAM OFFICE closed from 24 December 2016 until the holiday programme begins in January.

THERE IS NO JANUARY MARKET OR TATTLER

Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas & New Year



RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

36 JEFFERSON ST, BROOKLYN
PHONE 384 4299
OPEN WEEKDAYS 9-4

Wow the Christmas Tattler already! We had our annual 'Thank You Party' on 27 November for our volunteers, helpers, supporters and neighbours. Thank you to our volunteers who have helped us throughout the year. Your help, kindness and care is very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Thank you to the Wellington City Council for your contribution towards the evening. We had a great turn out and it was lovely to catch up with you all.

Thank you also to Katie Underwood for your generous donations and sponsorship towards our traditional Christmas lunch for our 28 elderly in the community. We really appreciate your continued support.

No Tuesday lunch on 15 December. We will have our final lunch of the year on Friday 18 December from 10.30 – 2.30 which we are calling a casual lunch. Come along and catch up with everyone before Christmas.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday. All the best for the New Year.

Jenny Swan

Closed Monday 21 December.
Reopening Monday 1 February 2016.

MAH JONG

Monday 1.00-3.00. Beginners welcome.

SPEECH THERAPIST Monday & Wednesday 9.00-1.00. Phone 383 5415

COMMUNITY LUNCH Inexpensive casual lunch for everyone.

Children welcome.

Friday 18 December 10.30 – 2.30

Friday 15 January 2016 10.30 – 2.30

Then normal programmes resume from Tuesday 2 February 12-1pm.

SPINNERS AND KNITTERS

1st and 3rd Thursday 1.00 – 4.00

PODIATRIST Kirsty will be here 15 January then Friday 5 February 2016 and fortnightly after that. Phone 384 4299 for an appointment.

FRIDAY CIRCLE

Cars will collect you if needed.

Programme:

9.30 Craft activities

10.00 Morning tea

12.00 Lunch

1.30 Arthritis exercise

2.00 Guest speaker

3.00 Afternoon teas

FOR HIRE: OFFICE/CLINIC/THERAPY ROOM Enquiries to Jenny on 384 4299

from the LIBRARY



Hello Brooklyn!

This month I want to remind you of the library's excellent music collection.

SUMMER SOUNDTRACKS If you're looking for a soundtrack for the school summer holidays, why not come in and browse some of our summery CDs. I can personally recommend these two: **Haim, Days Are Gone** This one came out in 2013 but is still one of my favourites to pop in the CD player on a relaxing afternoon. **Marlon Williams, Marlon Williams** This Christchurch boy's self-titled album is one of the newer CDs in our collection, and he recently won best male solo artist and best breakthrough artist at the New Zealand Music Awards. The album combines elements of blues, country and folk, perfect for these sunny afternoons.

NEW RELEASE CDS You can also check the catalogue for new release CDs and reserve them as soon as we order them. Simply use the 'Advanced Search' function in the Easyfind catalogue, and enter "Due to be

published" in the Summary, annotation or description field, or come in and ask a staff member to show you.

POPULAR NEW TITLES

on the way include:

The new Faces Box Set, 1970-1975: You Can Make Me Dance, Sing Or Anything **Ryan Adams'** covers album of Taylor Swift's 1989

5 Seconds Of Summer, the new album. **Joanna Newsom's** new album Divers.

MUSIC ONLINE In addition to music CDs, we have ways for you to access music for free, online, using your library card.

You can stream music from home with Naxos Music Library. Simply log in using your library card number and your surname as the password. This database adds over 500 CDs worth of new music every month, including almost all the standard classical repertoire, as well as other genres such as jazz, blues, nostalgia, new age, world music, some pop and rock, and music and information aimed at children. At present, this service can only be accessed via our website from your home computer, but there's plenty to see so do go have a look.

MUSIC BLOG You can also check out the Wellington Music Blog on the WCL website. We have an extensive collection of Wellington artists in a list right on the home page, sorted by decade so you can browse to your heart's content.

This is just a tiny fraction of everything musical we have to offer, so happy listening, and see you soon at the library!

Miranda



Time to say a big thank you to the wider Brooklyn community for support and encouragement, and wish you all a wonderful holiday season. To finish off the year, here are thoughts on eco-sourcing from Paul Blaschke.

"I was interested in Janet's recent comments on "eco-sourcing" (July newsletter), in regard to planting by FOOS in the Owhiro catchment. (Eco-sourcing is the propagation of native plants for revegetation or restoration from seed or cuttings sourced from populations of locally occurring native plants.) I can't agree with the suggestion by a Wellington botanist that "natural re-vegetation by wind and birds was preferable to planting species willy-nilly". Apparently we may be guilty of creating "designer ecosystems".

If FOOS volunteers weeded but did not replant immediately, weeded spaces would regenerate with weeds such as blackberry, broom, boneseed, flowering cherry, and many others, with new ones arriving by wind and birds every year. It's hard enough keeping these weeds at bay even with careful planting and mulching.

FOOS has never planted "willy-nilly". With very few (and well documented) exceptions, FOOS has always planted eco-sourced native plants, generally from local seed sources (e.g. the Owhiro catchment or within a couple of kilometres from the catchment), and has always planted carefully, selecting plants suitable for the habitat they were being planted into.

In my opinion this approach to eco-sourcing is pragmatic and appropriate to the area. How uncompromising should we be? I think we should regard eco-sourcing as an aim along the way, but ultimately we are trying to protect our shrinking natural habitats by weeding and planting vegetation to add to and buffer these



October working bee at Owhiro School

habitats. We also want to provide habitat and food sources for birds and other animals, and to enhance the enjoyment people get from the work we do, by using available plants to create an attractive edge to the planting areas. If that is creating designer ecosystems, I'm happy to plead guilty."

Dr Paul Blaschke,

Environmental and ecological consultant
Janet Campbell, for Friends of Owhiro Stream

KEEP CALM AND SING CAROLS

Christmas Carols and reflections, 13 December 2015 at 4.30pm

Followed by a free BBQ

Wellington Reformed Church, 34 Harrison Street, Brooklyn



You may have noticed the site of the old caretaker's cottage in Central Park; a flat grassed area on the right hand side going down Ohiro Road towards Aro Street, with a track leading down to the fountain close to the main gates.

Volunteer Wellington recently liaised with Upstream to provide a group of volunteers from Contact Energy to clear tradescantia (wandering willy) from part of the bank around the cottage site. The volunteers did a great job and we planned for another group of volunteers, this time from KPMG, to complete the task last Friday. Unfortunately rain stopped play but we are hoping for a replacement day before Christmas.

The area between the caretaker's cottage and the fountain will then become the focus of future volunteer work, clearing tradescantia from the banks beside the path, planting and mulching and helping with future improvements to the track itself. We hope that this will demonstrate

the progress and achievements of corporate volunteer groups in the park.

THANK YOU to the following for their support in the past year: **Wellington City Council** and their park rangers. **Everyone who helped** make the Upstream Art Walk such a success. **Volunteer Wellington** and all the volunteer groups. **Renouf Centre** for providing a tool storage facility. **Supreme Coffee** for their generous support and; last but not least, all those who have helped at **working bees**.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful New Year.



NEXT WORKING BEE will be on Sunday 28 February 2016.

Upstream – Friends of Central Park meet on the last Sunday of every month except December and January; join us from 10.00-12.00 at The Jetty – follow the path beside the stream from the main gates on Brooklyn Road. Everyone welcome!

== KATIE UNDERWOOD ==

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SAMARAI SPIRIT IN BROOKLYN

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Cam 021 263 0351



Vogelmorn Hall in Brooklyn is home to the dōjō of the Wellington Iaidō Club (W.I.C.) practicing the art of Iaidō (pronounced "eee-eye-doh"). Iaidō is a Japanese martial art focused on drawing and cutting with the Japanese samurai sword. Training is practiced in pre-arranged movements called 'kata' rather than against opponents and uses blunt training swords made of wood or metal for safety.

Two members from W.I.C. recently represented Wellington at the National. Iaidō Seminar in Auckland in October. Both attendees successfully passed their gradings, boosting the knowledge of the art brought back to Wellington after the seminar each year and passed on to other students.

One Wellington student passed 1st Kyū grade which has taken just over 18 months of training to achieve. Kyū grades work backward from 10th to 1st before you can challenge a 1st black belt in Iaidō. While local Brooklyn resident, Cam Findlay, who coordinates training at the club, passed his 2nd Dan black belt. Cam has been practicing Iaidō for around 8 years.

"Iaidō is great for building confidence and a calm mind. It's easy to start and provides ongoing challenge that keeps you hooked" says Cam from the Wellington Iaidō Club. For more information about trying Iaidō or joining, contact Cam at info@wellington-iaido.com or 021 263 0351, or facebook.com/wellingtoniaido

Adults, Teens and Children – learn traditional Chinese martial arts

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Fridays: 4.30pm–5.30pm	Fridays: 5.30pm–7.30pm
Saturdays: 9.00pm–10.00am	Saturdays: 10.00am–11.30pm

Contact: Scott Willson 021 187 5006 or wellington@shaolinkungfu.co.nz **or** just come along to try a free class – wear a T shirt and long trackies.

Venue: Tanera Park Hall, Tanera Crescent (off Ohiro Road), Brooklyn.

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BROOKLYN BROWNIES, GUIDES AND PIPPINS

Starts February 2016.

Pippins

Nicola Burdon 971 1265

Brownies

Margaret 389 3028

Brooklyn Guides

Kathryn Marsh 802 5049

BROOKLYN FOOD GROUP

has a passion for local food and community. Workshops, shared gardens and a community orchard. Contact us to get involved or join our regular working bee from 5.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at the Brooklyn Orchard, end of Harrison St. thebrooklynfoodgroup@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/BrooklynFoodGroupNZ

BROOKLYN GARDEN CLUB

No meetings in December or January. Reconvene at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday in February at the Brooklyn Resource Centre, 36 Jefferson St. New members and visitors welcome. Barbara on 389 4307

BROOKLYN GECKOS HOCKEY - FOR KIDS

Practice with us during the summer at the Brooklyn Bowling Club astro turf at Tanera Park, 8 Tanera Cres, Brooklyn. For year

1-4 and new entrants. Just turn up on practice day and we will take it from there. <http://brooklyngeckoshockey.weebly.com/>

BROOKLYN LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Meets mid February 2016. Sharon on 027 634 4455 or 388 8088 after hours.

BROOKLYN MAINLY MUSIC

Fun affordable 30 minute music group for parents or care givers to enjoy with their preschooler(s). Children develop gross and fine motor skills, language, imagination, mathematical and pre-reading skills through music, action songs and more in a loving shared family environment. Morning tea provided following the session.

Venue: Wellington Reformed Church

34 Harrison St.

From 3rd February.

Wednesdays 10am.

Rachel 022 407 9652

Venue: St Matthews' Co-operating Parish

96 Washington Ave.

Fridays 9:30am from 12

February Nicky 971 1265

BROOKLYN SCOUTS

Scout Hall, Harrison St. Scouting is for boys and girls who love adventure.

Keas 5-7 yrs, Cubs 7-11yrs, Scouts 11-14yrs, Venturers 14-18yrs.

Gillian Boyes 972 9904 or gillianmay68@gmail.com

BROOKLYN SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB

To join the club contact Dianne Grain on 0274 449 641, d.grain@xtra.co.nz, visit bsrc.org.nz

BROOKLYN TABLE TENNIS

9.00am Tuesdays and 8.00 pm Wednesdays. Small friendly group welcoming new members all ages. Philip 934 7445 or codwg@paradise.net.nz

BROOKLYN TOY LIBRARY

Rear prefab at Capital Montessori School, Camrose Grove, Kingston. Open February 2016. brooklyntoylibrary@hotmail.com brooklyntoylibrary.org.nz www.facebook.com/Brooklyn-Toy-Library-1413096478974 270

BROOKLYN WALKERS

Monday mornings outside Brooklyn Library. Our walks are varied and cover most of Wellington. Susannah 384 7412 or Clare 384 9054.

21 Dec Central Park, Tanera Gardens, Aro and Norway Streets, Kelburn, City.

28 Dec Boxing Day, no walk.

4 Jan Wallace St, bus to Karori, Friend St, Homewood Ave, Flers St, Burn St, Ponsonby Rd, down to walkway at the end, through Northland Tunnel, Kelburn, City. 9:15am start to catch 9:35am No 18 bus Wallace St.

11 Jan Bell Rd, Nairn St Park, Hankey St, High School, Basin Reserve, Ellice, Brougham & Majoribanks Sts then Waterfront to Railway Station.

18 Jan Mt Crawford 8:45am start to catch 9:12am No 11 bus in Wallace St to arrive in Kilbirnie at 9:26am then catch 9:43am No 24 bus. Disembark second stop past prison Nevay Rd. Left into Fortification Rd. Steps to Scorching Bay, follow coast to Seatoun.

25 Jan Wellington Anniversary, no walk.

FRIENDS OF OWHIRO STREAM

The vast improvement over the past years to the Owhiro Stream and its environs are achieved by this group. Martin 389 8995 Janet 385 2077

LIONS CLUB Make new friends and work together to give something back to the community. Join us as inaugural members and be part of this opportunity to shape our club to meet the needs of our community. lionsclubs.org.nz Alice Dickson alicerdickson@hotmail.com or phone 027 725 4195

ST JOHN PENGUIN AND YOUTH DIVISION

Penguin Program 6-8 yrs. Karen 389 4060 Youth Division 8-18 yrs. Carol 0274 321 204 www.stjohn.org.nz

TAI CHI

Over the summer break Tai Chi enthusiasts are invited to meet in the park near the entrance to Kilbirnie pool at 9.00am Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Ferne McKenzie 389 1433 ferne.david@xtra.co.nz

TURBINE TALKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB

Local chapter of Toastmasters International. Deb 027 444 9622 dlambie@live.com <http://6879.toastmastersclubs.org>

UPSTREAM - FRIENDS OF CENTRAL PARK

February 2016 last

Sunday of the month from 10.00am – noon at the picnic table next to the big bridge. Come along for great conversations, meet new people, fab morning tea and contribute to the care of Central Park. Debbie_vanh@yahoo.com

WELLINGTON SWORDS CLUB

2016 classes start on 16 January at Tanera Bowling Club. Vicki Lamb, head coach 970 7496 evenings or bishop.lamb@paradise.net.nz

Tanera Bowling Club

8 Tanera Cres, Brooklyn **Venue hire:** maximum 150 people. \$15 hr casual. Party hire rate negotiable. \$150 weekend night.



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Amid the hustle and bustle of the preparation for the end of the school year, Christmas and summer holidays, there is a place that allows you to take some time out and contemplate. Advent, which starts four Sundays prior to Christmas Day, is the start of the Christian new year calendar and is time of preparation for Christmas focused on four important themes hope, peace, joy and love. Please feel free to come and join us during this Christmas season.

MAINLY MUSIC: finished for the year on 11th December, and restarts 12th February 2016.

MESSY CHURCH: finished with a great celebration on 5th December. Restart date will be published on St Matthew's Brooklyn website.



ST MATTHEW'S COOPERATING CHURCH

96 Washington Avenue
Brooklyn Wellington

stmatthewsbrooklyn.org.nz

stmatbsbrooklyn@gmail.com

SERVICES THROUGH DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Each Sunday in December
– service at 10am

24th DEC 5:00pm ROUND THE CRIB SERVICE

Join us for the Christmas story, carols and a cuppa (this is aimed at families with children or grandchildren and those young at heart).

CHRISTMAS DAY 25th DEC 9am FAMILY SERVICE

JANUARY EACH SUNDAY

Service held at 10am will be focusing on different saints.

We wish you a Christmas season that is full of hope, peace, joy and love.

Need a place to host a regular activity or one-off event?

St Matthew's has flexible spaces available for one-off and regular activities. It is well appointed on the rise on Washington Ave within easy access from neighbouring suburbs. If you are interested in checking out what is available and chat over your needs, please contact our office on 389 3470, drop in on a Tuesday or Friday morning to have a look or leave us a message on our website www.stmatthewsbrooklyn.org.nz