



SEPTEMBER 2026 390

Brooklyn
Community
Centre

Community
Market

12-4pm
19 September

BROOKLYN TATTLER

what's happening in your community



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This month's cover photo features parents and children from the Brooklyn Playcentre on Harrison Street.

Photo credit: Euan Harris

October 2026 copy due no later than 5pm Tuesday 22 September.

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 September Brooklyn Tattler, our second home delivered issue for this year with more pages than ever, thanks to all our regular and new contributors. We have a busy month coming up with our AGM, Brooklyn Market and end of term school holiday programme as we head towards the start of daylight saving on 27 September.

Brooklyn Community Association AGM

The Brooklyn Community Centre is owned and operated by the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA) whose volunteer committee is responsible for the governance of your local Community Centre. We offer a wide range of services and activities including the Brooklyn Tattler, Community Markets, plus an extensive range of OSCAR approved childcare programmes, a weekly senior's social group, recycling initiatives, spaces for hire and lots more. Our AGM is on Sunday 13 September at 3pm. The chair will run a short meeting then there's the opportunity to catch up with people in your neighbourhood over tea, coffee and snacks.

September Brooklyn Market

Join us for our Spring Brooklyn Market on Saturday 19 September from 12pm to 4pm. We have a full hall of stallholders booked with some interesting new additions, plus live music with Emma Kate, face painting with Maz, and Niels from Crafty Pies will be in the kitchen selling delicious food and hot drinks.

School Holiday Programme

Our next school holiday programme runs from Monday 28 September to Friday 9 October. Adam and the childcare team are



Pastor Joe Serevi from the Salvation Army speaking to our Friday Seniors Group

putting together another fortnight of fun activities. Programme details and enrolment forms will be available later this month online and in the Community Centre foyer.

Meals on Wheels

A big thank you to Sue Devereux and her team of volunteer drivers who reliably turn up and go out in all sorts of weather to deliver meals in and around Brooklyn. We are always looking for more people to help with deliveries, so if you can spare a couple of hours around lunchtime, either weekly, fortnightly or monthly please get in touch with Sue at suedev.personal@gmail.com

Friday Circle Seniors Group

Our Seniors Group meets weekly from 11am to 2pm with a group of loyal regulars. New people are welcome to join. Morning tea at 11am, gentle exercise at 11:30am, lunch from 12pm and after lunch our guest speaker slot. We have had some interesting people come and speak this year, including a recent talk from Pastor Joe Serevi who spoke about his work at the Inner-City Outreach on Taranaki Street.

Reader Contributions

Reader contributions are welcome. Email your stories and photos to tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz Recently, local poet Maia Hills contacted us. Find out more about Maia and read her first monthly poem for the Tattler on page 10.

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Tattler:

tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Market:

market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Main Office: 04 384 6799

Childcare Office: 04 385 0089



KEEPING CATS WARM IN WINTER

Just because a cat has fur does not necessarily mean that it will stay warm in winter. Though fur does trap a layer of warm air against the skin, its' effectiveness depends on the cats' breed, its' age and health and the weather itself.

Hairless breeds such as the Sphynx of course have no protection at all against the elements and need specialised care while longer-haired cats (like "Karen" pictured) will cope better; but all cats, though they are often very good at finding small places to curl up when the weather is cold, need consideration of their changing needs as they age.

Young cats, kittens and seniors for example, can have difficulty regulating their body temperatures when external temperatures drop especially as they lack the body fat needed to maintain core warmth; in addition, senior cats will almost always have some degree of arthritis, which, as with humans, can become more painful in cold weather.

Keeping cats inside overnight and making sure that beds or sleeping areas are elevated and protected from draughts is a good starting point.

Cat igloos or ordinary cardboard boxes lined with soft bedding can help provide a sheltered, cosy place for cats to rest and there are some excellent cat-safe heating products available. Electric heat pads that activate with the cat's weight, or solid pads that heat in the microwave and stay warm for up to eight hours, can offer safer alternatives to hot water bottles or human electric blankets.

To meet 5-year-old "Karen", available for adoption at our shelter, visit our website here: www.catsprotectionwellington.org.nz or call the shelter on 04 3899 668. (The CPW shelter is open to visitors on Saturdays and Sundays between 12pm to 4pm by appointment only)

Nau Mai, Haere Mai ki



I Te Puna Reo o Te Waonui a Tāne, ka titiro mātou ki tō mātou hapori ako me he ngahere ora.

Our nurturing space welcomes tamariki aged 0 to 6 years, where each child is a kākano full of mana and potential. Whānau are the oneone haumako that grounds them in whakapapa and aroha, and our kaiako are the kaipoipoi who lovingly nurture every tamaiti to flourish.

Grounded in Te Ara Māori and Te Whāriki, our daily life is lived through the medium of te reo Māori. As a taonga tuku iho, te reo Māori nourishes our learning while waiata, pūrākau, karakia, and the mātauranga of our tūpuna shape each day's experiences. Through play, discovery, and meaningful relationships, our tamariki grow in confidence, curiosity, and pride in their tuakiritanga.

Inspired by our whakataukī, "Kotahi karihi nāna i ruia te wao nui a Tāne." (One seed sown gave rise to the great forest of Tāne). We foster a deep hononga with Papatūānuku through exploration, play, and kaitiakitanga. Just as every seed contributes to the strength of the forest, every child, every whānau, and every story enriches our learning community.

Ahakoia tō whakapapa, te āhua rānei o tō haerenga i Te Ao Māori, e pōwhiritia ana koe. No matter where your journey into Te Ao Māori begins, your whānau will be welcomed, valued, and supported to grow alongside us in Te Waonui a Tāne.



30 HOURS
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04 909 0287



THE BROOKLYN twilight festival IS BACK!

The Brooklyn Twilight Festival is back again this year on **Saturday 14 November!**

For the fourth year, Harrison Street and the grounds of Brooklyn Community Centre will come alive with **music, markets, food, drinks, face-painting, bouncy castles and more** — a chance for thousands of locals to come together and celebrate everything that makes Brooklyn such a great place to live.

This year, the festival will run slightly earlier, from **1–8pm**, making the most of the early summer daylight.

There are plenty of ways to get involved:

Musicians & Performers

Our community stage is an open opportunity for musicians and performers of all ages and abilities to share their talents with the neighbourhood.

In previous years we've had everything from singer-songwriters to Zumba, belly dancing to community choirs — and we'd love to showcase another great mix of local talent this year.

If you'd like to perform, email two.todman@gmail.com.

Market Stalls

Brooklyn Community Centre will host 24 market stalls selling crafts, gifts, knick-knacks and locally made goods. It's the perfect opportunity to find something unique and get a head start on your Christmas shopping.

If you're a local creative, maker or small business and would like a stall, email Euan Harris coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz.

Volunteers

It takes a small army of volunteers to make the Brooklyn Twilight Festival happen!

We need people to help with setup and pack-down, as well as a few key roles throughout the day including supervising bouncy castles, first aid and general festival logistics.

If you're keen to lend a hand anywhere during the festival, email two.todman@gmail.com.

Keep up to date

We'll be announcing musicians, performers, activities and other festival attractions in the lead-up to November.

Keep an eye on www.brooklynfestival.co.nz for all the latest information.

The Brooklyn Twilight Festival wouldn't be possible without the work of **Brooklyn Community Centre, Two Todman and Vogelmorn Community Group**, along with the generous support of **BRC Trust and Wellington City Council**.

Saturday 14 November • 1–8pm • Harrison Street & Brooklyn Community Centre

See you there, Brooklyn!



**NEXT MEETING – We invite you to our next meeting which
will be held on Wednesday 16 September at 7pm at
Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street**

Brooklyn Connections / Brooklyn cycleway	Submissions were made to Wellington City Council (WCC) 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.
General Election on Saturday 7th November	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 15 October from 6.30pm. GBRAI encourages everyone to come along, bring your friends and your questions for the candidates of the Wellington Bays electorate.
Battery recycling and diverting them from ending up 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: 569.25 kg of all various battery types. The most numerous are: 283 kg of AA batteries, 84 kg of AAA batteries, 35 kg of C batteries, 41 kg of D batteries. The remainder being made up of button batteries, computer, 6V, 9V, 12V and 18V batteries. 28kg were disposed of in July 2026 without being sorted. 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.
Landfill issues 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.
Brooklyn Road resealing	GBRAI have convinced WCC, which intends to reseal Brooklyn Road, to tar seal the road and not chip seal it. There is no way the chipseal would last with all the heavy vehicles using the road including double decker buses.
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

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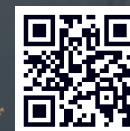
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with soul**
homeswithsoul.co.nz

Silently Loud

The village is silently loud
Cars buzz past in restless swarms
There's a flax bush grumbling in my ear
Leaves holding their breath under heavy shoes
Concrete hums with every step
A soldier is speaking from the hilltop pedestal-
I can't quite catch his words.

The village is silently loud
A window shouts across the road
And the breeze is playing tricks on a hat
Backpacks and purses are trading gossip
And the benches by the fire station are moaning-
"There's gum on me!"

(the mural across the road is bursting with laughter)

The village is silently loud
The traffic lights are winking at me
(a photo of where this poem
was written)
And the faded white house won't stop talking about "the good old days"
(I'm not listening, but I'm trying to be polite)
A rubbish bin is plotting its great escape
And the parking poles scream about order and rules
This village is silently loud.



*(a photo of where this poem
was written.)*

ABOUT THE POET:

Maia Hills is a young poet who enjoys observing everyday places and crafting stories in ordinary moments. Silently Loud was inspired by sitting in the village and paying attention to the small details that often go unnoticed. The poem imagines everyday objects and buildings as having their own voices and personalities, exploring how a familiar place can feel full of life, movement, and conversation.



Katie Underwood

Ray White



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ODE TO SOURDOUGH

The sourdough bread-making process is, in theory, simple enough. Feed starter. Wait. Add salt. Stretch and fold. Wait. Stretch and fold. Wait. Stretch and fold. Wait. Stretch and fold. Wait. Pre-shape dough into balls. Wait. Shape dough. Put shaped dough into a banneton or a dusted tea-towel inside a bowl, colander, or loaf tin. Leave dough in the fridge. Wait. Bake. Wait a little longer. Slice. Eat!

The skills involved in this process are ones you could learn alone, and there are many, many YouTube tutorials you could watch to become a competent baker.

But I'm not one of those people who can learn to crochet, paint watercolor, or compost solely by watching YouTube videos. While my failure to stick to new hobbies is partly due to a lack of discipline, I suspect it's also about the need for community. Sometimes, we need others to learn alongside.

This is a wildly unoriginal thought! But it occurred to me afresh at our second sourdough bread-making workshop in August; one of our budding bread-buddies said that she had wanted to make sourdough bread for some time but wouldn't have started making it without this workshop.

Learning new skills as an adult can be daunting and vulnerable, but it can be less, so when we learn skills together in a

supportive environment. We're glad to be able to provide such an environment (with the help of Peter Marshall, Scottie Reeve, and Andy Newport).

The goal of our workshops isn't just to master bread-making, but to experience the process together. This is why we hold our workshops over two sessions. On Friday evening, we learn to prepare the sourdough, and on Saturday morning, we return to bake, cut open our loaves, and enjoy them with various toppings (pineapple and pesto, anyone?!) over tea and coffee.

The sourdough starter itself is a good metaphor for what we're trying to do here at Two Todman. While you could try to cultivate your own starter over several weeks, it's so much more effort, and your bug may ultimately not be as resilient or flavourful as some starter shared by a neighbor, or friend.

Parallel Play: Group Art Exhibition

The same themes of learning and making in community carry across to our artists group, who are putting on an exhibition from Tuesday 29 September- Sunday 4 October 2026, entitled Parallel Play. This is bound to be a beautiful and joyful exhibition and is borne out of 6 months of making and reflecting together on work, play, and (hopefully) enjoying the process. The opening evening, 29 September (7-9pm) is not to be missed!

As always, get in touch at (two.todman@gmail.com) with your ideas and input for future events, groups, to hire our community room, or come and check out our co-worker's space.

Until next time,

Be well, Brooklyn!

Tamsin & the Two Todman Team



Photo credit: Karen Honore

Happening/ Upcoming at Two Todman:

- Dumpling-Making workshop with Constance Puha, Friday 18 September, 7:00pm.
- Parallel Play: A Group Art Exhibition, Tuesday 29 September- Sunday 4 October, featuring art by Rowena Fry, Grace Newman, Donna Jackson, Bird Dovahkhiin, Kiera Heathcote, Jo Schaab, and Sharne Molloy-Turpin. Please join us for opening night, on Tuesday 29 September, 7:00pm-9:00pm.
- Sourdough Break Workshop: Friday 30 October, 7:00pm; and Saturday 31 October 10:00am.

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Brooklyn and surrounding suburbs

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

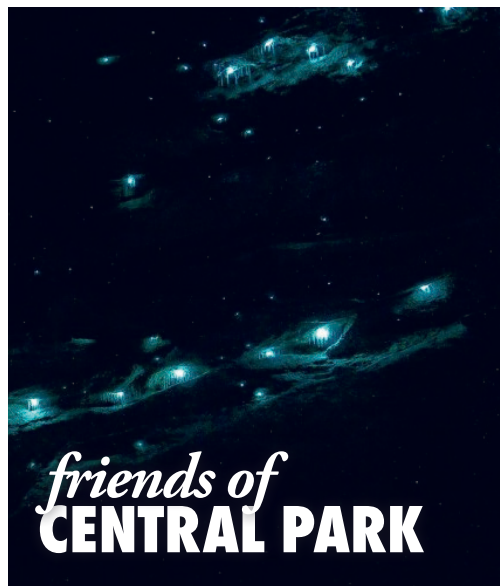
**10:30 AM EKKAALLAM
CHURCH**

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



Glow worms

Early evening, Central Park. You could be forgiven for thinking that stars had fallen from the heavens to line the stream banks. But no. It's the glowing excretory organs of one of NZ's 300 or so species of fungus gnat: *Arachnocampa luminosa*. There are many inaccuracies surrounding glow worms. Firstly, not a worm. And although the Latin name has a spidery feel – not a spider either. And yes, it is gnat: a gnat larvae strictly speaking. But it doesn't eat fungus. Glow worms are carnivores. And the glowing bum? Not strictly correct. The excretory organ producing the light is more like a kidney. It uses neurochemicals plus oxygen to create the glow, which lights up the mucus strings that trap food. Num-num. Amazingly, glow worms can control the amount of light they produce and synchronise to attract prey. Writing for *Forest and Bird*, Jessie Star (2025) notes the Māori name *titiwai* – light on the water – describes glow worms better. They live in damp places to protect their mucus coatings and to hang out where their

food lives. It's a good strategy when you're anticipating not having a mouth as an adult. Yes, eating or procreating – you can't do those things in the same form as a glow worm. As adults they procreate then die. Lack of sustenance.

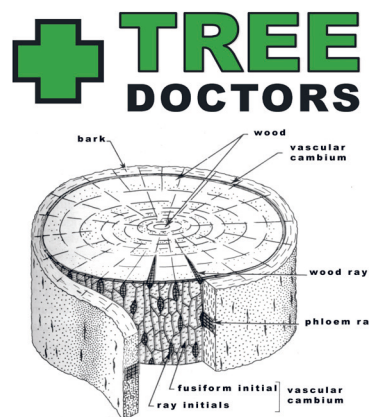
The creatures we share the park and this planet with are astonishing. Thanks to those of you who came to our guided glow worm tour this winter. Everyone is welcome at our next working bee. Bring your own mug, and gloves, if you have them. We supply baking and Supreme Coffee.

Next working bee: Sunday 27 September
10.00 am – 12.30 pm.

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

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

Photo credit: John Hartanowicz CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia commons



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EARLY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

The Brooklyn Community Centre Gymnastics Group, supervised by Mrs. M N Byrne and Gwen Devereux, commenced a holiday club for schoolchildren in 1968. It ran three days a week over school holidays, with six parents leading the children. Admission was 10 cents per child, enabling them to play cricket, table tennis, darts, dominoes, quoits and other quiet games.

The children also had the opportunity to work with puppets, making pictures out of cloth and paper, painting and sewing. They also had instruction in Japanese paper folding (origami), folk dancing, drama, and the workings of a car engine.

Highlights were a visit to a puppeteer, to the zoo (complete with tour guides), and a trip around the harbour on a large yacht. Once a fortnight on a Wednesday, a barbecue was laid on., attracting over 70 children, prepared and supervised by a group of able and organized mothers. Regular visits to the seashore at Owiro Bay were also made.

During the holiday programme, from mid-December, the school baths were open daily for two hours swimming, with a two-cent donation.

Mrs. Byrne, with her committee of three, was secretary of the Gym Club, and it was her initiative that got the holiday club going. The club catered for children from 6 to 15, the bulk of the 60+ children being under the age of 12. Gwen conducted folk

dancing lessons, with the assistance of her daughters Jenny & Anne, while committee member Nola Millar taught drama.

The Devereux girls produced a sort of handwritten newspaper, explaining in detail all the club's activities. It wasn't a proper paper, rather a collection of handwritten notes pinned together on a large sheet of brown paper (though they always began with an 'editorial').

The girls included samples of paintings done by some younger children. A competition began from the first issue to give the paper a name before the end of the school holidays. The paper, sadly, only lasted a few issues, still without a name.

The first issue of the 'newspaper' was written and produced on 8th January 1968 and was displayed on noticeboards for all to read.

The response from parents was wonderful. Mothers worked on a roster system with supervising, while dads combined to provide transport for outings. A charge of five cents was imposed for the outings. Fees to participate in the club were:

Ten cents per child per day. 25 cents for a family of 3 or more. One dollar for a singles season ticket, or two dollars for a family ticket.

The second edition of the paper appeared a week later on January 15th. The Devereux girls reported on how successful the previous week's activities were. The cricket, held on Tanera Park, was a huge success with most boys playing. Several children travelled to Miramar to visit the puppeteer. Two new games had been added – tenniquoits and marbles.

A new competition commenced, where the children had to name the 'gonk', which had become the holiday club's mascot. This was organized by Lesley Fuller.



During the various programmes, there was a Comic Exchange in the main hall. A pile of comics was on a large table on the main stage, where children could take their comics and swap for ones they didn't have.

Chris Rabey
with thanks to Sue Devereux

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Brooklyn Community Association AGM

Sunday, 13 September, 3pm

18 Harrison Street Brooklyn

- Come along to meet the people who run your Community Centre
- All welcome
- Refreshments provided at conclusion of meeting



Brooklyn
Community
Centre

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



VBC EATS

VBC Eats is the new restaurant at Vogelmorn, open Thursday to Saturday at 93 Mornington Road. It's relaxed, family oriented, and built for the way locals actually want to eat. Bring the family, order some fresh kai, sit where you like and stay awhile. There are weekly specials, bar snacks and a kids' menu (with the all-important pizza and fries), cooked up in the Vogelmorn kitchen shared with the daytime cafe.

Local chef David Zillwood is behind the food. He got his start in the kitchens of Liverpool, where he developed a love of bistro cooking, unfussy, generous food that feels like a home cooked meal (think pastas, vege soups) and it's that spirit he's bringing to Vogelmorn. Home, in this case, is quite literal. David grew up in the neighbourhood, went to the local school and spent time at the Bowling Club with his granddad, a former VBC bowler and Vice President, long before it became the community space it is today. VBC Eats itself started with a chat with a neighbour. It feels like a fitting beginning for a restaurant at the heart of Vogelmorn.



THURSDAY | 4PM – 9PM
FRIDAY | 3PM – 9PM
SATURDAY | 4PM – 9PM
CONTACT
VBC.EATS@GMAIL.COM
INSTAGRAM @VBC.EATS

WHATS ON AT VOGELMORN

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



The Wellington Puppetry Festival 2026

DATES: 18–20 SEP

VENUE: Vogelmorn Precinct

COST: Tickets available via the Wellington Puppetry Festival website

WPF returns this spring to fill the Vogelmorn Precinct with Puppetry and Wonder! A family-first celebration brought to life by our own community of puppeteers, storytellers and makers. Enjoy a weekend of puppetry, performances, workshops and creative activities for the whole whānau, with a special focus on this year's theme, 'Puppets for Peace'.

New Zealand Poetry Slam Championships Wellington Regional Heats

DATES:

Heat 2: 10 SEP

Heat 3: 17 SEP

Heat 4: 24 SEP

VENUE: Vogelmorn Upstairs

TIME: Doors: 7:00pm | Slam starts: 7:30pm

COST: Tickets at UTR

Wellington's road to the 2026 New Zealand Poetry Slam Championships starts here! Across four heats, poets have three minutes to perform their original work, judged by five audience members. The top three poets from each heat advance to the Wellington Regional Final, where two will be selected to represent Wellington at the 2026 NZ Poetry Slam Championships.



brooklynresourcecentre@gmail.com

The BRC Charitable Trust is pleased to announce its second funding cycle for 2026 in the wider Brooklyn community. Applications open 1 September and close 30 September. Trustees will meet in mid-October, and applicants should receive notification of an outcome by the end of October.

In the March round this year a local preschool, primary school, sports group and community centres received funding. While we would like to respond affirmatively to all grant applications, we received more requests for funding than our allocated budget this round. As a result,

a funding application was turned down and another organisation received partial funding.

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).

To apply for a grant from The BRC Charitable Trust, applicants can request funding information by email at: brooklynresourcecentre@gmail.com. An application form and guidelines will be emailed by the secretary. Please post your application form and supporting documentation back. If you're unsure whether you are eligible to apply for funding, please contact us (on email above) to discuss your project.

The BRC Charitable Trust



Earthquakes have been very much in the news this year with significant quakes occurring in Aotearoa and around the world. Is this more than usual? How should we be thinking about them and preparing as a group?

We also looked at how what we are doing at DIRT feeds into the work that the Toi Āria and Ngā Ngaru Wakapuke teams are doing to help other people build understanding, preparedness and resilience for disruptive events.

We'd love to see you at our next event on Sunday 27th of September, 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

DIRT

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

For our August meeting we were lucky to have Professor Caroline Orchiston talking to us about earthquake sequences in the Transition Zone around central Aotearoa-NZ. As co-lead of Ngā Ngaru Wakapuke and Associate Director for QuakeCoRE she has a fantastic perspective to share.

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE IN OUR NEW 2-3 TODDLER COMMUNITY AT CAPITAL MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL, WITH THE HELP OF LOCAL GRANTS

We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our community and the funds raised at our annual fair, along with grants from BRC Charitable Trust and the Vogelhorn Trust, which have enabled us to purchase wonderful lockers for our new 2–3 Toddler Classroom.

The Vogelhorn Foundation and BRC Charitable Trust have been wonderful supporters of our Montessori community over the years. We were saddened to hear of the Foundation's closure and are incredibly grateful for the support they have provided to community organisations like ours over the years. On behalf of our children, whānau, and staff, thank you for your kindness, commitment, and the lasting impact your support has had on our school.

These lockers have already made a meaningful difference. They provide each tamaiti with a special place for their belongings and create another opportunity for tamariki to practise independence, responsibility and care for their environment.

In the Montessori prepared environment, even the simplest everyday routines are learning opportunities. Having their own space encourages tamariki to recognise and care for their belongings, make purposeful choices, and take increasing responsibility for themselves.

We are so thankful to everyone who contributed to making this possible. Your support helps us create a beautiful, purposeful environment where our youngest tamariki can grow



in confidence, independence and mana motuhake.

Our 2-3 Toddler programme opened in May this year and is a stepping stone to the 3-6 Preschool classrooms. It is held in our Rata classroom and garden (previously our playgroup space), with a maximum of 15 children each day. We offer five days a week, with a minimum of three days. Our session times are either morning 8.30am - 11.30am, or full day 8.30am – 3pm.

We still have a few spaces available in our 2–3 Toddler Community. Please get in touch so we can show you our calm, nurturing environment and amazing teachers.

Email: Enrolments@montessori.school.nz

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE: RECYCLING OF PLASTIC AND METAL LIDS

The Brooklyn Community centre recycling project for plastic and metal lids/tops has now been in place since early 2024 and in the 29 months from the startup time to date, we as a community have recycled approximately:

- A total of 975kgs of plastic lids/tops or 33.5kgs per month
- A total of 720kg of metal lids/tops or 25kgs per month

This is great as these items are not going to the Landfill to be buried and instead are being used to create new plastic and metal items.

The process that we have in place for our recycling of plastic and metal is as follows:

- You as a community place items in the appropriate containers located in the foyer of the Community Centre (further guidelines on this are listed below).
- A Community Centre volunteer regularly sifts through the containers to ensure that the materials are in the appropriate containers and there is nothing that may contaminate the recycling process. The volunteer then bags the material into separate bags for plastic and metal and approximately every 6 weeks takes the bags to the Sustainability Trust at 2 Forrester Lane (off Tory Street), Wellington. The Sustainability Trust is a central Wellington location for recycling of the plastic and metal lids and other items, and we thank them for the support,

and assistance they have given to our recycle project and for the bags that they provide for our recycle material. At the Trust our items are placed with all the plastic and metal lids that the Trust have collected and then they are collected by a private contractor to be recycled.

In general, our community does a good job in placing the right items in our designated containers, but here are some reminders:

- Please ensure that you **place plastic lids in the plastic containers and metal lids in the metal containers.**
- Please remember **WE JUST COLLECT PLASTIC AND METAL LIDS/TOPS** in this recycling project. **WE DO NOT COLLECT building materials** e.g. nails, screws brackets etc, mechanical parts e.g. bike chains, spark plugs, springs etc, **plastic or metal coat hangers, plastic or wooden clothes pegs, tin cans, wooden items, plastic containers, tinfoil product, rubberbands or other rubber products, bubble wrap, wire, plastic strapping, tablet bottles, kitchen utensils etc.**
- Please ensure that **batteries** and all items associated with **tetrapak** packaging are placed in their appropriate containers. Both of these are separate and very successful recycling projects that the Community Centre also supports.
- Ensure that all items are **clean** before placing in containers.

Peter Cox



The top photo is of the former Brooklyn Fire Station which was opened on 10 July 1928. The facade remains as a reminder of the original building which closed in 1988.

Top photo credit: Geoff Crosbie

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) brooklynnguides@gmail.com or visit
<https://girlguidingnz.org.nz/>

BROOKLYN FOOD GROUP

Local food and community. Working bees held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month from 3pm 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 26 September 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@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 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 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.

7 September – Central Park, Tanera Park, Kelburn and Central City.

Start from the Library at 9:30am.

14 September – Otari Wilton Bush. Catch 9:39am No.14 bus on Molesworth Street.

21 September – Island Bay to Lyall Bay. Start at 10:05am from Island Bay terminus.

28 September – Polhill walk. Catch 9:29am No.17 bus from Brooklyn Library.

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 secretary1vtc@gmail.com

BROOKLYN SAYGO

Steady As You Go exercise classes Tuesdays at Vogelmorn 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 Vogelmorn 93 Mornington Road. Voluntary Koha. Contact Heather at hdrysdalenz@gmail.com

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