



MARCH 2026 384

Brooklyn
Community
Centre

Community
Market
12-4pm
21 March

BROOKLYN TATTLER

what's happening in your community



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Community Centre	2-3
Earthlink Photo	4
St Matthew's Church	6-7
Cats Protection Wellington	8
Residents' Association	9
Brooklyn Garden Club	10
Zumba	11
What's On	12-13
Friends of Central Park	14
Brooklyn Playcentre	15
History	16
BRC Charitable Trust	17
Toastmasters	18
Then and Now	19
DIRT	20
Whats on at Vogelmorn	21
Community Groups	22-23

This month's cover photo is of Kelda Hains and Mel Beirne at a Brooklyn Community Orchard working bee. Read more on page 17.

Photo credit: Euan Harris

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

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 March Brooklyn Tattler, our first home delivered issue for the year which is being dropped off to houses throughout greater Brooklyn by our Harrison Street Neighbours, the Brooklyn Scout Group.

Brooklyn Community Market

The next Brooklyn Community Market is on Saturday 21 March from midday to 4pm. Neighbours Aotearoa takes place during March and the Brooklyn Market is a great opportunity to come and connect with your neighbours, friends and local residents while browsing through our market stalls and sampling the delicious food on offer provided by Niels of Crafty Pies from our kitchen. Stallholder enquiries welcome. Email us at market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

ANZAC Day in Brooklyn

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

Recycling

The Mini Recycling Station in the Community Centre foyer continues to be well used with people coming



Peter Cox sorting lids and caps at the Community Centre recycling station

in daily to drop off their recyclables. Tetra Paks is the most popular item to be recycled with collection bins filling up fast. Mark and Dion from Earthlink arrive fortnightly on Tuesday morning to empty our bins and often comment that Brooklyn has the most Tetra Paks out of all the community centres they collect from. Other popular items are plastic caps and metal lids which are sorted weekly by volunteer Peter Cox who bags them up and takes them down to the Sustainability Trust. Thank you Peter, for doing this.

Friday Circle Seniors Group

Our Friday Circle Seniors Group is back meeting weekly during school terms from 11am to 2pm. The highlight of the week is the guest speaker slot after lunch. We began the year with a talk from Tamsin Woolf who recently started as the Two Todman Community Worker. Tamsin told us a bit about her background and then talked about all the exciting initiatives at Two Todman and the services they offer. We are always after people to speak to our group. It's very informal and is more like a chat than a structured talk. We love to meet new people and hear about their work, holidays, hobbies and life experiences. If you can spare up to an hour on a Friday afternoon from around 1pm please get in touch.

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market@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz

Main Office: 04 384 6799

Childcare Office: 04 385 0089



Mark and Dion from Earthlink collecting the Community Centre Tetra Paks

Fortnightly on a Tuesday morning Mark and Dion arrive to empty our Tetra Pak bins. The Paks are taken back to Earthlink in Taita and compressed into bales before being transported up to Save Board in Hamilton for processing into Save Board products. www.saveboard.nz

Katie Underwood

Ray White



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CAPITAL MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Preschool 3 - 6 yrs
Coming soon 2 - 3 Classroom

Preschool Fair and Open Day

Sunday 22nd March
10.30am - 1.30pm

Coffee, food, petting zoo and more!
Bring cash

13 Camrose Grove, Kingston | montessori.school.nz



St Matthew's

BROOKLYN
WELLINGTON NZ

CHURCH

130 YEARS LOVING BROOKLYN

My first memories of this neighbourhood are driving in from the northern suburbs with my family to visit my grandparents on Ontario Street in Kingston. For me, the sight of the Renouf Tennis Centre always filled me with warmth — we were almost at Grandma and Pop's.

When we arrived, Pop was always nowhere to be seen, but there would be a fishing rod resting on the couch. I'd throw the line over the back, feel a tug, and lift it up to find an enormous chocolate fish on the end. Long before I ever lived here, Brooklyn was a place of warmth and love for me.

Before moving here in 2020 as the new Anglican priest, my last visit to Brooklyn had been for Pop's funeral at St Matthew's on Washington Avenue. My Pop Arthur was a passionate advocate for the community and a deeply committed member of the St Matthew's parish.

So it was an emotional decision to let go of the St Matthew's building on Washington Avenue when our Presbyterian and Methodist partners chose to redirect their resources to other projects. But it has been comforting recently that our church — formerly known as Brooklyn Anglicans — has reclaimed its historic name: St Matthew's.

Some will be more familiar with our work as Two Todman, where we've been based for the past six years. Our thrift store has redistributed over \$20,000 to community organisations, while our community space has hosted countless gigs, exhibitions, meetings, and classes. We've welcomed choirs, board game evenings, dads' groups, music lessons, and meditation groups.

Two Todman is our response to the way this neighbourhood has changed over the past 130 years — since our church first met in a rented hall on Ohiro Road in 1896. It is our way of responding to a simple but important question: what is the role of the church in a post-Christian society?

To some, Two Todman may feel like a big departure from stained glass and sanctuaries. But recently, as I read Chris Rabey's history of St Matthew's, I realised we are really doing what the church has always done here.

St Matthew's has a deep history of caring for the Brooklyn neighbourhood — whether building the Scout Hall in 1909, helping establish the Brooklyn Resource Centre in 1982, or pushing the pews aside during the 1970s so the church could serve as a classroom while Brooklyn School built new facilities. Some of the first sports clubs in the neighbourhood — table tennis and harriers — sprang out of this community.



It is this whakapapa of care for the neighbourhood that we continue today — taking the words of Jesus literally to “love our neighbour as ourselves.” Whether flinging pancakes through car windows on Shrove Tuesday, or partnering with other community groups to revive the Brooklyn Festival, we believe the local church should be good for everyone — whether we share the same beliefs or not.

Our decision to purchase Two Todman in 2020 came with a deliberate choice: to create a space for community gathering, rather than simply a new space for church gatherings. And alongside this,

a congregation of 40–50 people has continued to gather at the Brooklyn Community Centre just as we have for the past 130 years. Services are on Sundays at 9:30am with a cup of tea beforehand at 9.15am. These times include a kids' programme, music, prayers, a sermon, and communion.

Whether you'd like to join us at Two Todman to help make Brooklyn an even better place to live — or join us on Sundays to reflect on our faith which motivates this — we'd love to connect - www.stmattsbrooklyn.org.nz

Rev. Scottie Reeve

SUNSHINE SAILOR

Mehli is known to be a timid, sensitive girl who takes a while to trust new people and is easily scared by loud noises.

So, it's fun to find her being completely fearless about heights, way up in the shade-sail over one of the CPW shelter's sundecks!

The four-year-old came to us when her elderly owner had to go into care. In her previous quiet home, she enjoyed gentle pats, head tickles, and curling up on her person's lap.

We're looking for a new home for her that doesn't have children or other pets – preferably just one understanding person who she can gradually build her trust and confidence with.

Mehli loves the outdoors and is happiest when she has a safe outside



area to explore. She's an excellent hunter of mice and lizards.

If you are looking for a loyal little friend and are willing to take the time to let her, find her confidence, then make an appointment to meet Mehli.

To see all our gorgeous available cats, visit our website here: catsprotectionwellington.org.nz, and follow us on social – we have clips, pictures and stories on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

Need before school care for your child/ren?
 Come join us at our OSCAR accredited Before School Care programme at Brooklyn Community Centre
 Mondays – Fridays from 7.30am.
 Daily/weekly/casual rates available
 Drop off to Brooklyn School
 To find out more contact Adam at: Childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz



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



Monthly update on issues and projects involving our community

NEXT MEETING – We invite you to our next meeting on Wednesday 15 April at 7pm

Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street

Come and have your say and please consider contributing your time to advocate for the community

Landfill updates (WCC Southern Landfill and the two privately run landfills in the Landfill Precinct.

#WCC Southern Landfill: construction of the new SLPO stage of the landfill is proceeding apace. Numerous consents have/will be lodged. Also located at the Southern Landfill, the sewage sludge dewatering plant operations have been extended to 31 December 2027. This was done prior to the catastrophic failure of the main Moa Point treatment plant, as the new sludge dewatering plant construction has run into construction delays.

West Gully (formally C & D landfill) now owned and run by Halverson Civil engineering and construction company. They are remediating the existing construction landfill site, preparing – in about a year or so – to start up a second construction waste landfill.

T and T construction waste landfill (off Ohio Road) – noise control we note the upgrade of site vehicles from screeching reversing sirens to flashing light system. Local residents are pleased with this change as the reversing sirens greatly disturbed resident's peace and enjoyment at home around Kowhai Park and Panorama Heights.

Porirua Spicer Landfill – we note there is a proposal to close this landfill in 2030. We are concerned about the high likelihood that much of that waste will end up in one of the three local landfills.

Kingston issues

GBRAI (through Kingston Rep Ailsa) has identified several areas where trees & weeds & vegetation are overgrowing and impinging on parks and walkways. Approaches have been made to WCC to get this cut back and dealt with. GBRAI acknowledges that the council is struggling with the citywide cleanup from the most recent storm damage.

Battery recycling & diverting them from ending in the landfill.

To date, GBRAI have collected & recycled: **513 kg** of all various battery types The most numerous are: 1) **267 kg of AA** batteries; 2) **78 kg of AAA** batteries; 3) **32 kg of C** batteries; 4) **39kg of D** batteries and balance made up of 6V, 9V, 12V, 18V, button batteries and computer batteries.

Bus services

GBRAI are keeping a watching brief on the GWRC purchase of an industrial site on Landfill Rd, Happy Valley. The site will be used as a bus depot for up to 80 buses (including double decker's) for storage, maintenance, and – eventually – an electric charging station onsite. There will doubtless be construction and traffic disruption and more congestion through the Brooklyn village/lights. The Owhiro Bay Residents Association also have concerns.

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



BROOKLYN GARDEN CLUB (ESTABLISHED 1993)

Have you thought about joining a garden club but were uncertain about how to go about it? Then look no further. We are a group of gardeners, ranging in age and with different gardening styles - vegetables, flowers, natives, pots - but linked by a passion for plants and planting. You don't need to have an actual garden to join, just love plants.

We meet in the evening of the first Wednesday each month at the Reformed Church in Harrison St, from March to October. In February and December, we meet for a garden picnic, usually in a member's garden, and in November, we take a group garden trip in the wider Wellington region. We also organise smaller outings to gardens, workshops and events through the year, outside of regular meeting times.

Members pay a small fee, and for this we get:

- speakers at most meetings. A sample of 2025 sessions: propagating with

Annemarie from MaryFlower Nursery; Mazz Scannell about saving the Begonia House; Marc Slade from Koromiko Gardens about planting for dry conditions

- garden advice and problem-solving specifically for Brooklyn sites.
- plant-swapping.
- monthly newsletters

If you want to meet like-minded people, talk about plants, get and give advice, expand your plant range, visit other gardens and hear speakers with a variety of perspectives, then join the Brooklyn Garden Club. Contact Kathleen Skudder (kathleen.skudder@gmail.com) or Sue Reid-Tait (msreidtait@gmail.com) if you would like to join, or to talk further about the club.

In the words of Dame Helen Mirren, “Gardening is learning, learning, learning. That’s the fun of them. You’re always learning.”



ZUMBA TURNS ONE!

Photo Credit: Guido Seevens

It's hard to believe it's already been a full year since we kicked off our Zumba journey at the Brooklyn Community Centre. I still remember those first classes—lots of excitement, a few worried faces, and plenty of people thinking, “What have I signed up for?” or “I definitely have two left feet!”

Fast forward twelve months, it has been incredible to watch those early nerves disappear, replaced by confidence, laughter, and a lot of sweat! What started as a fitness class has truly grown into a vibrant, supportive community. We haven't just been working on our cardio and dance moves; we've built friendships and created a space where everyone feels welcome.

Taking the Party to the Streets

While we love our weekly sessions in the hall, a major highlight of our first year was taking our moves to the outdoor stage at the **Brooklyn Festival**. Under the glorious Wellington sun, we danced our hearts out and soaked up the fantastic atmosphere of our own suburb. That day perfectly captured the spirit we've built: inclusive, high-energy, and a whole lot of fun.

What made it extra special was dancing with my crew of instructors who had come along to support the party. Having that collective energy on stage was an experience I won't soon forget, especially as we saw the local community get involved. People of all ages joined in, proving exactly what we believe: **Zumba is for everyone.**

Join the Party!

As we dance our way into year two, I want to invite you to join our fun! Zumba is the perfect “workout in disguise”—it's fun, uplifting, and designed for adults of all fitness levels. Whether you're a seasoned dancer or completely new, you'll fit right in.

- **When:** Wednesdays, 6:15 PM – 7:15 PM
- **Where:** Brooklyn Community Centre
- **Cost:** \$15 casual drop-in or \$120 for a 10-class pass

If you're ready to shake things up, get in touch with me, Angelica, at zumba@angelicawoolley.com. Let's make 2026 even more legendary — see you on the dance floor!

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 temcwhinnie@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

**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

WEDNESDAY

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

**8 PM TABLE
TENNIS**

Inquiries Philip on 021 230 4083 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

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

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

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

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.

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

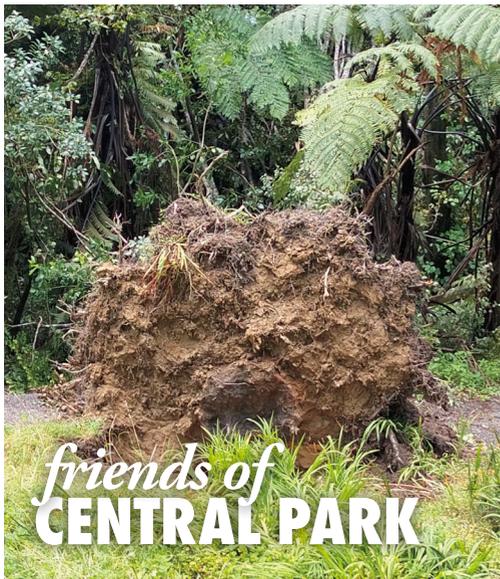
**10:30 AM EKKAALLAM
CHURCH**

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

3:45 - 6 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



A week after the February storm, RNZ is reporting 300 Wellingtonians are still without power due to fallen trees. Central Park has also suffered lasting damage. Perhaps most notable are two large lime trees that have been uprooted alongside Moturoa Stream. Also called linden trees, these trees have symbolic meaning in several traditions. One is that it is impossible to speak untruths beneath its canopy. What happens to promises made under a linden tree when the tree dies? That is not known. What is known is that the carpet of golden leaves gifted by the trees in autumn will be thinner this year.

Soon after the wild weather the air was filled with the scent of pine and the fruity smell of ripe karaka berries. Substantial branches of pine trees have fallen into the gorge with some on the edge of the paths. Fortunately, falling trees managed to miss all the bridges this time round – though it was a near thing. Getting to the compost bins at the working bee was a mission. The park is more difficult to navigate right now,

but with the many paths shimmying round the hillsides, you can still get through.

We're not sure yet what will replace the linden trees. The Council is working through many, many Fixit App notifications following the storm. However, the jetty by Moturoa Stream is clear thanks to the work of several people in the last working bee. And the park is also a little less weedy. If you'd like to help out, see the details below for our next working bee. Bring your own gloves if you have them, and a mug. We supply delicious Supreme coffee and baking.

Next working bee: Sunday 29 March, 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



FIND YOUR VILLAGE AT BROOKLYN PLAYCENTRE

Want to be part of a friendly, supportive, local community? Come be part of the Brooklyn Playcentre crew! We're a parent-led ECE provider, but also so much more.

Currently our crew is made up of over 16 families, from different cultures and backgrounds. There's plenty of room for your whānau too!

We're open Monday through Thursday, 9am to 12.30pm. At every session kids and adults play together, share communal morning tea, and enjoy being in each

other's company. Our tamariki are happy learning through play, while the adults get valuable time with the kids, but also with each other! Our Playcentre village is a place of belonging. A great ECE option for your kids, as well as a champion community to have behind you when you need support - whether that's through a meal train when a new baby arrives, a hot coffee first thing in the morning when you've had a rough night, or a family-friendly (or adults only!) hangout outside of session hours.

One of the things families appreciate most about Playcentre is the flexibility. There's no one "right" way to do Playcentre — every family finds a rhythm that works for them. We've got families who attend once a week, through to those who come all four days we're open. Some parents stay each session, others share attendance with a partner, grandparent, nanny, or caregiver. Some balance staying days with drop off days for older tamariki (2.5 years+), leaving them for the session with the other caregivers, which helps to foster independence. Many families balance Playcentre alongside kindy or work commitments.

Whatever your week looks like, there's likely an option that can work for you.

We'd love for you to come and see what we're all about. Contact us or simply drop by during session times for a play and a chat to see if you'd like to be part of our village. We can't wait to meet you!

Email: brooklyn@playcentre.org.nz

Phone: 04 385 6531

Address: 22 Harrison Street, Brooklyn (between the Community Centre and the Scout Hall)

TIP SITES

In March 1970 there was controversy across Wellington over the choice of tip sites. Kingston residents bemoaned the siting of a proposed tip just south of Quebec Street. At the end of 1969, two City Councillors and a Brooklyn News reporter did an inspection tour with two senior Council officers of proposed sites. The last stop made was up Hawkins Hill. They went through Fitchett's Farm to view the gigantic valley basin extending almost to the foot of the hill below the access road. The WCC team remarked, a Bradford tip of the right design could cater for all of Wellington's needs for years to come. Its added advantage was it was far away from any settled area.

However, the reporter commented on its effect on Brooklyn. Access to the valley was from Happy Valley Road near the poultry farm. This meant there would be heavy volumes of traffic down Happy Valley Road, through the 'hub' intersection at Brooklyn village.

The other concern was residents in other areas where tips were located, had been complaining for years of rubbish dropping off trucks bound for the tip.

WCC had since monitored this problem and would prosecute any driver doing this, though an added problem was householders taking their own rubbish to the tips at weekends.

The site in Kingston was looked at as well, but was discounted, due to the small area. Below that site was a small, grassed area at the bottom of Camrose Grove. When the Kingston subdivision

was formed in 1960, the developer was supposed to have made adequate development for recreational facilities. This, of course, didn't happen. The subdivision ended up with just a small cluster of shops, and a garage. A community centre had also been advocated but failed to materialise.

The developer ended up providing an area of land too big for a play area and too small for a playing field. Access to the park from Camrose Grove was difficult and was rarely used for any activity. The Kingston Transit School were to have used it, relieving pressure off Vogelmorn Park.

Chris Rabey



UPCOMING EVENTS!
AT PENTHOUSE CINEMA

NO TEARS ON THE FIELD
SPECIAL Q+A SCREENING

Join Director Lisa Burd and star players, for an in person Q+A screening at Penthouse Cinema!
THURS 12TH MARCH - 6:30PM



Girls
NIGHT OUT
THURS 2ND APRIL



10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY RE-RELEASE PARTY
TUES 31ST MARCH

WWW.PENTHOUSECINEMA.CO.NZ



brooklynresourcecentre@gmail.com

The BRC Charitable Trust is pleased to announce its first funding cycle for 2026. Applications open 1 March and close 31 March. Trustees will meet in the middle of next month and applicants should receive notification of an outcome by late April.

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).

In 2025 the following groups/organisations received funding: Brooklyn Community Centre, Brooklyn Geckos Hockey Club, Brooklyn Junior Cricket Club, Brooklyn Northern United Junior Football Club, Brooklyn School, Brooklyn Toy Library, St Bernard's School, Two Todman, Friends of Taputeranga Marine Reserve and Friends of Upstream Central Park.

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 drop off or post your application form and supporting documentation. 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



Mel Beirne and Kelda Hains at a Brooklyn Community Orchard working bee

Mel and Kelda co-founded Wellington's first Community Orchard in 2009. Mayor Celia Wade-Brown officially opened the Orchard during 2010, and community members of all ages came to plant apple and pear trees to begin the journey of growing food. Working bees are held weekly and everyone is welcome. Find out more at <https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynFoodGroupNZ>

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

At Turbine Toastmasters, we practice the art of impromptu speaking every other Tuesday, with a session called Table Topics. This is a skill that can come in handy when you are put on the spot, at work or in your personal life. For 2 minutes, participants respond to spontaneous questions centred around the theme of the evening, such as;

What do you do to challenge yourself?

Tell us about a role model in your life?

What is the last thing you Googled and why?

If you are new, your first table topic will be to talk about yourself, and you don't need to use the whole 2 minutes. Over time you'll learn tips and tricks to manage well when these questions are sprung on you, and this can look like taking a large breath, taking your time to gather your thoughts, repeating the question back to the asker, using the rule of three and examples or deciding to talk off the topic. You'll be amazed at how easy it is to keep going once you start.... and often quite challenging to stop!

When we're not practicing our impromptu speaking, we do structured speeches, sometimes working to the Toastmasters Pathways, built to help you level up your communication style. However, if there is a big presentation at work you are dreading, or even a toast at your bestie's wedding, then this is the place to practice. Each speech is evaluated, with feedback structured around the



positives, the work ons and the challenges, but all delivered with empathy and support – because you've got this!

We have a range of members from all walks of life, and every fifth Tuesday of the month we put in an impressive attempt at 1852's quiz night whilst catching up on life. On Tuesday 17 March, we are hosting an open night for whānau, friends and visitors, so come along if you'd like to hear more about what Toastmasters could mean for you. We'd love to see you there at the Reformed Church on Harrison Street from 7:15pm.

Toastmasters gives you a space to safely practice your fears. Whether that's small talk, answering questions off the cuff or even using PowerPoint slides, there is something for everyone – no matter what your day to day looks like. – Toastmasters Member

Next Dates: Tuesday 17 March – Reformed Church.
Tuesday 31 March – 1852.



The top photo was taken in 1980 when the building at 199 Ohiro Road was a popular dairy next to the Penthouse Cinema. Over the years 199 has been remodeled for a variety of different uses, including the Brooklyn Deli in 2014 and most recently the Chimichurri Argentinian Restaurant & Café who opened there during 2021.

Top photo credit: Charles Fearnley, source; Wellington City Libraries Ref: 50003-148

DIRT



Ira Bailey - Coshop founder

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

Our February event had Eleanor Pollard talking about her thesis exploring prepping practices in Aotearoa. Eleanor is a Brooklyn local, has interviewed some of the DIRT team and she shared some of her findings around how the fairly 'normal' approach of people here differs from the common 'doomsday prepper' stereotype. We followed her talk and discussion with sharing some skills, capabilities and resources we

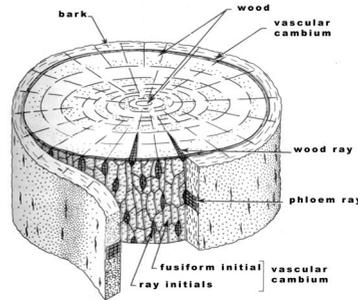
could each bring to an emergency situation along with what we might be looking for from others.

Our next event on the 29th of March will look at food resilience with Ira Bailey, founder of Coshop, sharing his vision of locally sourced and distributed food and how that relates to what we are doing with DIRT. We'll also make some tasty food to share and enjoy.

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

Dirt #17 is Sunday 29th March, 4:00–6:00pm at VBC, 93 Mornington Road.

TREE DOCTORS



LIVING PLANET

021 064 2306 04 971 8583

Hugh Underhill

livingplanet.co.nz

WHATS ON AT VOGELMORN

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



Welcome to your community backyard and lounge!

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

Check out what's on at www.vogelmorn.nz and dive into our March sneak peek below.

Sunday 8 March

- **Brooklyn Northern United Junior Football Open Day** Vogelmorn Green | 2:00 - 4:00pm Are you between 5-14 years of age, based in Wellington's southern suburbs, and keen to be a part of a football team? Come along to the club open day for a kick around and a sausage sizzle!

Friday 13 March

- **Wellington Pride: Pink Pony Club Rosé Party** Vogelmorn Upstairs | 6:00 - 10:00pm On Fridays we wear pink - and drink pink too!

As part of Wellington Pride Festival 2026, we're celebrating the rainbow community with a rosé tasting that's as vibrant and diverse as we are — and everyone is welcome. Expect great wine, good chat, a boogie and plenty of laughs — whether you're a curious newbie or a seasoned sipper.

- **Ecstatic Dance with DJ Kimba Jade** Vogelmorn Hall | 7:00 - 9:00pm Move. Release. Connect. Ecstatic Dance is a

freeform, drug- & alcohol-free dance experience where you move however your body wants. The music flows like a wave — starting slow, rising to ecstatic peaks, then softening into stillness. It's therapeutic, uplifting, and a powerful way to connect with yourself and your community.

Saturday 21 March

- **Jan Preston: Boogie Duo Vogelmorn Upstairs** | 5:00 - 7:30pm Internationally acclaimed pianist and singer Jan Preston returns to Wellington this March with a powerhouse blues and boogie show that's guaranteed to get toes tapping.

Thursday 26 March

- **Vogelmorn's Best Quiz Vogelmorn Upstairs** | 6:30pm - 9:30pm

Secure your spot, bring your A-game, and jump in for a fun, friendly (but competitive) night of trivia at your favourite local.

CARPETECH

CARPET MAINTENANCE



BROOKLYN

(04) 385 4085 carpetech@me.com
021 434 232 www.carpetech.co.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 6pm 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](mailto: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 March from 2 - 4pm at Brooklyn Library. We'd love your input or queries. Please contact the convenor in case our advertised date or venue changes. Sharon Macintyre 0276344455 sharonmacintyre42@gmail.com

BROOKLYN MAINLY MUSIC

Fun affordable 30 minutes, for parents or care givers to enjoy with their pre-schooler(s). Morning Tea provided. We meet Wednesdays at 10am during school terms. *Wellington Reformed Church* 34 Harrison St. Maria 022 187 9030

BROOKLYN NORTHERN UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

BROOKLYN PLAYGROUP

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

9 March – Wrights Hill walk. Catch 9:39am No.

2 bus to Karori from Lambton Quay.

16 March – Mana walk. Catch 9:33am Kapiti train from Wellington Railway Station.

23 March – Plimmerton walk. Catch 9:33am train to Plimmerton Station.

30 March – Simla Crescent, Khandallah to Lower Ngaio Road. Catch 10:02am train.

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

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. Bridget 0211 379 656, Sylvie 022 197 3610 turbine@toastmasters.org.nz <http://6879.toastmastersclubs.org>

UPSTREAM – FRIENDS OF CENTRAL PARK

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

VOGELMORN TENNIS CLUB 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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