



Brooklyn
Community
Centre

FEBRUARY 2026 383

BROOKLYN TATTLER

what's happening in your community



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This month's cover photo features children from the Brooklyn January Holiday Programme box sliding down the hill on a day trip to Hataitai Park.

Photo credit: Euan Harris

March 2026 copy due no later than 5pm Tuesday 24 February.

Email your contribution to tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

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from the COMMUNITY CENTRE

**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE
PHONE 384 6799**

Kia ora, Hello and welcome to the February Brooklyn Tattler, our first issue for 2026. We hope you had a relaxing start to the New Year. It's hard to believe that the first month has gone by already. The Community Centre has been busy during January with our popular summer school holiday programme. Congratulations to Adam, Joolz and the childcare staff who put on another fortnight of fun activities. All our regular groups are back for the start of the school term, including a couple of new classes beginning this month.

Yoga on Saturday mornings

Maria Bergvall is running weekly Saturday morning yoga classes in the hall from 10:30am to 11:45am. Maria has been teaching yoga and breathwork for over 14 years and has a strong focus on making her classes accessible for people of all ages and abilities. Payment by koha. BYO yoga mat. Contact Maria for more details on 020 477 5190.

Mother's Network Meetings

Supporting the woman behind the mother. Facilitated group sessions offering a safe space for woman to share the realities of motherhood with other mums. Starting on 25 February and running over six Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm. For more information and to register go to: www.mothersnetwork.org.nz or email hello@mothersnetwork.org.nz

Brooklyn Community Markets

We are holding three of our popular markets this year, starting with the first on Saturday 21 March from 12pm to 4pm. Neighbours Aotearoa takes place in March and the Brooklyn Market is a great opportunity to come and connect with your neighbours and local residents while browsing through our market stalls and sampling the delicious food on offer provided by Niels of Crafty Pies from our kitchen. Stallholder enquiries are welcome. Please email us at market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

ANZAC Day in Brooklyn

Planning is already underway for the 2026 Brooklyn ANZAC Day commemoration service. This year, the 25 April is on a Saturday, so Monday will be a holiday. Our service is held in the Brooklyn School grounds from 10:30am followed by morning tea at the Community Centre. Organiser Phillip Bolton is after volunteers who can help in a variety of roles, so please get in touch via email finance@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Bob Bevan-Smith

Long time local resident Bob Bevan-Smith passed away peacefully on 18 December. Bob was a well-liked member of our Friday Circle Seniors Group and the Wellington Community Choir, and a past member of the Brooklyn Scout Group. We remember Bob fondly as a kind caring person with a beautiful singing voice who would occasionally treat us to one of his songs. Bob's well attended memorial service was held at the Wesley Methodist Church on 12

January and was a great opportunity to celebrate his life and say farewell.

The March Tattler

Next month's Tattler is the first of our two home delivered issues for the year. Over 4000 copies will be delivered to homes throughout Brooklyn, Kowhai Park, Panorama Heights, Mornington, Vogeltown and Kingston by the Brooklyn Scout Group. This is a great opportunity to advertise your group or service to a wider audience. We are always after reader contributions and welcome any local photos and stories. This month we have an article written by Kevin O'Donnell from Brooklyn Trail Builders on a local kiwi sighting in the Waimapihi (formerly Polhill) Reserve which you can read about on page 7.

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Main Office: 04 384 6799

Childcare Office: 04 385 0089

from the LIBRARY

Happy New Year Brooklyn!

Already it's starting to feel like we're well into 2026. We're getting excited about the opening of Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui on Saturday 14 March. Bruce is so excited he's off to join them! You may find him amongst the stacks and shelves downtown soon.

Meanwhile, up the hill in Brooklyn we're offering a new timeslot for Baby Rock and Rhyme this year. Weekly sessions start on Thursday 12 February at 11.30am. We hope this time suits more of you so please bring your little ones and join in the rocking the rhyming.

Well done to all who partook in the Summer Reading Adventure. It's been great reading weather! We noticed a many of you read a lot, put in reviews, and scored some pretty good prizes from our prize matrix.

In other significant library news this month, Te Awe Library and Service Desk, the last

Kōtare Gardening

Lawn mowing

Garden maintenance

Sections cleared or tidied

Hedges trimmed

Weeding



For a free quote call Michael on
0274172733 or email

michaelmckenzie1971@gmail.com

Brooklyn and surrounding suburbs

of our interim libraries, is preparing to close. Its opening hours will change, and some collections, equipment and furniture will move to Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui.

Key dates and changes:

- **From 2 Feb:** Weekday opening hours will be 9am–7pm, Monday to Friday, weekend hours remain the same, 9.30am–5pm.
- **On 9 Feb:** Te Awe will be closed for the day to facilitate movement of some library collections, equipment, and furniture.
- **From 10 Feb:** The mezzanine floor will be closed to the public. Reduced services and collections
- **27 Feb:** last day for Service Desk transactions, so please plan ahead if you prefer in-person services.
- **1 March:** Te Awe closes permanently at 5pm.
- **14 March:** Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui Central Library reopens.
- **16 March:** the Service Desk reopens

Visit www.wcl.govt.nz/news for more details of what the Te Awe closure may mean for you.

**THE
VOGELMORN
FOUNDATION**

Visit us at
www.tvf.org.nz

The Vogelmorn Foundation has commenced distributing funds to local organisations and individuals.

For more information or to apply for funding please visit our website. Applications MUST be made online.

PO Box 14-330, Kilbirnie
Wellington, 6022
admin@tvf.org.nz

BROOKLYN'S HAVEN FOR HOMELESS CATS

Charismatic ex-stray Stripes can't get enough of the comfy sofas in the Cats Protection Wellington shelter, and he just loves having regular meals.

CPW cares for cats who have either suddenly lost the homes they knew or been rescued from the streets. We have a comfortable, purpose-built house in Kingston, with cages for each cat or bonded pair, and large communal spaces for them to explore and play in during the day.

We have two large sunny decks, and beds, catwalks, hidey-holes, toys and sofas for them to enjoy. We have isolation facilities, as well as individual rooms with balconies for cats who need to be alone.



It's really important to us that cats are matched with the right people, and we love seeing them go to awesome homes.

CPW has well-qualified staff, who lead dedicated teams of volunteers from the local community. They make sure the shelter's clean and bright, and the cats are loved and reassured until their new person or family walks through the front door.

Visit our website here: catsprotectionwellington.org.nz, and follow us on social – we have clips, pictures and stories on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.



PENTHOUSE CINEMA & CAFE

Back to the Roots. Built for the Community.

Penthouse Cinema & Cafe has been part of Brooklyn for generations. This year, we're investing not just in how our cinema looks, but in how it serves the community – with more local events, partnerships, and accessible pricing for our neighbours.

RESTORED, REFRESHED, AND STILL PROUDLY INDEPENDENT.

In 2026, we're restoring the cinema's façade to its original 1982 look – the design that shaped the Penthouse many locals remember today. The decision reflects a desire to reconnect with the cinema's character and sense of optimism from that time.

2026 – THE YEAR OF THE DEALS

\$12 COMMUNITY TICKETS
Available in-store for Brooklyn residents. Simply show proof of address at the box office.

BECAUSE GREAT CINEMA SHOULD BE CLOSE TO HOME

MONDAY STUDENT NIGHT
\$13 For All Students Every Monday from 4 PM.

CHEAP TUESDAY
\$12 Tickets All Day Every Tuesday.

After a challenging few years for cinemas, this refresh is about honouring the past while looking ahead – and celebrating the joy of getting out to the movies again.

Big thanks to Jacqui Tutt for helping us revisit the original Penthouse colours from the 1980s.

Drop by, see the change, and be part of the next chapter. We'd love to know your thoughts.



brooklynresourcecentre@gmail.com

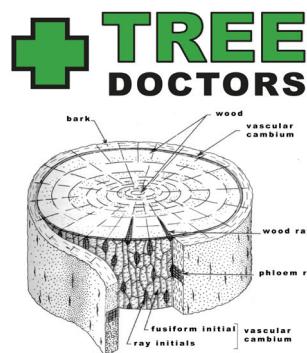
Established at the end of 2020, The BRC Charitable Trust holds two funding cycles at the same time every year. The first in March, and the second in September, to coincide with the delivery of the Brooklyn Tattler to all households.

Opening Date for Applications	Closing Date for Applications	Trust Board Meets
1 March	31 March	April
1 September	30 September	October

Last year The BRC Charitable Trust distributed grants to several local primary schools, Community Centres, Brooklyn Toy Library, environmental groups and various sports clubs based in the greater Brooklyn area. Any not-for-profit community organisation, group or incorporated charity that provides an activity, programme or service for the benefit of people in the wider Brooklyn area can apply (with a maximum funding of \$5000 for each project). Over the past 5 years The BRC Charitable Trust has distributed grants totaling almost \$175,000 in the local community.

If your group or organisation has a project or activity in mind, now is the time to plan and organise quotes before applications open at the beginning of March. Details on how to apply for a grant from The BRC Charitable Trust will be published in next month's Tattler.

The BRC Charitable Trust



LIVING PLANET
021 064 2306 04 971 8583
Hugh Underhill
livingplanet.co.nz

BROOKLYN
Brooklyn Community Centre
25 Feb - 1 April (Wednesdays)
⌚ 7.30 - 9.30
✉ mothersnetwork.org.nz
✉ hello@mothersnetwork.org.nz



Supporting the woman behind the mother

Facilitated group discussions

- Guiding you through the challenges and changes of motherhood
- Connecting you to other women & building your sense of wellbeing
- Giving you time to reflect, grow, and make meaningful change



Sharing the realities of motherhood with other mums



Caregiving for your babies & toddlers



6

Six weeks

KIWI SIGHTING IN WAIMAPIHI RESERVE

Brooklyn Trail Builders (BTB), a volunteer group who have built and maintained the trail network in Waimapihi want to share the exciting news that a Kiwi has been seen in the area.

On the weekend of 17-18 January, during the day, a local Brooklyn family were stunned to see a Kiwi cross the Highbury Fling trail they were walking on.

We knew Kiwi would eventually arrive from the Capital Kiwi Project release point to the west, and we're reaching out to all Waimapihi Reserve users to give them the best chance of surviving here.

For more than 15 years (started building the Transient trail in 2010), BTB has worked hard to help build a community in the green spaces we use and share together. Then in 2013, a second local group - Ngā Kaimanaaki o Te Waimapihi, banded together with BTB to protect wildlife coming over the fence from Zealandia. A tieke pair (saddlebacks) successfully nested in a mahoe trunk on Clinical trail. The group began trapping along the mountain bike trails and have done so ever since. Both groups work together - under the mantra of trails, traps and trees.

We want mountain bikers to be courteous and control speed on shared trails and for dog walkers to have their dogs on leads. Now, more than ever, we

need to reinforce this message.

With the Kiwi sighting, the Wellington City Council dog control team will increase their patrols in Waimapihi. It's an instant \$300 fine if your dog is off lead, no matter how close it is to its owner. And we're asking for your help if you're happy to do so. Here's how you can help:

Whether you're a dog walker or not, say "hi" to the dog walkers who have their dog on a lead, thank them for doing so, and let them know about the recent Kiwi sighting. You, and they, can then pass on the message about the Kiwi to any dog owners who do not have their dog on a lead.

It's not an easy conversation to ask a dog walker to put their dog on a lead. You can say that you're asking on behalf of Brooklyn Trail Builders, Ngā Kaimanaaki o Te Waimapihi - the wider community who use Waimapihi, and the kiwi who've chosen to make this bush their home.

Adult Kiwi are predominantly killed by cars and dogs, and there's no telling how a dog will react to the first time it smells or sees a Kiwi. Apparently, Kiwi have a strong musty smell which is intensely interesting to dogs.

Even if a dog has had Kiwi aversion training, they still need to be on a lead, to control the interaction with other dogs and people (especially children). Thanks in advance for your understanding and cooperation on this and fingers crossed for many more Kiwi sightings in the neighbourhood!



Kevin O'Donnell



brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/brooklynresidentswellington

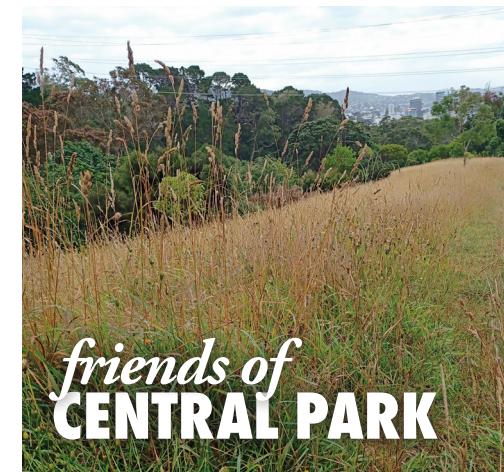
Monthly update on issues
and projects involving our
community

NEXT MEETING – We invite you to our first meeting of 2026 on Wednesday 18 February at 7pm

Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street - Come and have your say and look at contributing

Residents Association Constitution	With changes to the Incorporated Societies Act, GBRAI has been obliged to change its Constitution to stay on the correct side of the Act and MBIE. GBRAI extends thanks to Pravin and the Constitution working group for the hard work rewriting large parts of the Constitution. A special thanks to those who came to the Special General Meeting (held on 19 November) to review, ratify and pass the changes. We really appreciate your efforts.
Kingston concerns	The GBRAI welcome Ailsa as our new representative for the Kingston area. We have now identified several matters relating to council owned road reserve and berms to address. As well as seeking clarity about potential security/lighting upgrades around the toilet block by the shops. Any further suggestions to improve the area are sought and we will try our best to advocate for them with council.
Tand T Landfill and vehicle reversing beepers	Residents of Kowhai Park and Panorama Heights will be familiar with the noise from the landfill vehicles working at the TandT landfill site. As the landfill has expanded – up the valley and in height – the noise has become much more noticeable. WCC have monitored the noise, found them in breach of their consent and issued a compliance notice. They are seeking the tonal alarms/beepers being removed and replaced with other alternative technology and equipment. Latest information (January 2026) appears to indicate some equipment have changed their reversing sirens. Contractors' trucks, however, which are not owned or operated by T & T are proving more of a challenge to deal with
Battery recycling	RECYCLED OVER HALF A TONNE!!! GBRAI initiated our own local Brooklyn battery collection project, in conjunction with the BCA. Since October 2022 to the MID January 2026, GBRAI have collected & recycled: 513 kg of all various battery types. The most numerous are: 1) 267 kg of AA batteries; 2) 78 kg of AAA batteries; 3) 32 kg of C batteries; 4) 39kg of D batteries and balance made up of 6V, 9V, 12V, 18V, button batteries and computer batteries.
The Association in 2026 onwards	Having had a good break over Christmas and New Year we are launching into the new year. As always, we're looking for new concerned citizens and volunteers to join, assist and advocate for the community
Bus services	Sigh. We still seem to have "ghost buses", especially on the Route 17 (Kowhai Park service). We will follow up with TranzUrban to get clarity.

Email us your ideas, queries or concerns, please contact us at:
brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com - www.facebook.com/brooklynresidentswellington



However, the park has its share of mysteries right now. The mystery of the phantom tree chopper has not been solved. And more recently, someone has been leaving a trail of carrots along some of the paths. Apparently, this is not the first time.

What is not mysterious is that the baking and coffee at morning tea are still great! If you'd like to help out, see the details below for our next working bee. Bring your own gloves if you have them, and a mug.

Next working bee: Sunday 22 February, 10.00 am – 12.30 pm.

Check <https://www.meetup.com/upstream/> for confirmation.

Contact Lynne at all.whites@xtra.co.nz

Katie Underwood

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what's on at your BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

18 Harrison Street

WEEKDAYS

BEFORE SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL
HOLIDAY
CHILD CARE
PROGRAMMES

9 AM PILATES

10:30 - 11:30 AM FELDENKRAIS

6 - 7:30 PM BROWNIES

**9 AM - 12 PM TABLE
TENNIS**

**9 - 10:30 AM EARLY
CHILDHOOD
MUSIC**

**6 - 8:30 PM ST JOHN
YOUTH**

10 - 11 AM FELDENKRAIS

4:30 - 6 PM KARATE

6:15 - 7:15 PM ZUMBA

Contact Adam Hendry, Childcare Programme Manager.
Phone 385 0089 or email childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz.

Contact Faye Tohbyn on 022 054 2369 or fayetohbyn@gmail.com

Improve your movement, posture & breathing. Contact Toni McWhinnie on 021 1782056 or email temcwhinnie@gmail.com

Contact Margaret 389 3028
or email marrexj@gmail.com

Open to all ages and ability. Tables, bats and balls provided. Contact Philip on 021 230 4083 or email: codwgpdl@gmail.com

For Tamariki aged 0 - 3 and their whanau. Contact Ahna Jensen on 027 775 8534 or email: ahnasmusicstudio@outlook.com

Penguins: 6 - 7pm. Cadets: 7 - 8:30pm.
Contact Ross Young on 021 264 0440 or email ross.young@stjohn.org.nz

Contact Toni McWhinnie on 021 1782056 or email temcwhinnie@gmail.com

Grasshopper Karate to Advanced Karate classes. Book your free trial class. Contact Sensei Patricia at www.familyfitkarate.co.nz contact or 027 297 6049.

Zumba is a dance fitness class set to Latin and World rhythms - it's exercise in disguise! Contact Angelica on 027 267 0999 or email zumba@angelicawoolley.com

WEDNESDAY

**8 PM TABLE
TENNIS**

Inquiries Philip on 021 230 4083
or email: codwgpdl@gmail.com

THURSDAY

**10 AM - 12 PM CRAFT
CONNECTIONS**

5 - 6:30 PM KARATE

6:30 - 7:30 PM TAI CHI

**6:40 - 7:10 PM CARDIO &
CORE**

FRIDAY

9 AM PILATES

**11 AM - 2 PM FRIDAY
CIRCLE**

SATURDAY

10:30 - 11:45 AM YOGA

SUNDAY

**9:15 AM BROOKLYN
ANGLICANS**

**10:30 AM EKKAILAM
CHURCH**

3:45 - 6 PM KARATE

Fortnightly crafters social group. Contact Louise email: louisebrockway.nz@gmail.com

Beginners' to Advanced Karate classes.
Contact Sensei Patricia at www.familyfitkarate.co.nz/contact or 027 297 6049.

Contact Ferne on 389 1433 or email: ferne.david@xtra.co.nz

A half hour strength workout for busy people like you! Contact Patricia on 027 297 6049.

Contact Faye Tohbyn on 022 054 2369 or email: fayetohbyn@gmail.com

Seniors Social Group, meets weekly for light lunch and activities. Contact Euan Harris, details at bottom of page

Koha Yoga classes with Maria Bergvall. People of all ages and abilities welcome. BYO yoga mat. Contact Maria for more information on 020 477 5190.

Our one hour service starts in the hall at 9:30am. Contact Rev. Scottie Reeve at scottie.reeve@gmail.com View online www.brooklynanglicans.nz

Tamil Christian worship and service. Contact Robert tec.wgtn@gmail.com or 027 858 9916

Grasshopper Karate to Advanced Karate classes. Contact Sensei Patricia at www.familyfitkarate.co.nz/contact or 027 297 6049.

To book Brooklyn Community Centre for classes, groups or events contact Euan Harris on 384 6799 or coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz



BNUJFC REGISTRATION

Registration opens soon, on Sunday 15 February!

Brooklyn Northern United Junior Football Club (BNUJFC) is a fantastic club for your child to start or continue their football journey. We are affiliated with Capital Football and provide playing opportunities for kids aged 5-14 years old.



vogelmornbc@gmail.com
www.vogelmorn.nz
 Facebook: Friends of Vogelmorn
 Instagram: @vogelmorn
 93 Mornington Rd, Brooklyn, Wellington, 6021

Welcome to your community backyard and lounge!

This space shape-shifts. Yoga studio, live music venue, dojo, book club, coworking office, café, restaurant, party spot—you name it. Come through and see what it turns into next.

Check out what's on at www.vogelmorn.nz and read about our February events opposite.

If you'd like to learn more about us, please check out: <https://www.bnufc.co.nz/home> and look out for upcoming details on our Open Day at Vogelmorn Precinct, 93 Mornington Road on Sunday 8th March from 1-4pm.

Thursday 5 Feb

- Songs at Vogelmorn with Ali Whitton, Bill Hickman, and Geoff Kunac Vogelmorn Upstairs | 7:30pm - 10:00pm An evening of warm, introspective folk and raw storytelling—gutsy, heartfelt songs rooted in place, resilience, and emotional honesty.

Friday 13 February

- Martin Sagadin - Martin iz Zgornje Bele - Album Release Vogelmorn Hall | 6:00pm - 9:30pm Join us for the release of Martin Sagadin's debut album Martin iz Zgornje Bele - sung entirely in their first language of Slovenian.

Saturday 14 Feb

- Issey Jean - Album Release Tour Vogelmorn Upstairs | 7:00pm - 10:00pm Issey Jean is a Berlin-based singer-songwriter from Pōneke returning home to launch her debut album Daisy Fever—a heartfelt, homegrown collection of powerful, moody songs brought to life with a commanding live band.

A TYPICAL LARGE HOUSE IN THE 1920s

In the 1920's, a big two-storied house was quite spacious. Downstairs there were three large rooms. The two at the front had fireplaces back-to-back – these were the Drawing Room and the Dining Room. At one end of the drawing room would be a large oak roll-to desk where the father of the family kept all his personal and house-related papers, and where he wrote letters.

Also downstairs at the back of the house was the Breakfast Room. It had an extended dining table with all 3 leaves, which folded downwards. This was always a sunny, comfortable room with a coal range. All downstairs rooms were connected to a wide entrance hall and the stairway. The remaining area downstairs was the kitchenette and behind it the washhouse. The kettle was boiled on the coal range to wash the dishes.

The kitchenette was a long, narrow room with a door into it from the breakfast room. Inside was a scrubbed wooden bench with a white

enamel sink in the middle. Beside it was a gas stove and to the right of the bench was another door. This opened to a very small back porch, with 3 more doors off it- one to the toilet, one into the washhouse with the copper which was back-to-back with the coal range and shared its chimney. The third door opened to the backyard, with lawn and garden. Back in the kitchenette, there was a small table which was used on Tuesdays for ironing and Friday for mixing cakes and biscuits. The pantry was underneath the stairs.

All the bedrooms were upstairs, each with their own fireplace. One room was very small, this would be the 'maid's room', if a large family wished to employ one. There was a second bathroom and toilet as well. A gas califont was positioned at the end of the bath, which meant the mother didn't have to stoke a fire prior to a bath. All the rooms were heavily furnished with large drapes over the windows, and big spacious beds.

Chris Rabey

Need before school care for your child/ren?
 Come join us at our OSCAR accredited
 Before School Care programme at
 Brooklyn Community Centre

Mondays – Fridays from 7.30am.
 Daily/weekly/casual rates available

Drop off to Brooklyn School
 To find out more contact Adam at:
childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Brooklyn Community Centre

A. 18 Harrison Street, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021, New Zealand
 P. 04 384 6799
 E. childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz
 W. brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz



has interviewed some of the DIRT team and is doing incredibly interesting work around what shapes the way people are 'prepping' in different ways for challenging future scenarios and how that in turn influences how they relate to the present. This is very relevant to our group as we work on preparedness and resilience with a community focus.

It can be difficult to think about disasters and how they can affect us - but the evidence overwhelmingly says that getting together to talk, learn, share and take action is a great thing to do. We'd love to see you at a future DIRT event.

DIRT #16 is Sunday 22nd February, 4:00–6:00pm at VBC, 93 Mornington Road.

DIRT

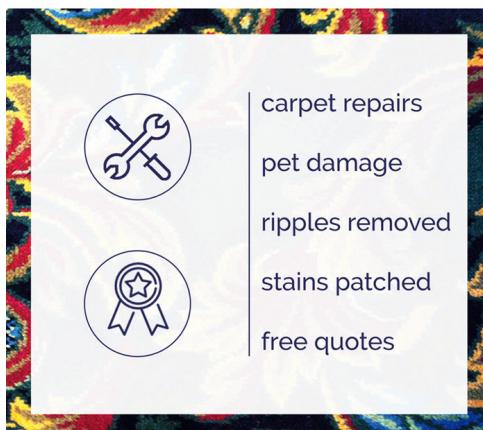
DIRT (Disaster Innovation Research and Teaching) is your community resilience initiative, based at Vogelmorn (93 Mornington Road). We meet monthly to get our neighbourhood better prepared for a significant earthquake, extreme weather, or other disaster scenario.

We have a great group regularly getting together to build skills, knowledge and connections and now a container that is being stocked with resources to deploy when needed. Huge thanks go out to everyone who's supporting this work.

Our February event has Eleanor Pollard talking about the thesis she's doing at Victoria University of Wellington on exploring prepping practices in Aotearoa. Eleanor is a Brooklyn local,

CARPETECH

CARPET MAINTENANCE



BROOKLYN
(04) 385 4085 carpetech@me.com
021 434 232 www.carpetech.co.nz



The top photo is of the Brooklyn Galleria on the corner of Todman Street and Ohiro Road. Run by long-time owner Alida Miculetich, the Galleria sold antiques and collectibles for many years. Two Todman was established there in 2020 as a neighbourhood community space by the Brooklyn Anglicans.

Brooklyn Galleria photo credit: Warren Bass c2017

SAVOURY MUFFINS FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES

Version 1 – with wheat. Makes 12.

A classic savoury muffin recipe – great as is or add your own ingredients to give it some of your personality.

- 1.5 cups self-rising flour (or regular flour and one teaspoon of baking powder)
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 cup milk
- 1 whole egg
- 200 grams cheese (a little less is ok – you can alter this to a cheddar/blue cheese mix, or fresh parmesan is also recommended).
- Savoury fillings: caramelised onions, chopped up cooked chorizo, spinach, roasted red pepper, roasted pumpkin/kumara, feta cubes. You can add almost anything you like.

Mix the dry ingredients, cheese and savoury fillings. Mix carefully to avoid mashing all the ingredients together. You can add a pinch of paprika or black pepper to the mix to taste. Mix the wet ingredients well. Mix wet and dry ingredients together. Don't over mix, it should be a stiff mixture.

Spoon into greased muffin tin, garnishing the top. A slice of tomato and some grated cheese works well, as do pumpkin seeds. Cook at 190C for 20 minutes or until muffin coloured.

Variation: These are a great texture as is. Or you can add other savoury goodies like bacon, salami, mushrooms, or those in the first recipe. If you add extras, you'll have more like 12 muffins.

Variation 2 * - you can substitute other GF flours such as rice or tapioca starch, but they are not as absorbent as coconut flour, so you may need extra, maybe up to double

Recipes by the Brooklyn Wellness Hub. See our blog at www.brooklynwellness.nz for more lunch box ideas and tips for good eating on a budget.

Version 2 – gluten free, starch free. Makes 9-10

- 1 cup ground almonds
- 4 tablespoons coconut flour *
- a sprinkling of herbs of your choice (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 3 eggs
- 50gm (2 oz) melted butter or ghee
- 1/2 cup plain yoghurt
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 1/2 cups grated tasty cheddar cheese (or substitute up to half with diced feta)

Mix the dry ingredients together and stir in the grated cheese. Beat together the wet ingredients and stir into the dry ingredients. Leave to thicken slightly (as the coconut flour absorbs the liquids) while you grease your muffin trays (or use individual silicon cups inside the muffin trays). Three quarter fill the muffin pans. Bake at about 175C for about 20 mins.



CREATIVE JOURNEYS START AT INVERLOCHY

Celebrated chef returns to childhood art school for collaborative event - Taste & Create.

Two of Wellington's most cherished creative establishments, Inverlochy Art School and Maxine Schecter's Sugar Flour, have teamed up to create an event offering something different this Valentine's Day. Couples - whether they be of the romantic or platonic kind - are invited to attend an art workshop of their choice where they will be served a selection of Maxine's handcrafted pastries.

Maxine, a now celebrated pastry chef, spent much of her childhood attending art classes at Inverlochy - only stopping once she began working at Logan Brown. Memories of the school have inspired previous creations of hers; such as her tart-on-the-outside, silky-smooth & sweet on the inside boysenberry cream doughnut coated in sour lemon sugar. This was inspired by the infamous Inverlochy ghost. Since leaving Inverlochy, her creative journey has seen her working in top restaurants in Wellington and abroad, opening the pastry cooking school Sugar Flour in Newlands, and recently publishing her first book *Patisserie Made Simple: The Art of Petits Gateau*.

In planning the event, the Inverlochy team said that they looked to approach Valentine's Day traditions in a fun way and have created workshops that cover a variety of media and are suitable for all ranges of experience. Ceramics participants will be invited to make 'cuddle cups' - mugs resembling fleshy torsos. In Caricature Drawing, couples will draw playful versions of one another

under the guidance of veteran cartoonist and animator Ross Payne. Other workshops; printmaking and drawing with pastels, likewise give the opportunity to learn from Inverlochy's skilled tutors while enjoying the ambience of the intriguing historic manor that the school has long operated out of. In true reflection of our food loving Creative Capital, courses have been booking up quickly!

The team is very closed-lipped about the exact pastries that will be served for this event, but did relinquish that they will all be incredibly seasonal and fruit focused. A quick look on the sugar.flour.welly instagram account makes evident that participants should prepare to be inspired. There is an undeniable level of artistry involved in all of Maxine's creations, which come in exquisite colours and arrangements as well as flavour profiles. This is perhaps why teaming up with a beloved art school from her past has created such an exciting opportunity to continue her creative journey as well as inspiring others to take a new step forward in theirs.

Taste & Create: A Painting with Sugar Valentine's Affair is on Saturday 14 February from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Tickets are for sale at the Inverlochy Art School website.

Connah Podmore



**BROOKLYN BROWNIES,
GUIDES AND PIPPINS**

Pippins (5-7 years) brooklynpippins@outlook.com Brownies (7-9.5 years) brooklyn.brownies@gmail.com Guides (9-12.5 years) brooklynguides@gmail.com or visit <https://girlguidingnz.org.nz/>

BROOKLYN FOOD GROUP

Local food and community. Working bees held weekly on Monday evenings from 5:30pm to sunset at the Brooklyn Orchard on Harrison Street. thebrooklynfoodgroup@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/BrooklynFoodGroupNZ

BROOKLYN GARDEN CLUB

Meets 1st Wednesday 7:30pm from March to October. New members and visitors welcome. Contact Kathleen Skudder on 027 650 9108 or email: kathleen.skudder@gmail.com

GECKOS HOCKEY CLUB

Come and play hockey with us. Years 1-8 during winter terms Wednesdays from 4:15-5:30pm indoor at the Chinese Cultural and Sports Centre near the National Hockey Stadium. Just turn up on practice day. <http://brooklyngeckoshockey.weebly.com> or facebook.com/geckoshockeyclub/

LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH

Sundays 11am-12:30pm Ridgway School Hall, 120 Mornington Road. Contact Avia 021 1096457. Email: avia123@gmail.com Find us on Facebook.

**BROOKLYN LOCAL
HISTORY GROUP**

Next meeting on Saturday 28 March from 2 - 4pm at Brooklyn Library. We'd love your input or queries. Please contact the convenor in case our advertised date or venue changes. Sharon Macintyre 0276344455 sharonmacintyre42@gmail.com

BROOKLYN MAINLY MUSIC

Fun affordable 30 minutes, for parents or care givers to enjoy with their pre-schooler(s). Morning Tea provided. We meet Wednesdays at 10am during school terms.

Wellington Reformed Church 34 Harrison St. Maria 022 187 9030

**BROOKLYN NORTHERN UNITED
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

First Kicks enrolments for girls and boys aged 5 and 6 open throughout the season. Email enquiries to info@bnujfc.co.nz or register online at www.bnujfc.co.nz/registration

BROOKLYN PLAYGROUP

Fun group for parents & caregivers with preschool children. Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-11:30am during the school term at the Korean Church - 184 Ohiro Road. Turn up on the day.

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. Financial Support available. Find out more at www.brooklynscouts.org.nz or contact John Morrison on membership@brooklynscouts.org.nz

**BROOKLYN SMALLBORE
RIFLE CLUB** Ages 14+

Sundays 6pm-8pm mid-March to early October at the Royal Tiger Range, 131 Russell Terrace, Newtown. All equipment provided. To join email:

bsrc.club.captain@gmail.com
www.bsrc.org.nz

BROOKLYN TABLE TENNIS

9am-12pm Tuesdays and 8pm Wednesdays at Brooklyn Community Centre. We welcome new members of all ages and ability. Tables, bats and balls provided. Phone Philip on 021 230 4083.

BROOKLYN TOY LIBRARY

The Toy Library is based in the Vogelmorn Precinct at 93 Mornington Road. We have a fantastic range of toys for children aged 0-7 years available to hire. Find us on Facebook or visit our website: brooklyntoylibrary.org.nz

BROOKLYN WALKERS

Meet Monday mornings (except public holidays) outside Brooklyn Library. Phone Deborah 934 2238 or Lindy 027 356 5037.

9 February – Paekakariki to QE2 Park. Catch 9:33am train from Wellington

Railway Station.

16 February – Wellington City walk. Start from Gandhi statue at Wellington Railway Station.

23 February – Karori Cemetery to Otari Wilton Bush. Catch 9:39am bus from Lambton Quay.

2 March – Waikanae Beach. Catch 9:13am train from Wellington Railway Station.

9 March – Wrights Hill walk. Catch 9:39am No. 2 bus to Karori from Lambton Quay.

BROOKLYN CRICKET CLUBS

Tanera Park off Tanera Cres. Junior Age 4 + www.bjcc.co.nz Senior 1 Day, T20, Vintage www.brooklyncricketclub.com

**ST JOHN PENGUIN AND
YOUTH DIVISION**

Penguin Program 6-8 yrs. Karen Don 027 404 6343 Youth Division 8-18 yrs. Ross Young 021 264 0440 www.stjohn.org.nz

PREDATOR FREE BROOKLYN

Hello Kaka, goodbye rats! We're looking for volunteers to host traps on their properties. If you'd like to help email predatorfreebrooklyn@gmail.com

RATA PLAYGROUP Calm and nurturing place for babies and toddlers 0-3 years to explore, learn and socialise with a parent or family member. Morning sessions available at Capital

Montessori, Camrose Grove, Kingston. montessori.school.nz/playgroup or email rata@montessori.school.nz

THE KUNG FU SCHOOL

Learn Shaolin Kung Fu for self defense and functional fitness. Wellington Swords Club Building, 2 Tanera Crescent, Brooklyn.

Contact Rob Young on 021 408 521 or wellingtongshaolinkungfu.co.nz www.shaolinkungfu.co.nz

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**TURBINE TALKERS
TOASTMASTERS CLUB**

Your local chapter of Toastmasters International. Tuesdays 7:15pm-9:15pm fortnightly at the Reformed Church on Harrison St. Bridget 0211 379 656, Sylvie 022 197 3610 turbine@toastmasters.org.nz <http://6879.toastmastersclubs.org>

**UPSTREAM – FRIENDS OF
CENTRAL PARK**

Working Bees from 10am-12:30pm on the last Sunday of the month. Contact Lynne White at all.whites@xtra.co.nz Come along for great conversations, meet new people, delicious morning tea and contribute

to the care of Central Park.

VOGELMORN TENNIS CLUB

Vogelmorn tennis club.com Fun exercise for all abilities. Give tennis a go at the best little tennis club in NZ. Club days, competition and coaching available. Call in or email secretary1vtc@gmail.com

**WELLINGTON
SWORDS CLUB**

By the Tanera Park bowling greens off Tanera Crescent. Contact Vicci Lamb - Head Coach. Phone 970 7496 or email: bishop.lamb@pistingaround.com

BROOKLYN PLAYCENTRE

22 Harrison Street Ages 0 - 6 years Mon to Thurs 9am - 12:30pm. Contact brooklynplaycentrenz@gmail.com or call 027 700 1363.

CRAFTING THREADS OF AROHA

Community knitting group meets in the Penthouse Cafe at 11am on the last Saturday of the month. Contact Katherine on 021 203 0022 or ka.harris25@gmail.com.

PRESCHOOL MUSIC GROUP

The Little Music Crew - Fridays from 10am during school terms. Join us for waiata, poi, actions and rhymes at Vogelmorn 93 Mornington Road. Voluntary Koha. Contact Heather at hdrysdalenz@gmail.com



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