



Brooklyn
Community
Centre



BROOKLYN TATTLE

what's happening in your community



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Community Centre	2-3
From the Library	4-5
Residents' Association	5
Brooklyn Twilight Festival	6-7
Brooklyn Mural	8-9
Friends of Owhiro Stream	10
History	11
What's On	12-13
Brooklyn Wellness Hub	14
Homes with Soul	15
BRC Charitable Trust	16
Then and Now	17
Vogelmorn Foundation	18
Cats Protection Wellington	19
Friends of Central Park	20
Community Groups	22-23

This month's cover photo is of the Brooklyn Community Centre at the end of the Twilight Festival on 11 November.

Photo credit: Guido Seevens.

Christmas art design: Sam Darlington.

February 2023 copy due no later than 5pm Tuesday 30 January

Email your contribution to tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Brooklyn Tattler is published by the Brooklyn Community Association Inc. 18 Harrison Street, Brooklyn. Association members accept no liability for the contents which have been prepared in good faith. Printed by Pivotal.

from the **COMMUNITY CENTRE**

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE
PHONE 384 6799

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa - warm greetings to you all. Welcome to the December Tattler, the final issue for 2023; we take a break next month and return in February 2024.

We hope you have had a good year – our highlight for the year was without doubt collaborating with Two Todman to bring a street festival back to Brooklyn after a 14 year hiatus. On Saturday 11 November, Harrison Street was buzzing with market and community stalls, food trucks, and entertainment. It was so inspiring to see such a huge turn-out of people – over 5,000! on a beautiful sunny Saturday. So many people volunteered their time and expertise to help plan and run the day/evening, and the Vogelhorn Community Group did an amazing job of sourcing the evening entertainment. It was a privilege to be a part of it.

Market We have our Christmas market coming up on Saturday 9 December from 12pm – 4pm. Our stallholders have lots of great Christmas gift ideas including hand-made soaps; jewellery; candles; succulents, cacti; resin goods; woven harakeke; painted vintage lightbulbs; dolls' clothes; organic medicinal balms and skin care products; retro china; ceramics; beach jewellery; and so much more. Ooh la la crepes will be here to tempt those taste-buds and Andrew will be in his usual space on the deck ready to sharpen those knives for the Christmas ham and turkey.

Holiday Programme Spaces are available for the January Holiday Programme starting on 8 January running through to 26 January. Check out the exciting itinerary on our website or



contact Adam and Julia for details at childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz.

Thank You - Ngā mihi maioha Being the end of the year, we would once again like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Tattler this year. Special thanks go to our advertisers; Pivotal Print; and DIA COGS funding. Their support helps us to continue to offer free content to local groups and clubs. We welcome feedback and submissions anytime, so if you see or hear of something in the greater Brooklyn area that you think may be of interest, please let us know. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank WCC for our operational and ANZAC Day funding, and our local councillor, Nureddin Abdurahman, for checking in with us from time to time, as well as DIA Lotteries and Vogelhorn Foundation for their grants this year. A big thank you to Sue Devereux and the Meals on Wheels volunteers who deliver meals which are dropped off here at the Centre. Thank you to our volunteers who sort out the Sustainability Trust recycling – please make it easier for them by only dropping off clean items that are able to be recycled. Thank you to Tetra Pak NZ and Earthlink for sponsoring and collecting the liquid paper board (Tetra Pak) recycling so we are able to continue the mahi with this awesome recycling initiative. Thank you to all the people who have volunteered their time on a Friday afternoon to come and talk to our Friday Circle group, for some of the group this is the highlight of their week. A warm thank you to Dorothy Long for again washing our towels and tablecloths each week, and to Luke Ross for designing our new website. Last but not least, a huge thank you to you, our community; you are the reason we are here. Thank you for supporting us by reading the Tattler and making the Brooklyn Community Centre the welcoming, inclusive, hub of activity it is. We are proud to have been here working with you for the past 76 years, supporting you with childcare programmes; markets; recycling and

sustainability initiatives; seniors' social groups; free Covid tests and masks; and by providing a fully accessible, welcoming, venue for local groups, one-off hires, and anyone who just wants to hang out, right here in the heart of Brooklyn.

Main office closes	22 December
Main office re-opens	15 January
Childcare Office Closes	19 December
Childcare Office Opens and Holiday Programme Commences	8 January

On behalf of the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA) staff: Julie Seevens, Euan Harris, Adam Hendry, Phillip Bolton, Julia Smith, Sam Darlington, and the Childcare Supervisors; and the BCA voluntary committee: Sonya Bismire, Joelene Skelton, Richard Lucy, Chris Rabey, and Bridget Bridgman, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and relaxing start to 2024.

Have a great Summer, Hei konā mai –
goodbye for now

Julie and Euan

CONTACT US

Hall Hire and General Enquiries:

coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Childcare Programmes:

childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Accounts:

accounts@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Manager:

manager@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Tattler:

tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Market:

market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Main Office: 04 384 6799

Childcare Office: 04 385 0089



from the LIBRARY

A Typical Conversation in the Library...

EL: The December issue of *The Tattler* is coming up. Any ideas for anything we can include?

DIANA: Have you mentioned the library mini app 'wclmini'?

EL: Remind me again?

DIANA: The one-stop-shop app for all your library needs. Add multiple family cards for quick access on the go, see what's on loan and when items are due across all the family cards you've added, search the catalogue, check your card and manage your reserves...

EL: Oh, yeah. We did that in April.

DIANA: How about Libby and Borrowbox?

EL: Those apps that allow our patrons to access nearly 80,000 eBooks, eMagazines & eAudiobooks?

DIANA: Yep.

EL: We did that in May.

DIANA: Hmm.

EL: Helen, got anything?

HELEN: Have you mentioned the knitting?

EL: The knitting?

HELEN: Yes, how people can pop into the library on Fridays between 2 and 3pm for a knit and a natter? Mention that they're to bring their own supplies and projects, but that we can supply books from our shelves for inspiration if need be.

EL: Consider it done.

HELEN: And that it's a fun way to meet new people, and that although it looks like I'm just sitting on the sofa knitting, I'm actually providing



a valuable library service?

EL: Right.

HELEN: What do you mean 'right'?

EL: Nothing! I'm just typing.

HELEN: It was the way you said it.

EL: Said what?

HELEN: 'Right'. Like you didn't think it was real work.

EL: I don't know what you're talking about. Look: 'provides a valuable library service...'

HELEN: Hmm.

EL: Anything else?

HELEN: Mention they can crochet too.

EL: Right.

HELEN: You're doing it again!

EL: I'm not! Look: 'A fun way to meet new people.' Shall I mention that they're expected to bring us chocolate?

HELEN: No!

EL: Knit and natter... Helen doesn't require chocolate. El wouldn't say no. Anything else?

DIANA: Have you mentioned Christmas yet?

EL: What about it?

DIANA: That we have an evening of festive fun planned, with songs, stories and a visit from a 'special' guest?



EL: I should have thought that after that incident with the reindeer last year he'd be too embarrassed to show his face around here again.

DIANA: He's promised to tie them up properly this time. Anyway, the stains came out – eventually.

EL: It's not the stains I'm worried about. I'll never look at a carrot in the same way ever again, I can tell you. Do we have a date for that yet?

DIANA: Monday the 18th of December. From 6 to 7.30. Family fun for everyone!

HELEN: Best warn them we'll be closed between Christmas and New Year.

EL: Oh, yes. We've not done that before. Normally we're open over Christmas. I'll mention Te Awe will remain open. Anything else?

DIANA: You could mention that we also have games for loan. It's our new big thing.

EL: Is it? Do we? What sort?

DIANA: Board games! Te Awe has 23 different board games that customers can take out. They're free to reserve and can be ordered from any library site.

EL: That sounds like exactly the sort of thing I should be writing about! What a pity I'm nearly out of room. I'll just mention that if they want help with searching for the games, or with any of our Apps, they should just drop by the library and talk to one of us – we'll be happy to help. Anything else?

DIANA and HELEN: Happy Christmas from all of us at the library. HO HO HO.

EL: Isn't that the Green Giant? Will he be our 'special' guest? (The scene fades).

BROOKLYN
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.



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

Monthly update on issues and projects involving our community

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 7pm
Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street - Come and have your say

Seasons Greetings	On behalf of the GBRAI, we wish the wider community a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. It has been a long year, so we hope everyone has a chance to spend quality time with family and friends, have some time to relax, and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.
Brooklyn Festival 11 November	We are still hearing how great people thought the Brooklyn Festival was and again congratulate Two Todman and the Brooklyn Community Association (and others) for their huge efforts to make it so successful.
Domestic Battery Collection and Recycling.	We continue to collect a variety of batteries at our collection point at the Brooklyn Community Centre. As of November, we have collected 134kg of 9 types of batteries. The biggest (by volume) have been 61kg of AA, 19kg of AAA and 7kg of D batteries.

Email us your ideas, queries or concerns, or to sign up to our newsletter at: brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com





BROOKLYN TWILIGHT FESTIVAL

The first Brooklyn Festival in 14 years happened on Saturday 11 November. This happened in partnership between Brooklyn Community Centre, Two Todman, and Vogelhorn Community Group. Over 5,000 people attended, both from the local neighbourhood and wider-Wellington.

The festival began at 3pm. Walking in the Harrison Street entrance, festival-goers were met by 20 community stalls including the Brooklyn Residents Association, Brooklyn Kindergarten, Capital Montessori, and many more. Further down Harrison Street were a collection of

food stalls selling everything from tacos to burgers, and potato tornadoes.

At 3.30pm, the main-stage kicked off with a beautiful performance from Ridgway School Kapa haka. Anika Moa followed, inviting 30 children to join her



on stage. Then Fun & Funner! closed out the family entertainment before Casual Healing, Milk Tooth, Ingrid & The Ministers, and Newtown Rocksteady finished the night at 10.30pm.

The Community Stage featured over 40 local performers including a guitar group





from Toi Taniwha Music Academy, a belly dancer, and circus acts from the Wellington Circus School. Meanwhile, inside Brooklyn Community Centre, 20 market stalls sold a wide variety of arts and crafts for Christmas shopping.

Alongside the festival, many Brooklyn businesses reported a boom in business from the day as people stayed for after-festival drinks and food.

The festival was an enormous success and plans are already under-way for 2024. This would not have been possible without the generous support



of Wellington City Council, the Vogelmorn Foundation, Brooklyn Resource Centre Trust, Pub Charity, and New Zealand Community Trust.

We would also like to thank the support of local businesses including 1852 Pub & Kitchen, Bogarts Pizza, Hell's Pizza, Windy City Builders, Jarvis & Lowndes Electrical, Happy Hire, Peak Audio, Kennard's Hire, Brooklyn Scouts, Canon Print Hub, Radar Photography, David Unwin Photography, Lowe & Co, Costume Cave, and the residents of Harrison Street for allowing us to take over their street for the day.





ANOTHER WINNING MURAL FOR BROOKLYN

Brooklyn has had some vibrant colour added to it recently with the installation of a stunning mural on Ohiro Road by hobby artist Kiran Parbhu. Kiran grew up in Owhiro Bay, moved to Palmerston North to study aviation at Massey, and returned in 2017 to begin work at Air New Zealand as a pilot on the Regional Turboprop Fleet. Kiran has always enjoyed art, particularly drawing. A few years ago, he entered the Keep New Zealand Beautiful Nature Murals competition where entrants find a suitable local wall, create a nature-themed design, and submit it. Ten winners are picked around the country and are given sponsorship from Resene for the materials, as well as a commission from Keep New Zealand Beautiful to bring

the concept to fruition. Kiran was one of the winners and the result was the mural outside the power station at the bottom of Brooklyn Hill. That was Kiran's first time doing large scale painting, which he says he found quite intimidating.

The latest mural was another winning design of Kiran's for the Keep New Zealand Beautiful competition. This time Kiran chose to try something a bit different and not just depict birds. He decided to highlight creatures that pollinate our plants as they are an important and varied aspect of our ecosystem that can be easily overlooked. There are several types of insects and a gecko, as well as a Bellbird (he says he couldn't help himself with the birds), all of which can be found locally. Alongside these there are a number of native flowering



plants, which Kiran hopes will give people inspiration as to what they can add to their own gardens to help create an abundant food source for these pollinators.

Kiran says while he was painting the mural he had many locals stop and chat. One woman told him it was much better than the one down the hill with the “ghastly” pastels. Kiran didn’t get a chance to tell her he had painted that one as well but says, “Thank you chatty stranger, I’m glad to know that I’m doing better now!” Kiran also mentions, “To a degree I think Brooklyn residents must be easy to please. After I had finished cleaning the wall, before I started painting, a passer-by told me it looked good. I hadn’t even started yet!”

Kiran has a message to everyone who engaged with him during his painting: “Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou for all the

waves, claps, horn toots, thumbs ups and chats. I was lucky to have kind residents offer to buy me a coffee or snacks and while I didn’t always take up the offer (coffee equals more toilet breaks) I truly appreciate your generosity. People often ask ‘Why Brooklyn?’ I love the diversity of the suburb, but to be honest I really enjoy a pepper steak pie from Jo’s, so painting nearby gives me a good excuse!”

The Keep New Zealand Beautiful Nature Murals competition runs annually and is open to anyone; Kiran encourages those who are interested to look at the KNZB website and give it a go. Kiran is hoping to do more murals in the future if work and sponsorship allows; in the mean-time you can follow him on Instagram @this_is_my_picture or Facebook by searching Kiran Parbhu Photography.

Julie Seevens

Wizz

THEATRE ACADEMY

Wizz Theatre Academy is all about fostering a lifelong love of theatre in the Tamariki of Wellington. Theatre is a great way to explore and express **creativity**, learn important life skills, build **confidence**, and **have fun!**

Wizz offers after-school classes specialising in Musical Theatre in Brooklyn. We love to sing, dance, and act and individually cater to each and every student. Students have the option to sit solo Trinity International Examinations. Classes are suitable for ages 7+



Sign up for 2024 classes now! To find out more and enrol please take a look at our website: www.wizztheatreacademy.co.nz

AFFORDABLE INTERIOR DESIGN

Homes with Soul

Love the home you're in!



Use what you have
Buy only what you need
Create a home you love

WWW.HOMESWITHSOUL.CO.NZ

A home you love
is closer than you think!





Amazingly, the end-of-the-year is upon us, with its get-togethers and celebrations. Even more amazingly, this year FOOS is celebrating 20 years of existence. Sometimes it seems hard to see what we have been doing, but then we remember, particularly at the site just past Jamieson's Towing, how bare and open it was there; and how the Brooklyn Scouts struggled to plant little coprosmas in the hard, stony ground. Now, these are an established forest, eight metres tall and interspersed with other species. So, we intend to give ourselves a little pat on the back with a special end of year celebration in December, where we will look back on what we have achieved.

As I understand it, in 2003 Brooklyn Community Association member Gwen Devereux called a meeting to bring to the community's attention the appalling state of the Owhiro Stream, which was regarded a little more than a drain, and organised a working bee to remove rubbish. From this meeting, a committee was established which included Paul Blaschke, George Holley, and later, Martin Payne, with input from Greater Wellington and the City Councils. Sadly, the stream still attracts a lot of rubbish; we hope nowadays not so much fly-tipping, but

still many wind-blown plastic bags etc. The denser planting along the west bank of the stream is intended not only to shade and protect the stream banks and fish life, but also to catch this rubbish and deter random rubbish dumping.

Like plants, some things survive and thrive, other ideas wither and die. In 2007 my minutes note that we would hold regular working bees on the second Saturday of the month, and that we needed an attractive and regularly updated webpage. Well, the working bees have survived, but we are still looking for a reliable webmaster! Another successful survivor is the shade house, started by George Holley at the Resource Centre and now housed at Vennell Street, with a sophisticated watering system and recently, smart new weed mat.

Janet Campbell
for Friends of Owhiro Stream
email owhirosteam@gmail.com

Katie Underwood
THE QUIET ACHIEVER

Lionwood Residential Sales Consultants | Licensed Real Estate (CPL) Limited (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

FESTIVALS IN BROOKLYN

The festival Brooklyn enjoyed in early November was a resounding success, echoing the huge street festival we saw in Brooklyn a number of years ago. However, festivals in our area are by no means new.

On 21 December 1870 the Combined Friendly Societies held their annual fete on the Gothurst Estate (Brooklyn). The Evening Post provided excellent coverage of the event:

The sight of flagpoles and booths on the heights of Gothurst Farm was a signal for pleasure seekers in the morning to get ready. After breakfast hour many began to storm the hill at their leisure and before the heat of the sun came to boiling point. At about 10am the Societies gathered in strength at the Oddfellows Hall, with their band and regalia, and rode in cabs toward the venue. The cabs could not be prevailed upon to face the Ohiro hill, so all passengers had to get out in front of the Mayor's residence and face the heat and the hill. By the time they arrived there was already a large assembly of people on the farm. The ground was bare, dry, and hot but the view over the harbour and town was magnificent.

The spirited caterers, both for those of a bacchanalian turn, and the more discreet followers of Father Matthew, were well represented and provided for.

The sports committee set up the many games in the programme, and private enterprise provided swing boats, Aunt Sally, and a miniature representation of the Paris balloon.

The Garrison Band had the protection of a roof from the scorching sun, and were not allowed to idle their time. There was a constant demand for dance music by lads and lasses in the hey-day of youth and spirits. In the intervals of the music the time-honoured kiss-in-the-ring circles received large reinforcements, and it was a pretty display of colonial cheek.

The day ended with much mirth, and with the people singing all the way down the hill.

Sporting activities and activities at the fete included archery; quoits; boys' and girls' races; jingling; hoop races; wheelbarrow races; single sticks; sack races; pig hunting; swing boat; children's swings; and "The Great New Derby Game".

In November 1997 the Brooklyn Community Association (Brooklyn Community Centre) held the first of what was to become an annual street festival in Cleveland Street. The festival ran until 2009 when increased costs and compliance resulted in the festival no longer being financially viable.

Chris Rabey

what's on at your

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

18 Harrison Street

WEEKDAYS

**BEFORE SCHOOL
AFTER SCHOOL
HOLIDAY**

**CHILDCARE
PROGRAMMES**

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

MONDAY

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 tmcwhinnie@gmail.com

6 - 7:30 PM BROWNIES

Contact Margaret 389 3028 or email marrexj@gmail.com

TUESDAY

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

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**NATURAL
TREATMENT
CLINIC**

All welcome for natural treatments of acute and chronic conditions, relaxation, anxiety and stress support. Free B/P assessments and advice.

6:30 - 8 PM

**ST JOHN
CADETS**

During school terms. For details contact Ross Young on 021 264 0440 or email ross.young@stjohn.org.nz

WEDNESDAY

10 - 11 AM

FELDENKRAIS

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

5:30 - 7:30 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.

7:30 - 8 PM

**CARDIO &
CORE**

A 30-mins strength workout for busy people like you! Contact Patricia at www.familyfitkarate.co.nz/contact or 027 297 6049.

WEDNESDAY**8 PM TABLE TENNIS**

Inquiries Philip on 934 7445
or email: codwgpdl@gmail.com.

THURSDAY**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@xtra.co.nz

FRIDAY**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

SATURDAY**9 - 10 AM DANCE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN**

Pre-school fun classes and Ballet & Jazz classes for 5 - 8 years. Contact Debbie at info@db4dance.co.nz

12 - 4 PM QUARTERLY MARKETS

Next Brooklyn Market on Saturday 9 December from 12pm to 4pm. Email: market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz to book your stall.

SUNDAY**9:15 AM BROOKLYN ANGLICANS**

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

10 AM - 1 PM EKKAALLAM CHURCH

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

4:30-6:30 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

BROOKLYN WELLNESS HUB

Second article discussing possible causes and remedies of the current anxiety and depression epidemic.

Disconnection from other people causing loneliness...

Humans started off in the savannahs of Africa living in tribes and being only able to survive because they collaborated in a group. The moment you were separated from your group you were very vulnerable and in mortal danger. Studies (John Cacioppo et al) have shown that our bodies are still wired that way. If someone feels acutely lonely, the stress hormone production increases as high as if they were being physically attacked. This is an urgent signal from your body and brain to quickly “get back to your group”. Every human instinct is honed not for life on your own, but for life in a tribe. We don't only feel bad in isolation, but also insecure. Lonely people notice threats much faster than socially connected people. In this hypervigilant state you become more suspicious of any social contact, take offence where none was intended, and can become afraid of strangers. You start to be afraid of the very thing you need most, as disconnection spirals into more disconnection. The tragedy is that many depressed people receive less love, as they become harder to be around.

For decades Harvard professor Robert Putnam has been documenting one of the most important trends of our time: that we do less and less together in groups. Involvement in community organisations dropped by 45% from 1985 to 1994. The structures for looking out for each other in families and communities fell apart. We disbanded our tribes and often



unconsciously experimented to see if humans could live alone. We changed or were forced to adopt an individualistic vision of how to live: shut yourself in your home, accumulate success and stuff for yourself. We have shrunk our sense of self to just our ego, and this has made our pain swell and our happiness shrivel.

Many people feel lonely, isolated, and meaningless even though they see people every day. To ease loneliness, we need to have a sense of mutual aid, meaningful connection, and protection. We must return to seeing our distress and our joy as something we share in community and create social reconnection again.

Christmas and summer holidays are approaching fast. Let us all consciously build community with family and friends and reach out to each other to deepen our relationships. Make the supreme effort to find your tribe - walk, talk, eat, and share life together. By Konstanze A

Based on the book “Lost Connections” by Johann Hari.

Check our website for Brooklyn Wellness Hub Clinic times over the holidays www.wellnesshub.nz and other events. Blessings for a very happy Christmas and holidays from us all. Look forward to seeing you all in 2024.





HOMES WITH SOUL WINS AT HOME AND GARDEN SHOW

Brooklyn based interior designer Nicci Tong from Homes with Soul has been helping her clients transform their homes in Brooklyn and beyond since 2003.

Her distinctive approach to decorating, known as the Homes with Soul Approach, has helped her clients to create unique and inspiring homes that reflect their own personal style and incorporate existing pieces they already own and love.

Nicci was the winner of an interior design competition at the Home and Garden Show recently, where she showcased her ability to combine old and new pieces to create a cosy, timeless and personal living room (in the draughty and not very cosy SKY Stadium!)

Committed to making interior design accessible to everyone, Nicci's ability to breathe new life into interiors with a focus on affordability has earned her a reputation as Wellington's specialist in affordable interior design. With over a decade of industry experience, including expertise in renovation, design, and project management, Nicci has shifted her focus recently towards empowering home makers in their design

and decorating projects, by working more collaboratively with them.

In her one-hour Home Consultations she provides expert advice and guidance on decorating projects and ideas, helping home makers refresh their home interiors wisely and economically. Her clients often save thousands of dollars on unnecessary changes, and gain clarity and confidence to move forward.

More recently, Nicci has been hosting evening Decorating Workshops for non-designers in her Brooklyn home. These workshops are a fun and relaxed way to learn some easy-to-understand design principles that anyone can apply to enhance the look and feel of their homes.

If you're ready to create a home you love but would like additional support to get it right the first time, visit www.homeswithsoul.co.nz/ contact and book a chat with Nicci! Subscribe to the Homes with Soul newsletter (on the link above) and receive a 32-page Love the Home You're In Decorating Workbook—a super valuable step-by-step guide to help you use what you have, buy only what you need, and create a home you love!





CELEBRATING OVER \$100,000 OF GRANTS

Following the sale of the property in Jefferson Street the proceeds were invested with Investment Advisors and this has enabled The BRC Charitable Trust, in the last three years, to distribute “Grants” totalling in excess of \$100,000 to Organisations/Groups within the greater Brooklyn area.

We invite eligible Community Groups in greater Brooklyn to apply for funding towards projects that will continue to support and grow our community. Grant rounds are held 6 monthly in March and September with no individual grant to exceed \$5,000.

Details of criteria are advertised in the Tattler March and September issues, or can be obtained from:

email: brooklynresourcecentre@gmail.com

To date the following have benefited from grants by the BRC Charitable Trust:

Brooklyn School, Brooklyn Scouts, St Bernards School, Brooklyn Community Centre, Whanau Manaaki Brooklyn Kindergarten, Vogelmorn Tennis Club, Brooklyn Food Group, Greater Brooklyn Residents Association, Brooklyn Toy Library, Brooklyn Northern United JFC, Ridgway School, Brooklyn Geckos Hockey Club, Upstream Friends of Central Park, Vogelmorn Community Group, Brooklyn Junior Cricket Club, Two Todman, Capital Montessori School (Kingston), Brooklyn Trail Builders, Brooklyn Playgroup



The top photo is of the first Brooklyn Festival which was started by the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA) on 29 November 1997. The festivals ran annually in Cleveland Street until 2009 after which they were discontinued due to increased compliance costs.

The bottom photo is of the inaugural Brooklyn Twilight Festival which was held in Harrison Street this year on 11 November. Scottie Reeve from Two Todman was the instigator in reviving the festival with BCA collaborating and contributing to the costs.

Top photo credit: BCA Archives

Bottom Photo credit: Guido Seevens



VOGELMORN PRECINCT



vogelmornbc@gmail.com

<https://vogelmorn.nz/>

A Very Proud Xmas (Variety - The Children Charity Fundraiser Party) Vogelmorn UPSTAIRS Saturday 9 December 6pm-10pm

This Christmas thousands of Kiwi kids won't have enough food to eat, and being hungry is no way for a child to remember Christmas - so we can give them something special, by doing something special ourselves! One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will go to Variety - The Children's Charity.

The event will be a lovely get-together to end the year, and the amazing times Proud Dad has had with you all; there'll be free kai, live music from local talent, a range of fun games and activities, free prizes, and an amazing raffle worth over \$100! So, come along to the lovely Vogelmorn Bowling Club, and have a good boogie with Proud Dad as we close out 2023 together! Tickets from Eventbrite.

Vogelmorn's Annual Reflection Meeting and End of Year Celebration Vogelmorn Upper Space Saturday 16 December Meeting: 1pm-3pm Celebration: 3pm-10pm

Join us at Vogelmorn's annual reflection meeting, an interactive forum where your voice actively shapes the direction of our community. This isn't just a meeting, it's an opportunity for neighbours, contributors, and community members to influence the future vision of Vogelmorn. This event is about offering a space

for meaningful reflections on the achievements and shortcomings of the past year, and a focused discussion on aspirations for the future. It will be a collaborative exploration of where we've been and where we're going. Come along and share your thoughts, dreams, and ideas in a practical dialogue that defines the path forward for this inclusive, creative, and sustainable community precinct. Plus, stick around afterwards for the Vogelmorn End of Year Celebration!

Vogelmorn Holiday Closedown Period Monday 18 December 2023 - Monday 22 January 2024

A reminder that the Vogelmorn Cafe, Upstairs, Co-working Space, and Smoked & Pickled will be closed from 18 December to the week starting 22 January. The neighbourhood is of course welcome to enjoy the green, toys, trampoline, and gardens over this time.

The team at Vogelmorn want to thank all the incredible community members who support and volunteer their time, and wish you all a restful holiday break.

A poster with a dark red background and white text. The text reads: 'Wanted! Rat-Catcher. Someone to run two traplines in town belt areas either side of Bell Road. Yes, we're rewilding the area and predator control is a vital part of restoring the biodiversity that previously existed here. At least two-hours maintenance required per fortnight (more if you wish). Call Denis on 0223536078.'

Wanted!
Rat-Catcher

Someone to run two traplines in town belt areas either side of Bell Road.

Yes, we're rewilding the area and predator control is a vital part of restoring the biodiversity that previously existed here.

At least two-hours maintenance required per fortnight (more if you wish).

Call Denis on **0223536078**.



CAIRO

We'd like to introduce our new office cat, Cairo!

This pretty tabby girl (11) came in when her folks moved overseas to take care of elderly parents and couldn't take Cairo with them. Cairo enjoys people time, but likes to set the pace of interaction. She's not a fan of having other cats around, so she's been promoted to office assistant, and takes the role seriously. Her responsibilities include providing smooches for people during screen-time, warming laps on chilly days, and ensuring a gentle soundtrack of snores at other times. Of course, this is only a temporary position, and we are on the lookout for a permanent placement for Cairo. She is spending more time indoors as she gets older, but she does still enjoy having a safe outdoor



environment to explore. She will also need to be an only cat in her next home.

There's more about Cairo and all our other cats at catsprotectionwellington.org.nz. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for pictures, stories and videos of cats in our shelter.

CARPETECH

CARPET MAINTENANCE

	carpet repairs
	pet damage
	ripples removed
	stains patched
	free quotes

BROOKLYN

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

Enjoy
 Childcare

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE
 HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES
 [TEACHER ONLY DAYS]

ST BERNARD'S SCHOOL
 RIDGWAY SCHOOL
 BERHAMPORE SCHOOL
 OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL

ENROL NOW!

www.enjoychildcare.co.nz





have sent many fabulous, hardworking groups our way. Thanks also to the trappers, weeders, implement cleaners, planters, track-makers, organisers, fundraisers, coffee-makers and bakers.

We wish you all a happy holiday and look forward to welcoming you back next year. Details of the first working bee for 2024 will be on meet-up. Just follow the link below.

Kia pai ngā harerei!

Next working bee likely January 2024 – Last Sunday of the month between 10am – 12.30pm

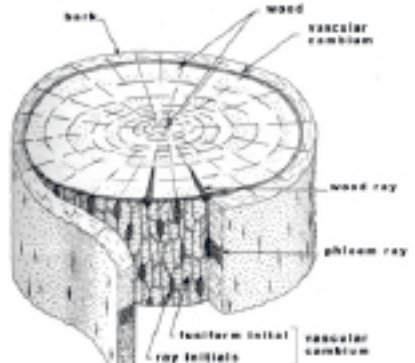
Check <https://www.meetup.com/upstream/> for confirmation of working bees.

Contact Lynne at all.whites@xtra.co.nz
Everyone welcome!

Happy holidays

We're swinging into summer with Central Park looking particularly gorgeous right now. Check out the enchanting sprays of Rangiora flowerets that are just turning from white to rose. Or, if you're into brighter floral bling, visit the orange and yellow trumpets of Clivia around the fountain. At the park's main entrance, the oaks, and further along, the lime trees framing the path along Moturoa Stream have their full complement of leaves – still spring green. It is hard to beat walking through the park on a sunny morning with the sun filtering through that glorious canopy.

All that gorgeousness is provided by nature but helped along in Central Park by a swathe of people. So, as we enter the holiday season, we want to thank Wellington City Council for their support and Volunteer Wellington who



BROOKLYN www.livingplanet.co.nz
0800 4 TREE DR.
971 8583



From all of us at the
Brooklyn Community Centre
 we wish you and your whanau a very
Merry Christmas
 & a happy, peaceful 2024

- P 04 384 6799
- A 18 Harrison Street
- W brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz



Community Market
 12-4pm
 9 December

SOAP

- Ooh la la Crepes / Toasted sandwiches**
- Knife Sharpener**
- Jewellery / Resin goods**
- Plants & Succulents / Candles / Soaps**
- Retro china / Beach jewellery**
- Ceramics / Doll clothes**
- Organic balms & skin care**
- Woven harakeke**
- Painted vintage lightbulbs**
- Crochet toys / Crafts**
- Environmentally friendly products**
- Vegetables / Chutneys**
- ...and more!**



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

COMMUNITY GROUPS

BROOKLYN BROWNIES, GUIDES AND PIPPINS

Pippins (5-7 years)
brooklynpipppins@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

Years 1-4 and new entrants Fridays 4pm-5:15pm. Years 5-8 Tuesdays 4:15pm-5:15pm. Tanera Park Bowling Club astro turf. Just turn up on practice day <http://brooklyngeckoshockey.weebly.com>.

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 9 December 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.

Wellington Reformed

Church 34 Harrison St.
Rachel 022 407 9652

BROOKLYN NORTHERN UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

First kicks enrolments open throughout the season. Email enquiries to info@bnujfc.co.nz or visit us online at www.bnujfc.co.nz

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 6.30pm-8pm
mid-March to early Octowwwber at the Royal Tiger Range, 131 Russell Terrace, Newtown. To join contact Dianne Grain on 0274 449 641 d.grain@xtra.co.nz 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.

11 December – Central Park tracks walk followed by



Christmas lunch. Start from Brooklyn Library

18 December – Johnsonville to Ngauranga. Catch 10:02am train to Johnsonville.

8 January – Petone Esplanade to Lower Hutt. Catch 9:47am No. 83 bus from Railway Station.

15 January – Seatoun to Lyall Bay. Catch 10:14am No. 2 bus from Kilbirnie Bus Hub.

22 January – Karori Cemetery to Otari Wilton. Catch 9:39am No. 2 bus from Lambton Quay.

BROOKLYN JUNIOR CRICKET CLUB At the old Wellington Bowling Club, Tanera Crescent, Brooklyn. More details online at www.bjcc.co.nz

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

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 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. Sam Day 022 436 8715, 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.

SCRABBLE WELLINGTON

Wednesdays from 7pm upstairs at the Vogelmorn Precinct, 93 Mornington Rd. All abilities welcome! Contact Nick Ascroft on 022 675 1399. Email: nick_ascroft@hotmail.com

VOGELMORN TENNIS CLUB

Welcomes players of all ages and abilities. Join our social, family-friendly club. Club days, competitive play, professional coaching.

vogelmorntennisclub.com 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.

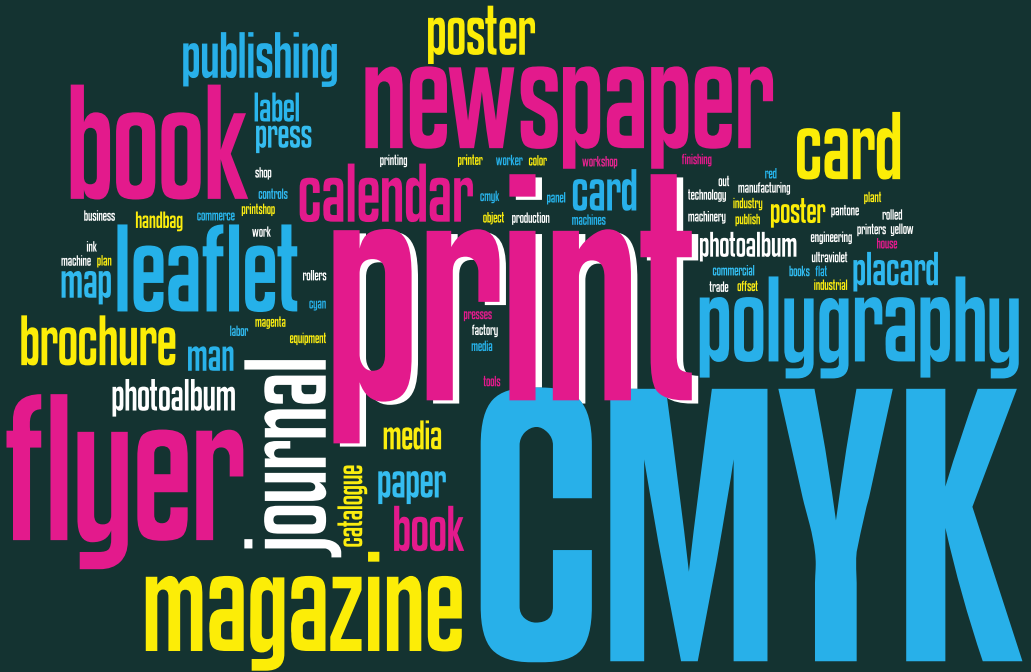
COMMUNITY POTLUCK

At Two Todman on the last Thursday of the month from 7pm. Everyone welcome. Please bring something to share. Find us on Facebook or visit www.twotodman.org.nz



PIVOTAL

CREATE • PRINT • DELIVER



For All Your Printing Needs

Offset Print • Digital Print • Prepress • Design • Finishing

100% Wellington owned and operated, and we're pretty proud of it.

04 385 2681 • pivotalprint.co.nz
sales@pivotalprint.co.nz