

WHAT'S ON AT THE BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE	7.30 to 8.30am every school day for school-age children. For details and bookings phone Diva on 027 410 9949
AFTER SCHOOL CARE	3pm to 6pm for primary school kids. Contact Adam Hendry on 385 0089 Email: brooklyn.hp.asc@gmail.com
HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES	8am - 6pm during school holidays. Bookings essential. Ph. 385 0089
ALZHEIMERS WELLINGTON	We meet in the RSA room on the 4 th Wednesday of the month Phone Liz for details on 939 0131
BROOKLYN WALKERS	Mondays – meet outside the Brooklyn Library at 9:30am. Phone Susannah on 384 7412 for more information.
BROWNIES	Mondays 6pm to 7.30pm in school terms. Phone Margaret on 389 3028
HIP HOP & DANCE ACADEMY	Hip Hop & Junior Jazz - Mondays 4:15 to 5:45pm Fun Fairy Ballet for preschoolers and primary school children. Tuesdays 3:15pm to 6pm Contact Fiona on 476 7046 or 021 721 020.
PILATES	Mondays 9am to 9:45am – Friday classes at 9am and 10am. Contact Beth via email: renewpilates@gmail.com
DANISH MUSIC PLAYGROUP	Sundays (fortnightly) 10:30am to 11:30am. Phone Karen on 380 1929
TOTS MUSIC CLASSES	Tuesday mornings in the Community Centre lounge from 9:30am. Contact – Encore School of Music on 976 8742. Email: info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz
INDIAN COOKING CLASSES	Saturday and Sunday evenings. Bookings and enquiries to Anu. Phone: 021 0269 7038 Email: indiancooking@xtra.co.nz
PORSE PLAYGROUP	Wednesdays 9am – 11.30 in the hall & lounge Phone Holly on 801 6814 Email: holly.cane@porse.co.nz
REMBUDEN KARATE	Beginners: Wednesdays 5:30 to 6:15pm & Thursdays 4:45 to 5:30pm Adult Beginners: Wednesdays 6 to 7pm & Thursdays 5:30 to 6:30pm Evening Cardio Power: Wednesdays 7:30 to 8pm Stretch & Tone class: Thursdays 6:30 to 7pm For more details, contact Patricia on 383 9371 or 027 297 6049
SPCA ADOPT A PET	Saturday 5 April from 12 to 3pm. Cats & kittens seeking new homes.
ST JOHN CADETS	Tuesdays 6:30 to 8pm. Contact Carol on 388 3838 or 0274 321 204
TABLE TENNIS	New! Tuesday mornings at 9am & Wednesday evenings at 8:15pm Phone Philip on 934 7445 or email: codwg@paradise.net.nz
TAI CHI CLASSES	Thursdays at 6:30pm. First class free. \$5 casual or \$40 for 10 classes. New daytime class! Fridays at 1pm in the main hall. Contact Ferne McKenzie on 389 1433 or email: ferne.david@xtra.co.nz
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY INDOOR MARKET	LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. Next market on 29 March - 9.30 to 1pm Tables only \$10. Phone Euan on 384 6799

Brooklyn Community Centre can be hired for classes, groups & functions.
Office hours - 8.30am - 1.30pm Monday to Friday
Phone 384 6799. Email: brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

Brooklyn Tattler



Issue 252

March 2014

**Do you live in Brooklyn?
Want to be involved in your community?
Then you could be just the person we are looking for!**

We need people like you to join the Brooklyn Community Association. The Brooklyn Community Association Council is responsible for the governance of the Brooklyn Community Centre, Vogelmorn Hall, and the popular Afterschool Care and School Holiday Programmes.

Both Community Centres and School programmes are growing, and we need more community representation to continue the momentum.

Join us at our AGM on Sunday 4 May in the Brooklyn Community Centre lounge from 2pm to find out more.

Or call Euan Harris on 384 6799. Email: brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

The Brooklyn Tattler is published monthly by the Brooklyn Community Association Incorporated, 18 Harrison Street, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021. The Brooklyn Community Association members accept no liability for the contents which have been prepared in good faith



Co-ordinator's Corner

Hi Everyone

We hope you enjoy this special extended colour issue of the monthly Tattler, delivered to your mailbox in Brooklyn. Copies are available every month at the library, local retail outlets and online at:

www.brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

We have a busy month coming up in April. The SPCA has their Adopt a Pet day on 5 April, and perhaps a first for Vogelmorn Hall is a wrestling match on 11 April, it's called Brooklyn Brawl at Vogelmorn Hall! The next day, Brooklyn Community Association life member, Gwen Devereux celebrates her 90th birthday with an afternoon tea at the Community Centre from 1 to 4pm. The first school term ends on 17 April, so be sure to go online and check out our School Holiday Programme. There are two long weekends in April, including Easter and ANZAC day which falls on a Friday. As in previous years, we will be hosting our community morning tea after the Brooklyn ANZAC Day service.

We welcome the School News feature back to this month's Tattler, now written by our accounts and finance person, Julie Seevens, who is known to many parents through her involvement with Brooklyn Playcentre and Brooklyn School. Julie takes over School News from Gwen Devereux who collated and wrote this for many years.

By the time you read this, an emergency 25,000 litre water tank will have been

installed in the Brooklyn Community Centre playground, next to the main hall. Contractors spent a busy week during February to create a solid, level base for the tank to sit. Other sites were discussed, including the opposite side of the playground boundary fence, next to the path leading up to the Community Orchard. However, this sloping section was not considered practical during an earthquake.

This year Neighbours Day is on the weekend of 29/30 March. Come to Harrison Street on Saturday 29 March and meet people from your neighbourhood at our friendly monthly indoor market, in the Community Centre hall from 9:30am to 1pm. The Brooklyn Food Group will have a feature table at the market showcasing their work and selling fresh produce.

Then take a short walk to the Brooklyn Reformed Church's re-opening day at 34 Harrison Street, to celebrate their completed renovations! There will be kids activities, musicians, face painting and a free barbecue from 10:30am to 2:30pm around the back of the church.

Daytime Tai Chi is now running on Fridays from 1pm. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday classes are a possibility. Contact Ferne on 389 1433 or email: ferne.david@xtra.co.nz

Have a great month

Euan Harris
Co-ordinator



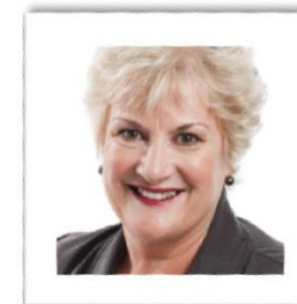
**Grant
ROBERTSON**

Your MP in Wellington Central

220 Willis Street, Wellington

P 04 801 8079

E office@grantrobertson.co.nz



**Annette
KING**

Your MP in Rongotai

25 Kilbirnie Plaza, Kilbirnie

P 04 387 2587

E rongotai.mp@parliament.govt.nz



Authorised by Grant Robertson, 220 Willis Street, Wellington.

Authorised by Annette King, 25 Kilbirnie Plaza, Kilbirnie.



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Childrens Classes

Adults and Teens Classes

Mondays: 5.00 – 6.00 pm

6.00 – 8.00 pm

Fridays: 4.30 – 5.30 pm

5.30 – 7.30 pm

Contact: Scott Wilson 021 1875006 or

wellington@shaolinkungfu.co.nz

Or just come along to try a free class - wear T shirt and long trackies. First Monday of the month is beginners class.

Tanera Park Hall, Tanera Cres (off Ohiro Rd), Brooklyn.

www.shaolinkungfu.co.nz

Copy Deadline for the next Brooklyn Tattler is 28 March 2014

Email: kunderwood@leaders.co.nz with your contribution.

Brooklyn History

The Brooklyn RSA, which meets in the Community Centre, was formed in 1934. It hired clubrooms in Cleveland Street and added a billiard room in 1936. The branch took a 200 pound loan from the City Council in August 1944 to buy a section and clubrooms in Cleveland Street. The purchase included a house at No 46 and next door at No 48, two narrow shops with a flat above them. The branch erected a small army hut on a terrace in front of the house. President at the time, Mr D J Alabaster hosted a function in April 1948 to mark the loan having been repaid and the title deed handed over.

Plans to develop No 46 came to nothing and the branch used the flat above the two shops as clubrooms for the next 50 years.

Brooklyn RSA Women's Section, established under Agnes Weston on 10 March 1942, succinctly defined its wartime functions as *'to support and visit mothers in maternity homes whose husbands are overseas, visiting mothers and wives of prisoners of war and ones that suffered bereavement.'* They also held social afternoons to help relieve the strain all were living under at the present time of war. The social activities usually involved fundraising or rose-making. Brooklyn amalgamated its older Ladies Auxiliary with the Women's RSA the following year (1943).

Mrs Weston also mobilised 40 women at short notice to help wrap nearly 90,000 RSA Reviews in 1945 when the printers were unable to do the job.

It took 5 days and the women moved four tons of paper. The women kept in touch with branches that had moved away from WRSA. For instance, in July 1948, a combined women's caucus or general meeting was held that included Wellington, Hutt Valley, and 12 affiliated Women's Sections.

Since the 1970's, fragmentation of the greater Wellington RSA has occurred. Seventeen branches have either closed or gone independent (membership open to non-services). Those who went independent were Johnsonville (1975), Wellington South (1977) (both now closed), Porirua & Titahi Bay (1979), Tawa (1984), Paraparaumu (1981), Seatoun (1991), Eastbourne (1993), and Pukerua Bay (1994). Miramar and Hataitai both closed in the early 1970's, Plimmerton (1976), Ngaio (1978), Roseneath (1982), Service-women's (1992), Northland (1993), and Island Bay (2002), all now closed.

Then WRSA had just four branches: Brooklyn, City, Karori, and Kilbirnie. City has since closed and others, such as Eastbourne and Seatoun, amalgamated with or entered agreements with outside bodies, resulting in a loss of identity if not existence.

Much later, Brooklyn branch added its own medical scheme in 2002, offering benefits to its members in addition to the WRSA scheme.

Brooklyn branch finally closed on 31 December 2013.

[More next month](#)
[Chris Rabey](#)



RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

36 Jefferson Street

PHONE: 384 4299

OPEN: Weekdays 9am-4pm

CONTACT US FOR;

MAH JONG;

Monday 1pm-3pm

Beginners welcome

SPEECH THERAPIST

Monday & Wednesdays 9am-1pm

Phone: 383 5415

PLUNKET:

Clinics: Monday 9am-4pm

Tuesday 9am-4pm

Call for an appointment on 384 5253

COMMUNITY LUNCH;

Tuesday 12noon-1pm

Inexpensive lunch for everybody

Children welcome

SPINNERS and KNITTERS:

1st and 3rd Thursdays 1-4pm.

PODIATRIST;

Every second Friday

9.00am-11.30am

Ph. for an appointment on 384 4299

FRIDAY CIRCLE: \$5

Cars will collect you if needed.

Programme:

Craft activities 9.30am

Morning Tea 10 am

Lunch 12 noon

Arthritic Exercise 1.30pm

Guest Speaker 2pm

Afternoon Tea 3pm

Speakers for March/April 14

14: Mar: Maura and Louise
Driving Miss Daisy

companion outings

21 Mar: Jules Lovelock
Breaking into the film industry

28 Mar: Michael Cox
Art speculation
art also for sale

4th April: Margret Macawley
Eat unlimited Heat and Eat meals

11 April: Jade Kaukau
A spoken word poem.

Thank you to our speakers. We are really enjoying your talks, it really does make our Fridays.

We are in need of some more meals on wheels drivers for Mondays and Thursdays and also more relief drivers for other days when drivers are away. If you would like to help please ring Jo on 3841795.

Our monthly committee meetings are held on Monday afternoons at 3.45pm. We will be meeting on the 17th of March if you are interested in joining our committee. Come along, we would welcome new members.

Our garden is slowly coming together. Dorothy has been busy looking after the top garden just outside the kitchen. The flowers are just starting to pop up. Thanks for the lovely colours Dorothy.

We would love to see you at the centre for lunch, so come on in for some nice food and lovely company.

See you soon
Jenny

*We are celebrating Gwen Devereux's 90th Birthday
On Saturday 12th April, 2014
Come and share Afternoon Tea with family & friends
at the Brooklyn Community Centre, Harrison Street
Any time between 1.00pm and 4.00pm
Refreshments provided - Cake cutting at 3.00pm
ALL WELCOME!
Contact Jenny 9705138 or Sue 9393222*



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29/03

2014

Brooklyn Reformed Church re-opening day! We've been busy renovating the back of the building. The work includes earthquake strengthening and much improved spaces for group activities.

We warmly welcome you to join us
for a free BBQ, cakes and snacks, musicians and kids activities; face-painting and balloons.

Saturday 29 March 10:30 - 02:30
34 Harrison Street, Brooklyn -- around the back of the church.

WHAT'S ON AT THE VOGELMORN HALL

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| SPIRIT TAEKWON-DO CLUB | Sunday mornings 9.15am to 12:45pm
Thursday evenings 4:45 to 8:45pm
Contact Louise on 021 272 1060
or email: louise@spirit.net.nz |
| BARBARIAN KIDS | Movement & expression classes with Jo Randerson
Monday afternoons 3.15pm to 4pm - Wild things
Monday afternoons 4pm to 4.45pm - Crazy Horses
Email: jo@barbarian.co.nz
View: www.barbarian.co.nz/kids |
| FELDENKRAIS CLASSES | Awareness through Movement
Monday 10am to 11am & evening 7pm to 8pm
Wednesday mornings 10am to 11am
Contact Barbara on 384 5249 or Toni on 475 3355 |
| KARDIO POWER
STRETCH & TONE CLASS | Monday evenings 5:40 to 6:10pm
Monday evenings 6:10 to 6:40pm
Punch that pad and get fit, or gently tone and stretch your body. No experience required.
Contact Patricia on 383 9371 or 027 297 6049 |
| POSITIVELY ZUMBA | Tuesday evenings 7.15pm to 8.30pm
Contact Beth via email at:
positivelyzumba@gmail.com |
| FIONA HAINES DANCE | Wednesday afternoons & evenings 3:15pm to 9pm
Contact Fiona on 476 7046 or 021 721 020
f.haines.dance@gmail.com |
| KIDS ART | Thursday afternoons from 3pm to 4.30pm
During school terms |
| IAIDO TRAINING | Non-combative Japanese Martial Art
Saturday afternoons from 3pm to 5pm
Contact Cam on 021 263 0351 or
cam@camfindlay.com |

The Vogelmorn Hall at 11 Vennell Street can be hired for classes, groups and functions. Contact Euan Harris the Coordinator for details. Phone: 384 6799

Email: brooklynca@paradise.net.nz

View us online at: www.brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz



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Brooklyn Food Group Ways to get Involved

The Brooklyn Food Group is a group that work together to grow food, and share food skills in our community. We have an ethos of 'building community through local food initiatives'.

We grow food together and learn from each other, which not only fills our bellies, builds our skills but lets us make friends with our neighbours and build pride in our community. Come to a workshop or join in with the working bee while learning at the same time.

We have a lot of exciting seasonal workshops and events planned so get in touch if you would like to be a part of the action:

Autumn: a table showcasing our work at the Brooklyn market day on March 29th. Selling local produce and other goodies. Please come and say hello!

Winter: 'Prune in June' fruit tree pruning workshop, learn how to care for your trees in the winter months.

Spring: 'The birds and the bees' garden tour, repeating our previous popular tour of beekeeping and chicken raising in Brooklyn.

Summer: 'No fail, no space vege gardening', for all of you with small spaces who want to make the most of them.

We would also love to see you at a working bee amongst the fruit trees and wild flowers at the community orchard any Monday night, 5:00pm onwards at the end of Harrison Street. Everyone is very welcome.

CARPET LAYER

Installation of new or second hand carpets.

Relays, repairs and maintenance.

All materials can be supplied. Free quotes.

Contact **John** on 0274 426 915 or 381 2216

School News

Our schools are all now well under way into Term One and everyone is busy, busy, busy! This term is a long one at eleven weeks but we're half way through already and the time seems to have flown by.

Brooklyn School welcomed Jo Wheeler to the teaching staff; she is teaching Year 5/6 in the Takahe Syndicate. They also welcomed new Mandarin language assistant, Yue, who will be helping with the Moa syndicate on Mondays. After being closed for over a year the school library has re-opened with lots of new books and equipment, and the Kiwi syndicate were thrilled to see their new climbing frame which was installed over the holidays. Year 8 children were recently asked to apply for the 2014 House Captaincies and they have now been appointed.

The school is currently undergoing a School Network Upgrade Project (SNUP) which will provide the school with high quality data infrastructure to an approved Ministry standard allowing for future network expansion and ultra-fast broadband.

ERO will be reviewing the school at the end of March.

The juniors at **Ridgway School** have started Discovery Time on Thursday afternoons with activities designed to encourage the children to practice and demonstrate elements of each of the key competencies. This term the focus is on Relating to Others.


Important dates for Ridgway include the School Gala on Sunday 30th March from 10.30am to 2.30pm. There will be an auction, white elephant, and lots of stalls

so be sure to come along to join in the fun and grab yourself a bargain at the same time.

Children at **St Bernards** have begun the school year learning about prayer and building a strong relationship with God. The beginning of school year Mass had a fantastic turnout with many family members and parishioners attending. Father David Dowling celebrated the mass and the school is looking forward to his continuing involvement with them. At the mass the House Leaders for the year were blessed and presented with their house badges.

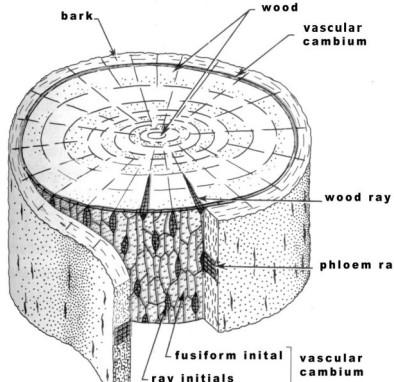
Last day of school for Term One is Thursday 17th April.

Julie Seevens



TREE

DOCTORS



BROOKLYN www.livingplanet.co.nz

0800 4 TREE DR.

971 8583

Lines from the Library

British novelist, Doris Lessing (1919 – 2013) who died recently, aged 94, was awarded the 2007 Nobel Prize in Literature and in 2008, The Times ranked her fifth on a list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945". She was a consummate writer with perfect control of language and an engaging writing style but deciding where to start with her impressive range of novels is a challenge. I would recommend beginning chronologically with the four volumes of her 'Children of Violence' series, published from 1952 – 1969 (with a fifth volume, 'The Four Gated City' published in 1995). It is hard to imagine that the story of Martha Quest, an intelligent, sensitive, and fiercely passionate young woman living on a farm in Africa during her adolescence and early womanhood is not in some way autobiographical, as this is how Doris Lessing spent her early years before moving to London aged 30.

Her most famous work, 'The Golden Notebook' was published in 1962 and is now considered one of the major works of twentieth-century literature. It tells the story of Anna Wulf, a writer and single woman, who lives with her young daughter in a flat in London. The novel explores mental and societal breakdown, and also contains a powerful anti-war and anti-Stalinist message and an examination of the budding sexual and women's liberation movements. In 1985 she published 'The Good Terrorist', which tells the story of Alice Mellings, a woman who struggles with her ideology vs her

bourgeois upbringing when she transforms her home into a headquarters for a group of radicals who plan to join the IRA. Written before the 'war on terror' this is a fascinating book that combines domesticity with rebellion and the personal with the political. She continued to write until announcing that 'Alfred and Emily', a novel about her parents, would be her final work. Part fiction, part memoir it was described by the Guardian as "a perfectly crafted and quietly extraordinary meditation on family".

Doris Lessing displayed one of the finest understandings of the human condition of any modern writer. Her novels are deeply engrossing and weave together historical events, veiled autobiography and complex stories, written with deep psychological insight. She left behind a body of work from which it is possible to gain understanding of the events that shaped our world written from a deeply personal perspective by a master of the craft.

John Heighes



Brooklyn Tracks Update

Talk on Pre-European Vegetation in the Aro Valley

This public discussion is about what Aro Valley looked like before the Pakeha arrived. The presenter is Jean -Claude Stahl of Te Papa.

7.30 PM, Friday 28 March 2014

Aro Valley Community Hall.

Entry - donation to the Aro Valley Restoration Project.



Last winter's native tree planting by the Brooklyn Trail Builders group in the George Denton Park, Polhill and Waimapihi area is all doing well, thanks to the damp summer.

All of the 130 nikau planted along the Fling and Transient tracks have survived the transplanting and most are flourishing. Many more nikau seedlings are being cultivated for future planting with the goal of bringing 1,000+ nikau back to this area.



Last year Brooklyn Primary School students were involved in planting native trees along the Sawmill and Windmill tracks and beside the 4WD section of the Transient track (near Durham St). They'll be doing further planting for this year's Arbor Day at the top of Polhill.



The Brooklyn Trail Builders are finishing off the new intermediate level

downhill track, called Serendipity, that will relieve pressure on the very popular lower section of the Transient track.

You may have noticed rocks on the grassed area of Polhill Park, at the top of Aro St. This is a temporary measure to safely separate different users while the City Council develops a plan to redevelop this park to accommodate the many, diverse users and the different riding lines of the tracks.

The Brooklyn Trail Builders are also making good progress building a new pedestrian and cycling uphill track that will link Holloway Rd with the George Denton Park play area. They're also working with WCC staff to plan several other new tracks south of Highbury. This will ultimately enable a walking and cycling loop from Highbury right around the outer edge of this area of the town belt.

For track locations see <http://tracks.org.nz/area/show/3>

To keep up with the work of Brooklyn Trail Builders see <https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynTrailBuilders>

Late last year an active group formed to taken on pest control on the Polhill reserve. See <https://www.facebook.com/groups/240432439438196/> for information.

To make a donation please go to <http://wmtbc.org.nz/donations> (donations are tax deductible)



GROUP ROUNDUP

Brooklyn Walkers

Brooklyn Walkers meet Monday mornings outside the Brooklyn Library. The walks are varied covering most of Wgtn and are easily suitable for senior walkers. Our group is full of friendly people so join us. For more information call Susannah: 384 7412 or Clare 384 9054.

- 17 Mar: Walk to Wallace Street, bus to Karori Cemetery, Kaiwharawhara, Otara Bush (9:10 start for 9:35 No.11 bus at Wallace St).
- 24 Mar: Bell Rd, Nairn St Park, Hankey St, High School, Basin Reserve, Ellis St, Brougham St, Majoribanks St, waterfront to railway station.
- 31 Mar: Hutt Valley river walkway, Pomare Station (9:18 No.7 bus 10:05 Hutt Valley train)
- 7 April: Walk to Adelaide Rd through High School, (No.3 bus to Kilbirnie). Walk to city via Hataitai.



Brooklyn Table Tennis

The Brooklyn Table Tennis Club plays from 8pm till late every Wednesday and 9am on Tuesdays.

Small, friendly group, welcoming new members of all ages. We have 3 tables, good lighting in a pleasant hall. Balls are supplied and a number of club bats are available for use. For information phone: Philip 934 7445 or Gwen 384 9060.



Brooklyn Scouts

Brooklyn Scouts, Cubs and Keas meet in the Scout Hall in Harrison Street, Brooklyn.

Keas: 5-7 years, Tuesdays 5.30-6.30pm
Cubs: 7-11 years, Mondays 6.30-8.00pm
Scouts: 11-14 years, Tuesdays 7.00-9.00pm.

For more information contact Gavin McGlashan gavin@mcglashan.co.nz phone: 939 3222



Brooklyn Garden Club

The Club meets at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday each month at the Brooklyn Resource Centre, 36 Jefferson St. Come and hear interesting and informative guest speakers, share gardening tips and plant cuttings, and enjoy the company of our small friendly group. New members and new ideas are always welcome. For further details contact Barbara on 389 4307.



Turbine Talkers Toastmasters Club

Turbine Talkers is the local chapter of Toastmasters International. We hold fortnightly meetings to teach and practice the skills of effective communication in a supportive learning environment. Turbine Talkers meets every 2nd Tuesday, at St Matthews Church on Washington Avenue. For further details. Ph. Caroline 971 8494



Brooklyn Brownies, Guides & Pippins

Brownies meet Monday evening during school terms, from 6.00-7.30pm, in the Brooklyn Community Centre, Harrison St. We welcome any girl between the

ages of 7-9 1/2 years of age to join Brownies for fun, friendship and other activities. Ph. Margaret 389 3028 for details.

Brooklyn Pippins meet Monday evening during term time 6-7pm at the Reformed Church, end of Harrison St. Contact Nicola Burdon: 971 1265

Brooklyn Guides meet Mondays 6.30-8pm at Reformed Church, Harrison St. Ph. Kathryn Marsh on 802 5049



Friends of Owhiro Stream

Drivers down Ohiro Road will have noticed the vast improvement over the past few years to the Owhiro Stream and its environs achieved by this local group. Work is ongoing and if you would like to find out more about it, call:

Paul – 389 8545 or Martin – 389 8995



Central Park Care Group

Our working bee is the last Sunday of the month from 10am to noon. Meet at the picnic table next to the big bridge, 2 mins from the main gate. Come along for great conversations, meet new people, fab morning tea provided and contribute to the care of Central Park! No formal meeting in January. Contact Debbie for informal times.

Email Debbie at debbie.vanh@yahoo.com



Brooklyn Local History Group

The next Brooklyn Local History Group meetings are at Brooklyn Library at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information contact Sharon Macintyre: 387-1487, email sharon.macintyre42@gmail.com

or Chris Rabey: 384 9293



Brooklyn Junior Cricket Club

Brooklyn Junior CC welcomes all junior cricketers for the current season. Contact Mark Jones Mark.Jones@FINNZ.com 027244 4325 or Matthew Roche matthew@zooter.co.nz 021463432



St John Youth Division and Penguin Programme

For 6-18 year olds, weekly sessions, some weekend camps, and fun activities provides a structured programme for attendees to develop life skills, self discipline. The Penguin Programme for 6-8 year olds meets at St Bernard's School, Taft St, Mondays 3:30-4:45pm. The Youth Division for 8-18 year olds meets at Brooklyn Community Centre, Tuesday 6:30-8:00pm. Contact Karen for Penguins on 389 4060 and Carol for Youth on 0274 321 204 www.stjohn.org.nz



Brooklyn Food Group

The Brooklyn Food Group have a passion for local food and community. We run workshops, shared gardens and a community orchard. Join us for a working bee amongst the fruit trees and wild flowers at the orchard any Monday night 5:00pm onwards at the end of Harrison Street. Everyone very welcome.

thebrooklynfoodgroup@gmail.com and www.facebook.com/BrooklynFoodGroupNZ

Goodness - March already - the year is well underway, and by the time you read this FOOS will already have held two working bees. Our working bees are held on the second Saturday of the month from 10.00-12.30; generally we are working in the area around the old Bagel factory, but if you were to drive down Owhiro Rd at 10.00 am you would see our flag somewhere along the way. We supply tools and gloves, so there is no excuse to not stop and join us for an hour or so! February's working bee was a very successful and visible effort, as we weeded and mulched planting along the road side of the stream. Alas, work in other areas requires a bit more effort, with less to show for it, at least from the point of view of the general public walking or driving past.

Nevertheless, working further in the 'interior' is very satisfying. A few weeks ago, the Wednesday workers, who are normally busy at the shade house in Vennell St, took themselves to a patch of planting further into the bush. This patch, a light well among the trees, had been cleared last year of mountains of

blackberry by a hard working group from the Mormon Helping Hands (thanks guys!) and had been optimistically planted rather late in the season with rata and other smaller things. Any of you who are gardeners will know that this has been a fantastic growing season, and the weeds were indeed fantastic, a waist high forest in fact. But underneath, our plants were well and healthy, and making good growth. More exciting still, a myriad of little seedlings was popping up - kawakawa and rangiora, taupata and karamu, mahoe, small leafed twiggy coprosmas, two sorts of ferns. It is very encouraging to know that given the chance, and a helping hand, the bush can regenerate itself; it is also a great incentive to keep going back, to keep an eye on the blackberry, convolvulus, scrambling dock and other nasties until the plants are big enough to provide enough shade to prevent weeds germinating.

If you want to find out more about us,
contact Martin ph. 389 8995
martin.p@clear.net.nz
or
Janet ph. 385 2077
bruce.janet.can@gmail.com

Janet Campbell
on behalf of Friends of Owhiro Stream

We are an Association representing all residents (owners and tenants who reside within our area) and try and be involved in matters impacting on locals around a range of issues. Following the heated discussions last year over the future of the Brooklyn Library, we have been informed by the Earthquake Resilience manager from WCC about what the council intend to do (strengthening work, disruption, etc.) and their timelines. We will keep you informed as matters progress as it is our intention to host a public meeting so the wider community can hear these plans directly.

We continue our work with Friends of Owhiro Stream in regards to the proposals and objections relating to expansion plans at all three landfills south of Brooklyn – the vast majority of the waste vehicles pass through Brooklyn village. To recap; Wellington City Council Southern Landfill proposed Stage 4 extension to the (the proposed extension seeks another 80 years or so of activity and fill and corresponding traffic volumes); the Burrell Landfill (otherwise known as C & D extension application). We have been working alongside Friends of Owhiro Stream (FOOS) on expansion plans for the T & T landfill. All have ecological, environmental and traffic flow implications that will directly impact our area and certainly rubbish / waste vehicles transiting through the Brooklyn Village lights pose traffic and pedestrian risks and hazards to the local community.

We watching with interest how the proposed changes to the Jefferson St / Cleveland St intersection, next to Khana Khazana takeaway. (due to concerns of

the proximity of the bus stop to the pedestrian crossing and potential risks to pedestrians and flow through traffic) work out. This is an important matter for Jefferson St residents.

We sadly note the demise to the Vogel-morn Bowling Club and wonder aloud what is to become of this facility and its use for the public – retained or potentially sold off by WCC?; Bus services - Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) ongoing proposed changes to the city and region wide bus services, timetables and reorganization of bus routes. We note this has now been postponed to 2015. Eventually, we look forward to the proposed local service expansion of the Kowhai Park / Panorama Heights full weekend bus service and how they join and meld together.

We have a good number of new members and local community groups who have connected through our new mailing list brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com, Facebook page www.facebook.com/brooklynresidentswellington, and Twitter profile [@Brooklyn_NZ](https://twitter.com/Brooklyn_NZ) or by post to PO Box 6332, Wellington. We welcome all Brooklyn residents to make contact and extend an invitation to our next meeting, which is on Wednesday 19 March at 7pm in the Brooklyn Resource Centre - 36 Jefferson Street.

Chair: Simon McLellan Ph. 972 5102
Secretary: Carl Savage
934 9348 or 027 2808934
Treasurer: Sam Donald 021
0231 3939

email: brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com




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Gwen Devereux Is 90 Years Young!

On 12 April 2014, long time Brooklyn resident and community stalwart, Gwen Devereux celebrates her 90th birthday. Gwen grew up in Island Bay, before shifting to Brooklyn in 1957 with her husband and young family. Gwen was elected on the committee of the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA) at their AGM in 1958. Gwen is now a life member of the BCA. From the outset, Gwen says that she wanted to be involved with her community, and the BCA was and is the perfect place for her to do that.

Gwen also has a long association with Brooklyn School, where she started working part time in the office a month before her youngest child Sue enrolled. Gwen worked for 20 years, including typing for the principal on an old Imperial typewriter. She remembers when the first electric typewriters were introduced and "what a luxury that was". As a school committee member and employee, Gwen vividly recalls when the original brick building was demolished and the fight to keep proposed new buildings from encroaching on much needed playground space, and the 1983 School Centennial celebrations.

Gwen was part of the steering committee, including Betty Armstrong, to raise money to establish the Brooklyn Playcentre which originally opened in a Cleveland Street church hall, (long since demolished) behind the site of the Fire Station. Eventually the play-centre moved to 22 Harrison Street

into the original Brooklyn Library building.

In the late 1960s a group of local mothers initiated one of the first afterschool care programmes in NZ. When it was no longer possible to get voluntary supervisors, the programme was inherited by the Brooklyn Community Centre with paid staff.

Gwen became involved when the programme moved to the Community Centre. Children were charged a shilling per day back then, and activities included week long camps and swimming in the pool at Brooklyn School, where the adventure playground is now located.

Gwen's long list of community involvement is far greater than space will allow for this article. Other notable projects include: being part of the committee to establish the annual Brooklyn Festival in Cleveland Street, organizing ANZAC Day community morning teas, editing the Brooklyn Tattler for 15 years, the Brooklyn Markets and much more. Gwen is still very much a community orientated person who keeps active.

Gwen says her long history of community involvement has given her lots of great friends and memories over the years.

An afternoon tea with family and friends is planned for Gwen at the Brooklyn Community Centre from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday 12 April. Refreshments provided – cake cutting at 3pm. This is an informal occasion to which anyone with an association to Gwen is welcome to drop by and say hello on her 90th birthday.

Self Defense is a State of Mind

Self Defense isn't just learning about defensive moves to save you when or if you are attacked, that is part of it, but there is much more to it than that. It is about a state of mind, where you have ownership of yourself and you take responsibility for your actions – good and bad, wise and foolish. This is how we learn! Without taking responsibility we blame others and we learn nothing.

Self Defense requires that you are grounded in the NOW. So that you are aware of what is going on around you so that you can react to it instantaneously.

In traditional karate training there is a lot of repetition. The reason for this is that we are programming the brain. Each time you learn a new movement and perform it a neuron fires across your brain creating a new pathway. The more you perform that same movement the stronger the pathway is, in your brain. The action becomes a reflex action by the body, more fluid. Eventually no conscious thought is involved - only action.

If you don't practise a martial art then I recommend you do start if you can fit it

in or attend a Self Defense course that will teach you some simple defensive moves, and about the places and situations you should avoid.

In April holidays Brooklyn Rembuden is running an evening Self Defense course (6 sessions). If you would like to know more contact Patricia on 3839371 or 0272976049 or email: preilly64@gmail.com.

Best Bumper Stickers

- My Mother Is a Travel Agent for Guilt Trips
- I used to be Schizophrenic, but we're OK now
- Coffee, Chocolate, Men; Some things are just better rich
- Gravity...It's Not Just a Good Idea. It's the Law
- If at First You Don't Succeed, Skydiving Isn't for You
- The trouble with the Gene Pool Is that there's no lifeguard
- Old Age Comes at a bad time
- I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.
- Madness takes its toll. Please have exact change.
- Out of my mind...Back in five minutes.



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Nicci Tong
Space Designer

Friday Help at Mainly Music

Mainly Music is a free music group for young children held at:

St Matthew's,

96 Washington Avenue

Friday mornings 9.30am to 10.00am followed by morning tea.

The group needs assistance with setting up, preparing and serving morning tea. If you live in the community and are able to spare ½ to 1 hour on any Friday morning during term time we would be most grateful.

Please contact

Phillip Bolton 389 9206 or

Karen Don 389 4060 for details.



Brooklyn Early Childhood Centre

Brings you Genevieve Simperingham of the Peaceful Parent Institute (NZ)

Fri 28 & Sat 29 March 2014

Friday Evening (7.30-9.30) or

Saturday Morning (10.30-12.30)

Venue: St Matthews Church,

96 Washington Avenue

Building self-confidence, self-esteem

- Alternatives to threats, punishment
- Coping with resistant, defiant, aggressive or hyperactive behaviour
- Managing relationships between siblings, peers

20 per person / \$30 per couple

Payment to Peaceful Parent Institute

Kiwibank: 38-9011-0805155-01

Please Include surname, phone number, AM or PM in reference fields.

Email info@peaceful-parent.com

Friends Of Central Park

FoCP was successful in applying to Transpower for funding to improve the site of the former paddling pool in Central Park, which was filled in and grassed over in the 1990s. The concept plan, which has had Wellington City Council go-ahead, provides an area of lawn at a raised height to improve drainage, and boardwalk access to the stream edge, with enough room (and seating) on the deck area for people to linger there. Construction is planned for mid-winter, in time for planting and re-grassing in early spring.

The Friends are pleased to see the Council has removed all the fallen trees from last year's storms that were blocking paths, plus some of the standing trees which were a risk from new wind loadings and a hazard to park users. The Council has also repaired the bridges alongside the stream so that all the paths are useable again.

Everyone is welcome to join in the working bees: coffee, tea and delicious snacks provided!

Friends of Central Park meet on the last Sunday of every month; join us from 10.00 – 12.00 at the overhead bridge up the main path from the main gates on Brooklyn Road.

For more information, contact Barbara at behardy@clear.net.nz or 384 5249 or

Debbie at debbie_vanh@yahoo.com



Councillors Corner

2014 has started at a cracking pace, with the Council facing major issues; many of which hinge on the spending of your money. Councillors must be vigilant about fiscal prudence.

The increase in the cost of re-strengthening the Town Hall (initially \$34m, then \$43m, now at least \$60m) means all options for the building's future need to be considered. It won't be an easy decision; its auditorium has glorious acoustics, and the building has great sentimental value to many Wellingtonians (including me).

I continue to oppose the Council's decision to implement the 'Living Wage' for its direct employees, without any consultation on the cost or implications if rolled out to CCOs.

On a more cheerful note, it's good news the Cuba Street Carnival will be re-instated next year. It was a true Wellington event that brought a great deal of colour to one of the city's most interesting areas. There's also progress on 'building identifiers'; some of you may remember I campaigned about the absence of street numbers on buildings. Frustrating when looking for an address and a real issue in Christchurch after the earthquakes. Almost 471 buildings in the CBD have been checked. 202 had either no number or an incorrect one! Council officers hope to complete surveying the CBD by the end of October.

Nicola Young

W: 801 5100; M: 021 654 844;

nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz;

Twitter: @nmjyoung

Facebook: NicolaYoungWellington.

I hope that you have had time to get to the beach and enjoy some of the many outdoor events that have been organised over the last few weeks. It is wonderful to yet again welcome the International Festival of the Arts to the city.

Transport issues are again on my mind. The hearing on the Basin Reserve flyover is in full swing. I am proud of the community who have put up a strong case against the much better resourced NZ Transport Agency.

As part of this hearing, it has become clear that public transport patronage will decrease as a result of all the big roads that NZTA are building. We have been promised better public transport but the option that is being promoted has serious limitations. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is the option is being put forward encourage more people onto buses. I have some significant questions around the safety and capacity of BRT. Modest increases in patronage do not seem to justify the spend of millions of dollars of public money and bigger buses in Wellington's narrow and hilly streets make me a little nervous!

The higher fares that GW have just introduced are also not helpful. It is time for a fundamental rethink on transport. Let's hope that this rethink can start with debate on what sort of public transport system we want in Wellington.

Iona Pannett - Lambton Ward
384 3382 M:021 227 8509

Toastmasters

For many, the idea of giving a talk to a public group can be extremely daunting. The nerves and anxiety can overwhelm. Yet public speaking is a skill many people need at some point of their lives.

Where do you go if you want to learn to speak in public? Toastmasters! Toastmasters is a non-profit educational based organisation which helps over a quarter of a million members worldwide to overcome their fear of speaking in public.

Turbine Talkers is a friendly and enthusiastic group, from all walks of life, helping each other to become better speakers. We meet fortnightly on Tuesdays at St Mathews Church from 7.30 - 9.30pm.

We welcome anyone who wants to come as a guest to see how the Toastmasters experience works. At our meetings you will see how members gain confidence through standing up, giving talks and telling a story to an audience. Each talk gives members the chance to build skills such as voice usage, body language and speech structure. And importantly, each speaking opportunity empowers members to tame their nerves of being in front of a supportive audience.

So don't put off public speaking, take up the challenge to become a more confident person through becoming a Toastmaster.

If you want to know more about Toastmasters get in touch with Malin 384 1398 or Robin 382 9965. Or come along to our next meeting at 96 Washington Avenue on 25th March.

Mayoral Musings

The Council is trialling a Housing Warrant of Fitness (WoF). This aims to improve access to healthy, warm homes critical to Wellington's physical and economic health. We are making real progress with this project and recently completed a trial in 30 homes in Wellington.

Advancing the Housing WoF will help us protect vulnerable people in Wellington and support property owners.

With the days getting shorter it is a great time to think about how you can make your home warmer and more energy efficient. The Council offers free Home Energy Saver Assessments. Assessors look at everything from heating and lighting to water use, offer simple tips and provide you with a detailed action plan tailored to your needs and budget.

To book your assessment and learn more check out the website www.homeanddry.co.nz.

The Sustainability Trust is still offering subsidised insulation. Find out if you are eligible by visiting their website sustaintrust.org.nz/smarthomes/insulation or calling 0508 787824.

Celia Wade-Brown
Mayor



A BIG thanks to John Heighes who has ably sent in Lines from the Library for our reading pleasure. John is handing over the reins for a well earned rest. Ed

Farewell to Reverend Robert McLay

St Matthew's Church farewelled Rev Robert McLay on Sunday 23rd February at the morning service followed by lunch. Robert has been with us for approximately ten years and during this time he has continued our close association with St Bernard's Catholic Church; he has taken services on a regular basis at the Irwell Rest home; he has visited the Brooklyn Resource Centre and has been very caring in his ministry to the sick and needy in our parish. He was appointed Archdeacon of Wellington in 2007 and Vicar General (2ic to the Bishop) in 2010. On the retirement of Bishop Tom Brown he continued in this role for the first year following the appointment of Bishop Justin Duckworth.

About four and a half years ago he brought *Mainly Music* to Brooklyn. This is for mothers and care-givers of young children where they meet on a Friday morning for half an hour of music followed by morning tea. This has been a very popular gathering and our Church lounge is often 'bursting' with young mothers, care-givers and children and also the leaders and helpers!!

Reverend McLay is retiring and moving to Wanganui. A large congregation gathered, including representatives of our partner churches (Methodist, Presbyterian and the Wellington Regional Forum) to wish both him and his wife Liz all the very best for their future.

Reverend Annette Cater has been

appointed interim Priest-in-Charge and will be taking up her duties in March 2014. One of her first duties was the Ash Wednesday Service on the 5th March.

St Matthew's always welcomes visitors and new members to join our congregation.

Maureen Cooper – Vicar's Warden
Ross Young – People's Warden



Calling Potential Keas and Cubs

Swimming badges, fishing trips and visiting the fire station are just some of the activities Brooklyn Keas and Cubs have been working on recently. Scouts and Venturers have picked up on the watery theme too with a sand yachting camp and a beach bonfire. The group has also been actively recruiting new members. With a steady influx of 10.5 – 14 year olds, the Scouts troop is almost at maximum numbers. Spaces for boys and girls keen to try activities and learn new skills are still available in Keas (5.5 – 8 years) and Cubs (8 – 10 years).

Group Leader Gavin McGlashan says more Scout spaces could open up if new leaders can be found. Gavin says potential Keas and Cubs are welcome at any time to try out a meeting and see if it's for them. Activity plans for groups can be found at www.brooklynscouts.org.nz or call Gavin on 934 5442.

At The Movies

Le Weekend



A married couple in their twilight years revisit Paris to revitalise their marriage, and run into an old friend who acts as a catalyst for things to come.

Starring Jim Broadbent, Lindsay Duncan, Olly Alexander, Jeff Goldblum, Roger Michell
M Offensive language, sexual references & drug use
1hr 40mins duration

3 Mile Limit



It's 1965 and rock music is shaking up the world but not on New Zealand radio. Richard Davis, a 23 year old journalist, is determined to break the governments monopoly on broadcasting and bring rock n' roll to a younger generation as well as hold onto the woman he loves. Based on an incredible true story this epic David and Goliath struggle defined a country.

Starring Bruce Hopkins, David Aston, Matt Whelan
M Offensive language & drug use
1hr 40mins duration

Got a Photo?

Had an event in Brooklyn? Want to shout about it? If you took a photo or two send them to me and I will see if I have room to print in the Tattler. Kt@danzat.co.nz

Brooklyn Library

At Christmas, avid readers had the chance to be read to at the Brooklyn Library.



Doggy Dos and Don'ts

Some lovely caring doggy owner took picking up poo to a new level. Take it off the track and leave it in a lovely blue bag basking in the sun by a sign-post. At least here, it won't get stuck in anyone's shoes or tyres. I'm going to assume that they forgot to collect it on their return journey.



Back Then

When at a store checkout the young cashier suggested to the older woman that she should bring her own shopping bags in future because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologised and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days."

The cashier responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

She was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day. Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the shop. The shop sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got blunt. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every shop and office building. We walked to the shop and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two streets. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 2200watts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right. We didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV or radio in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the

TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of the county of Yorkshire. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the post, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not polystyrene or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn.. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right. We didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank water from a fountain or a tap when we were thirsty instead of demanding a plastic bottle from another country. We accepted that a lot of food was seasonal and didn't expect to have out of season products flown 1000s of miles from around the world. We cooked food that didn't come out of a packet, tin or plastic wrapping. We could even wash our own vegetables and chop our own salad. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people caught a train or a bus, and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mothers into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical socket in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerised gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza place.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we oldies were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Please forward this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a smart-ass young person.