



OCTOBER 2026 391

Brooklyn
Community
Centre

BROOKLYN TATTLER

what's happening in your community

BROOKLYN twilight festival



1pm-8pm Saturday 14 November
Harrison Street, Brooklyn

brooklynfestival.co.nz
brooklynfestivalwellington@gmail.com

LIVE MUSIC
50 STALLS
FOOD & DRINK

ARTS & CRAFTS
OPEN MIC STAGES
BOUNCY CASTLES



Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

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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 October Brooklyn Tattler. We are counting down to Election 2026 and the Brooklyn Twilight Festival as the start of this year's final school term gets underway.

Brooklyn Twilight Festival

This month's Tattler cover features the Brooklyn Twilight Festival poster in full colour. We are all looking forward to the 4th annual Festival on Saturday 14 November from 1pm to 8pm. The organising committee have been working hard to make this year's event better than ever. All the usual favourite attractions will be back including the community stage in the playground, live entertainment on Harrison Street, bouncy castles, food trucks with yummy eats and our popular market inside the Community Centre hall.

The market stalls are fully booked, but spaces are available along Harrison Street for local groups and organisations interested in having a community stall to promote themselves. This is a great opportunity with the numbers of people expected, up to 5000 on a sunny day, so contact us on market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz and read our Twilight Festival update on pages 6 and 7.

Election 2026

A highlight of this month is the Meet the Candidates' debate in the Brooklyn Community Centre hall on Thursday 15 October. Thanks to the Brooklyn Residents' Association for organising and facilitating what is always a well-attended event. Make sure you get there early to secure a seat for the prompt 6:30pm start. All the



Advanced Voting from 28 October at Brooklyn Community Centre

candidates for Wellington Bays have been invited to speak in what promises to be an entertaining evening.

The Brooklyn Community Centre is the place to cast your vote with an Advanced Voting service offered from 28 October and voting available all day on Saturday 7 November. Full details on page 15.

Brooklyn Community Association Committee elected

The Brooklyn Community Association (BCA) who run your local Community Centre held their AGM on Sunday 13 September with a good turnout of people and good conversations held by all over afternoon tea. Sonya Bissmire and Joelene Skelton were re-elected to the President and Treasurer positions, with Richard Lucy, Chris Rabey, Kirstin Friend and Cherie Connor returning as committee members. Perry Aspros is our life member. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported us.

Reader contributions

We are pleased this month to include the second of Maia Hills poems about Brooklyn. Maia has offered to submit a

poem to us monthly and is keen to hear of any ideas or themes for her future poems.

We also welcome readers photos. With the longer daylight hours and warmer weather, now is a good time to get out and about with your camera.

CONTACT US

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Main Office: 04 384 6799

Childcare Office: 04 385 0089

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WITH CATS

As Wellingtonians we all know to be disaster ready, with emergency supplies at hand. But if we have pets, we need to make plans for them too.

Some essentials for cats are extra drinking water, enough of their food for at least 3 days, a secure carrier for each cat, a litter tray and some litter, spare medications, a photo of your pet, and a record of their microchip number. A copy of their most recent vaccination is also useful in case they need to be boarded in a cattery or taken into a temporary emergency shelter.

It's very important that all pets are microchipped, registered to the NZ Companion Animal Register, and that your



contact details are up to date. This hugely increases the chances you will be reunited with your pet if you are separated.

Consider who may be able to look after your pets for a few days if you're not able to get home. Also, who you and your pets could stay with if you can't return to your home straight away.

Katie Underwood THE QUIET ACHIEVER

Licensed Professional Skills Coach | Licensed Real Estate City United (REAA 2008)



“Would you like to know how much your house is worth? It would be my pleasure to offer you a free appraisal.”

Contact me on:
m: 027 248 2061
t: 04 894 3717
e: katie.underwood@raywhite.com

SPACE GROUP COMES TO BROOKLYN PLAYCENTRE

Brooklyn Playcentre on Harrison Street would love to share your parenting journey in our new weekly morning SPACE group starting on 16 October for parents of babies born between July and September this year. At SPACE, you and your baby will connect with other new parents and their babies in a safe facilitated environment.

For more info click on <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DYL1apQEcl> or

<https://bookwhen.com/spacehuttvalleywellingtonplaycentres>



BROOKLYN
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

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



Monthly update on issues
and projects involving our
community

NEXT MEETING: We invite you to our popular “Meet the Candidates” General Election meeting, which will be held on Thursday the 15th of October 6.30pm at the Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street

General Election - November 7th 2026	It is General election Year and that means we will run one of our popular and informative “Meet the Candidates” evenings. We will host the candidates at the Brooklyn Community Centre on Thursday October 15, from 6.30pm. GBRAI encourages everyone to come along, bring your friends and your questions for the candidates.
Brooklyn Connections / Brooklyn cycleway	Submissions were made to Wellington City Council about trying to separate out discussion and decision making of the Brooklyn Road and Ohiro Road portions of this cycleway work (planned for 2027). We will keep an eye on how this project proceeds.
Battery recycling & diverting them from ending in the landfill.	GBRAI initiated its own local Brooklyn battery collection project in 2022. All diverted (most) them from the landfill. From October 2022 to September 2026, GBRAI has collected & recycled: 600 kg of all various battery types. The most numerous are: 298 kg of AA batteries, 89 kg of AAA batteries, 35 kg of C batteries, 43 kg of D batteries. The remainder being made up of button batteries, computer, 6V, 9V, 12V and 18V batteries. These batteries that are recycled are sent to a recycling site in Australia. Approx 5-10% of all these batteries are landfilled as damaged or weeping.
Brooklyn Road resealing	GBRAI have convinced Wellington City Council which intended to chip-seal/ reseal Brooklyn Road, to apply asphaltic/tarseal the road and not chip-seal it. There is no way the chipseal would last with all the heavy vehicles using the road including the buses.
Landfill matters WCC Southern Landfill and the two privately run landfills in the Landfill Precinct.	The Community Liaison Group and Community Advisory Group WCC and community discussion groups including GBRAI and Owhiro Bay Residents Association continue. These are our means of dealing directly with WCC WasteOps, its landfill operators and contractors. We continue to try and influence the operations, smells and activity as much as we can through this advocacy work.
Proposed bus depot at Landfill Road, Happy Valley – down the road from Brooklyn but with an impact.	Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) bought this substantial block of land at the entrance to the Southern Landfill, at Landfill Road. While it is not assured GWRC will proceed with this project (they are going through a robust assessment of the merits of the project), Metlink & GWRC are very keen to have independent bus storage areas around the city. GBRAI & Owhiro Bay Residents Association are keeping a close eye on this project. The proposal is to have between 70-90 buses based there, with potentially 300 bus vehicle movements daily. There will also be personal vehicles to get staff on site. Very much a work in progress.

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



BROOKLYN twilight festival

THIS NOVEMBER!

Harrison Street will come alive on Saturday 14 November as the Brooklyn Twilight Festival returns for its fourth year. From 1–8pm, the street and grounds of Brooklyn Community Centre will be filled with live music, food, market stalls and activities for the whole family.



This year's festival starts a little earlier, giving everyone more time to enjoy the afternoon before settling in for dinner and music as evening falls. Expect food trucks, beer and wine, face painting, bouncy castles and plenty of familiar faces from around the neighbourhood. Whether you stay for an hour or make a day of it, it's a chance to celebrate the people and places that make Brooklyn such a great place to live.

We're especially excited about this year's music lineup. Vera Ellen, the Wellington songwriter and Flying Nun artist who has won both an Aotearoa Music Award and the Taite Music Prize, joins us alongside Fables, the musical project of Auckland singer-songwriter Jess Bailey, whose songs draw on folk and alternative country. Wellington band Tahini Bikini will bring their irresistible blend of funk, soul and pop, while Juna, a local pop-rock four-piece, will deliver big harmonies and energetic songs. Wellington music journalist and DJ Martyn Pepperell will keep the tunes flowing throughout the day.

There's plenty for younger festivalgoers too. Fun & Funner! featuring Karen O'Leary of Wellington Paranormal fame and musician Tom Watson, make children's music that ranges from punk rock to lullabies, with plenty of silliness along the way. The Wellington Carnival Street Band returns with bold brass, colourful costumes and an interactive family concert packed with dance tunes and hilarious takes on children's classics. Alongside these acts, our community stage will give local musicians and performers of all ages a chance to share their talents.



Brooklyn Community Centre will host 24 market stalls, with crafts, gifts, knick-knacks and locally made goods to browse. It's a chance to meet the makers, find something you wouldn't see in the shops and perhaps get an early start on Christmas shopping.

There's still time to be part of the festival. Keen to perform on our community stage?



Email two.todman@gmail.com. Local groups and organisations interested in having a community stall along Harrison Street to promote themselves, can contact Euan Harris at coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz. We're also looking for volunteers to help with setup, welcoming visitors and packing down — every extra pair of hands makes a difference.

Join us on Harrison Street, Saturday 14 November, 1–8pm. Bring the family, meet up with friends and enjoy an afternoon and evening of music, food and neighbourhood fun. For more information, visit www.brooklynfestival.co.nz.

The Brooklyn Twilight Festival is brought to you by Brooklyn Community Centre, Two Todman and Vogelmorn Community Group, with support from Wellington City Council, the BRC Trust, Windy City Builders, Kennards Hire and 1852 Bar and Kitchen.



the “humble” windmill

Up on Brooklyn’s breezy crown
Lives a windmill looking down.
He spins so much, from dawn till night,
He’s utterly convinced he’s right.

“I’m the top of the world!” he’ll boast,
To every bird and passing ghost.
“I push the clouds! I steer the rain!
I probably invented wind in Spain!”

The tūi roll their eyes and laugh,
The seagulls scoff on every path.
A sparrow chirps, “That’s quite a tale...”
But gets blown sideways by a gale.

The windmill grins. “You see? Proof there!
I simply flicked a blade through air.”
The ancient trees bend low and sigh,
As hats and picnic cloths go by.

One day the wind completely stopped.
The windmill froze. His spinning flopped.
He stood there still and somewhat glum,
As not a single gust would come.

Then from below the city said,
“Don’t worry, mate, keep up your head.
Even standing still, it’s true,
life wouldn’t be the same without you.”

So now he spins with less conceit,
Though old habits are hard to beat.
And every now and then he’ll claim:

“I taught the Southerly its name.”

ABOUT THE POET:

Maia Hills is a young poet who enjoys observing everyday places and crafting stories in ordinary moments. The “Humble” Windmill was inspired by Brooklyn’s iconic windmill and playfully imagines it as an overly confident character who believes it controls the weather itself. Through light-hearted rhyme and personification, Maia explores themes of pride, community, and the importance of recognising one’s place in the world, all while celebrating a much-loved feature of the Brooklyn landscape. Follow her work on Instagram,

[@phantom_undertow.](#)



NEW USE FOR FORMER PRIMARY SCHOOL

In our December issue of the Tattler, we featured a photo of the staff and pupils of St Bernard’s School on the front cover, taken a few days before St Bernard’s closed for the final time on 17 December.

We are pleased to write that the former school is to become a school again. The Catholic Parish of Wellington South has signed a 5-year lease agreement with Autism NZ for the use of the land and buildings at 40 Taft Street, for the Autism NZ Charter School Wellington Hub.

The Autism NZ lease began on 1st October, and the school will open to students at the start of term one 2027.



In the meantime, work will take place on refurbishing the interior.

Autism NZ says that it is thrilled with the site. Read more at <https://autismnz.org.nz/autism-nz-charter-school-officially-announces-auckland-and-wellington-hub-locations/>

what's on at your
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE
18 Harrison Street

WEEKDAYS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

**BEFORE SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL
HOLIDAY**

**CHILDCARE
PROGRAMMES**

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

9 AM PILATES

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

10:30 - 11:30 AM FELDENKRAIS

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

6 - 7:30 PM BROWNIES

Contact Margaret 389 3028 or email marrexj@gmail.com

**9 AM - 12 PM TABLE
TENNIS**

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

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

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

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

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

10 - 11 AM FELDENKRAIS

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

4:30 - 6 PM KARATE

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

6:15 - 7:15 PM ZUMBA

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

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

**8 PM TABLE
TENNIS**

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

**10 AM - 12 PM CRAFT
CONNECTIONS**

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

5 - 6:30 PM KARATE

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

6:30 - 7:30 PM TAI CHI

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

9 AM PILATES

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

**11 AM - 2 PM FRIDAY
CIRCLE**

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

7:30 - 8:30 PM YIN YOGA

Koha Yin Yoga classes in the lounge with Rowena Fry. Meditative floor based classes for joint health. Contact Rowena at rowenatsfry@gmail.com

10:30 - 11:45 AM YOGA

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.

**9:15 AM ST MATTHEW'S
CHURCH**

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

**10:30 AM EKKAALLAM
CHURCH**

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

3:45 - 6:45 PM KARATE

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



DIRT

DIRT (Disaster Innovation Research and Teaching) is your community resilience initiative, based at Vogelmorn (93 Mornington Road). Together, we can make our neighbourhood become better prepared for a significant earthquake, extreme weather, or other disaster scenario.

Meet the Preppers, the TVNZ documentary we were part of aired on Monday the 21st of September and it was interesting to see how our community focused approach compared to a range of others. It's given us a good opportunity to think about what we are doing, how we'd like to progress and

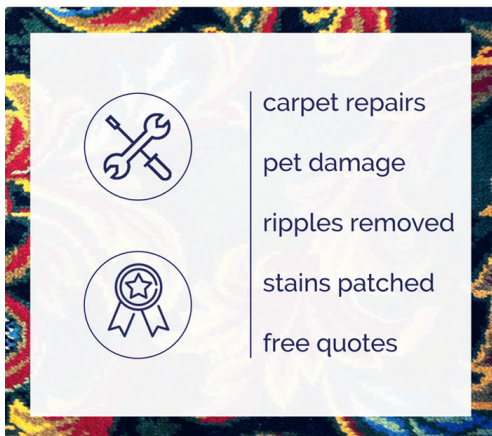
helped raise awareness and bring some new people along. We'd love anyone who saw us on tv to come and see what we are like in real life. If you missed it you can watch on the TVNZ website.

We also built on our August event looking at earthquakes by having an imagined significant quake 'hit' us at a random time - occurring at 9:10 on a Sunday evening. We talked about where we were, who we were with, how we could react in the immediate aftermath and also the challenges we might be facing a week later with no power, water, supermarkets, damaged roads etc.

We'd love to see you at our next event on Sunday 1st of November, 4:00–6:00pm at VBC, 93 Mornington Road.

CARPETECH

CARPET MAINTENANCE



BROOKLYN

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



Brooklyn School Picnic at Maidstone Park, Upper Hutt c1910

EARLY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Picnics right from the earliest days were popular amongst schools and churches. Vogeltown School, the first school in our area, established in 1883, organised a picnic for children and teachers after only a few years. The location then for a school picnic was usually on the banks of the Ohiro Stream. In those days the stream was open its entire length from its mouth at Owihoro Bay right up to where Todman Street intersects with other smaller streams.

Later on, as the 1910 photograph shows, Brooklyn School had its annual picnic at Maidstone Park in Upper Hutt, this being the only park with a large enough area for the children to play on, in Wellington. The children, teachers, and several parents,

would gather in Brooklyn, boarding a fleet of trams which journeyed up for the occasion, then they would be conveyed to the railway station, and a long train would take them to their destination. On arrival, each child was given a currant bun, and at the end of the day, a bag of lollies. During the day, various sporting and social activities were enjoyed.

Maidstone Park continued to the main venue for several years, then a number of other locations were used, including Khandallah Park, Newtown Park, Percy Scenic Reserve, Queen Elizabeth Park, and, closer to home, Tanera Park.

It was not only primary schools enjoying these outings, but Sunday Schools also had their annual picnics as well. Due to a smaller number of children, the churches always combined their resources and had one picnic for all.

Chris Rabey



Spring – all the things we love

So much to love about spring. Blossoms, daffodils, kowhai, puawānanga, the finger-green flower spikes of kawakawa. And there's the other things that somebody once loved so much, they imported it as a pot plant and then released it into the wild. Yes, it's a weed. This month's working bee saw us prying stinking iris out of the ground. Its name sounds better in Latin but retains the slightly smelly connotation, *Iris foetidissima*. Not a great recommendation. The leaves stink when crushed, and the seeds are poisonous to livestock. But like all weeds there is something to appreciate about it. The flowers are iris-like and pale-yellow pretty. The seeds are an appealing orange-red colour. Birds love them, and kids. Best not to let the kids near them.

They also grow from a fan-shaped base that is very pleasing. On the downside, they out-compete other plants and are pretty hard to tame.

While we despair sometimes of taming any of the usual weed suspects, we're still dealing with living things. It's consoling to know that somewhere in the world, in their country of origin, someone is probably showing them some love. Just not here please.

However, everyone is welcome at our next working bee. Bring your own mug, and gloves, if you have them. We supply yummy baking and Supreme Coffee.

Next working bee: Sunday 25 October 10.00 am – 12.30 pm.

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

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

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

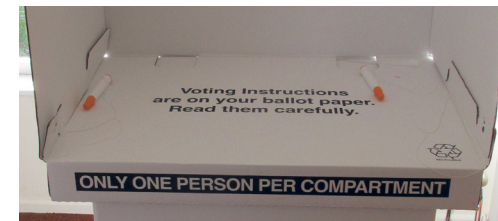
Brooklyn and surrounding suburbs

ADVANCED VOTING IN THIS YEAR'S GENERAL ELECTION

The date of the election is fast approaching, and the Brooklyn Community Centre is the place where you can cast your vote on Saturday 7 November in the main hall from 9am to 7pm.

We are also pleased to offer an advanced voting service for two weeks and have been liaising with staff from the Electoral Commission to provide this service to people who are unable to vote on 7 November or just want to cast an early vote.

Advanced voting for the Wellington Bays Electorate (formerly Rongotai) which now includes Brooklyn, is offered on the following



days and times in the Community Centre's RSA room.

Week one: Wednesday 28 October to Friday 30 October from 10am to 4pm

Week two: Monday 2 November to Friday 6 November from 10am to 4pm

Trained election staff will be onsite during those dates and times to guide you through the voting process and answer any questions.

You need to be enrolled to vote by midnight on Sunday 25 October. Click on the link to find out more. <https://vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update/enrol-or-update-online>



The BRC Charitable Trust has received a number of enquiries and applications for its second funding round of 2026 from various groups and organisations operating within the local community. Trustees meet in the middle of this month to allocate funding for this cycle and applicants should receive notification of an outcome by late October.

Next month in this column we will publish a list of the groups and organisations that

received funding so you can read about some of the projects and activities we have supported in our local community.

The BRC Charitable Trust holds two funding rounds at the same time every year – one in March and the other in September to coincide with the home delivery of the Brooklyn Tattler.

We also advertise through public noticeboards in the wider Brooklyn community. 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).

The BRC Charitable Trust

DOES IT SPARK JOY?

While decluttering guru Marie Kondo may have stepped back from public life following the birth of her third child, this question remains burned into our consciousness.

Like our blossoming kowhai trees, the question seems to re-emerge with spring's longer sunshine hours and warmer weather.

According to National Geographic, the practice of spring cleaning, or spring clear outs, has ancient roots in many different religious and cultural traditions. There's the Jewish passover, nowruz (Persian New Year), the Lunar New Year in China, and sonkraum in Thailand.

There's something to the seasonality of this tradition. Due to the shorter sunlight hours, our bodies produce the hormone melatonin, which makes us more sleepy and sluggish (it's not that we're lazy)! With the increased spring sunshine, we're more motivated to tackle tasks we've been putting off for a while. And so, after a winter of not properly vacuuming the stairs in my apartment, I suddenly decided that today is the

SPRING CLEAR OUT???

GIVE US YOUR PRE-LOVED CLOTHING!

TWO
TODMAN
NEIGHBOURS' PLACE

day! and set about completing a chore I had not attended to in months. Dear reader, my stairs look mighty fine!

This spring, if you decide some of your (good quality) clothing no longer sparks joy, it will spark joy in us to receive it as a donation so that, in turn, we can continue to spark joy in Brooklyn! Items can be dropped off at the thrift shop during store hours.

Until next time,
Be well, Brooklyn!

Tamsin & the Two Todman Team

Keep an eye on our socials @twotodman or contact us for more information about upcoming events at two.todman@gmail.com.

PROBUS WELLINGTON CENTRAL



The next meeting of Probus Wellington Central is on Friday 16 October at 10am for coffee/tea and biscuits, and a 10:30am start.

The guest speaker

is Sehail Orgad, Manager of City Safety and Wellbeing, at the Wellington City Council. Probus meets on the third Friday of the month (Feb to Nov) at Prefab Hall

on Jessie St, from 10am to 12noon. Membership is \$50 per year. Stay for buffet lunch at the Prefab for \$25.

All active retirees are welcome to join in our social connections. No charge for monthly meetings.

Contact Steve Lawton for membership details. Email: slawton745@gmail.com
021 164 5329

For more information go online to:
<https://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/wellingtoncentral/>

CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AT HAUNTED INVERLOCHY HOUSE

Discover one of Wellington's most intriguing — and supposedly haunted — historic houses.

Join the Inverlochy team on **25 October** for a special Wellington Heritage Festival tour of Inverlochy House, where Victorian architecture, fascinating history and ghostly tales come together over a warming cuppa.

Built in 1877–78 for prominent Wellington businessman Thomas Macdonald and his wife Frances, the beautiful Victorian mansion was designed by architect Thomas Turnbull. Today, its ornate fireplaces, original mosaic tiles and character-filled corridors offer a glimpse into Wellington's past — while its rooms continue to buzz with creativity as artists and arts students fill the house with colour and ideas.

But Inverlochy has another reputation.

The house has been said to be haunted since the 1970s, with residents and visitors reporting strange occurrences over the decades — objects apparently moving by themselves, unexplained sounds and sightings of a mysterious young woman on the first-floor landing.

Paranormal investigators have returned to the house over the years, and its ghostly stories have even been documented in *Spooked: Exploring the Paranormal in New Zealand* by Jo Davy and James Gilberd.

Yet the real history of Inverlochy is every bit as compelling. The house has faced the threat of demolition, inspired community



From 'Creator unknown: Album of photographs of Inverlochy House, Wellington'. Courtesy of the Alexander Turnbull Library.

protest and, in 1987, found a new life as a community art school. Since then, its rooms have played a supporting role in the creative lives of generations of artists — including some of New Zealand's most distinguished practitioners.

Come inside and discover the stories of the people who once called Inverlochy home, the community that fought to save it, and perhaps a few who never quite left.

Heritage Tour at the Haunted Inverlochy House:

October 25, 2-3:30 pm and 4-5:30 pm.
Tickets available at www.inverlochy.org.nz.

BROOKLYN BROWNIES, GUIDES AND PIPPINS

Pippins (5-7 years)
brooklynpipkins@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: aavia123@gmail.com Find us on Facebook.

BROOKLYN LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Next meeting on Saturday 28 November 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. Dee 021 0856 8608

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@bnufc.co.nz or register online at www.bnufc.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 Ohio 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 Vogelhorn 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.

12 October – Seatoun to Lyall Bay. Catch 10:17am No. 2 bus from Kilbirnie.

19 October – Trelissick Park. Start from 9:32am at Wellington Railway Station.

26 October – Labour Day – Petone Esplanade to Lower Hutt. Catch 9:56am No. 83 bus.

2 November – Atatürk Memorial. Catch 10am No. 4 bus from Kilbirnie Bus Hub.

9 November – Johnstons Hill. Catch 9:39am No. 2 bus from Lambton Quay North.

BROOKLYN CRICKET CLUBS

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

FRIENDS OF OWHIRO

STREAM Working bees on the second Saturday of the month 10am-12:30pm. Contact Martin on 389 8995 or email: owhirostream@gmail.com

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

WELLINGTON CENTRAL

PROBUS Meets monthly at Prefab Hall, Jessie Street on the third Friday at 10am. There is an interesting monthly speaker and many social activities during the month including outings, dinners, lunches, book club and more. All active

retirees are welcome to join. Contact Steve Lawton on 021 164 5329 or at slawton745@gmail.com

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 wellington@shaolinkungfu.co.nz www.shaolinkungfu.co.nz

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

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@extra.co.nz Come along for great conversations, meet new people, delicious morning tea and contribute to the care of Central Park.

VOGELMORN TENNIS CLUB

Vogelmorntennisclub.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 secretarylvtc@gmail.com

BROOKLYN SAYGO

Steady As You Go exercise classes Tuesdays at Vogelhorn Hall from 1pm - 1:50pm. Improve your strength, balance, help prevent falls and meet new people. Koha payment (suggested \$3) To join just turn up before 1pm. More info at acwellington.org.nz/events

BROOKLYN PLAYCENTRE

22 Harrison Street Ages 0 - 6 years Mon to Thurs 9am - 12:30pm. Contact brooklynplaycentre.org.nz or call 385 6531.

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 Vogelhorn 93 Mornington Road. Voluntary Koha. Contact Heather at hdrysdalenz@gmail.com

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