



Brooklyn  
Community  
Centre

# BROOKLYN TATTLER

*what's happening in your community*



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*This month's cover photo is of Councillor Nikau Wi Neera speaking at the Brooklyn ANZAC Day Commemoration Service.*

*Photo credit: Euan Harris*

### June 2023 copy due no later than 5pm Tuesday 23 May

Email your contribution to [tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz](mailto:tattler@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz)

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## from the COMMUNITY CENTRE

**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY CENTRE  
PHONE 384 6799**

Hello and welcome to the May edition of the Brooklyn Tattler. We are partnering with Two Todman on an exciting new project which we will both be able to announce shortly. Be sure to get a copy of the June Tattler for all the details.

### ANZAC Day

We were fortunate to have fine weather on 25 April for the Brooklyn ANZAC Day Commemoration Service. It was great to be able to host the ceremony once again on the top playground of Brooklyn School after an absence of four years which was due to school upgrades and Covid lockdowns. An estimated 200 people gathered from 10.30am, including MPs Paul Eagle and Ibrahim Omer; local resident and Health Minister Dr Ayesha Verrall; Deputy Mayor Laurie Foon; and Councillors Nureddin Abdurahman and Nikau Wi Neera.

As in previous years, Ross McMillan from the Salvation Army led the service, and highlights included the address given by Cr. Nikau Wi Neera; the reading of the poem "In Flanders Field" by Brooklyn Community Association President, Sonya Bissmire; and the recital of the ode "To the

Fallen", first in Te Reo by Cr. Nikau Wi Neera, and then in English by Commander Duncan Fogg of the Royal New Zealand Navy. A change for this year was the singing of "God Save the King". At the conclusion of the service people walked down to the Community Centre for morning tea.

At midday the traditional wreath laying ceremony took place at the WW1 memorial on Sugarloaf Hill, accompanied by Emma Downey from the Salvation Army Cuba Street Band who played the last post on her bugle. Thanks to everyone, including all the volunteers who made this day a success. Special thanks to Phillip Bolton and Perry Aspros for organizing the proceedings, to Bev Aspros for the catering, and we gratefully acknowledge Wellington City Council for their funding grant.

### New Hall Lighting

Local electricians Jarvis & Lowndes recently upgraded the lighting in our main hall to energy-efficient longer lasting LED units thanks to a generous grant from the Vogelhorn Foundation. The Vogelhorn Foundation promote and assist causes and organisations within Brooklyn, Mornington, Vogeltown and Kingston. As well as being cheaper to run, our new LED lighting will provide all hall users with a more pleasant venue to meet in.

### RATs and Masks

A reminder we have rapid antigen tests and boxes of masks free to anyone who needs them. Limit is one box of RATs per person and one box of masks per household. If you or someone in your household is Covid symptomatic, please call ahead to arrange pick up outside of the Community Centre building.

Have a great month

Julie and Euan

## CONTACT US

### Hall Hire and General Enquiries:

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### Childcare Programmes:

[childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz](mailto:childcare@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz)

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**Main Office:** 04 384 6799

**Childcare Office:** 04 385 0089



**NUREDDIN ABDURAHMAN, WELLINGTON CITY COUNCILLOR PĀEKAWAKAWA/SOUTHERN WARD 021392487 NUREDDIN.ABDURAHMAN@WCC.GOVT.NZ**

**DEPUTY MAYOR LAURIE FOON PĀEKAWAKAWA/SOUTHERN WARD LAURIE.FOON@WCC.GOVT.NZ**

## from the COUNCILLORS



Tēnā tātou katoa Brooklyn,

We would like to congratulate the Brooklyn Community Centre and the organising team for the inclusive and future focused Anzac Day commemorations. It was a truly memorable occasion, and you should be proud.

Anzac Day is a time for us to remember terrible times in our histories.

Wellington in general and Wellington South in specific is a diverse and multicultural community. People here and their families have been affected by war in different ways and in different generations.

If we imagine asking our parents, “Did you know a time without war?” of course the answer is no. And our grandparents ,no is the answer. Now ask our great-grandparents, again the answer is no. And so on, into the mist of human memory.

My own country of birth, Ethiopia, has been involved in 16 wars since the end of World War Two. New Zealand has been involved in nine.

We have community members whose ancestors fought the ancestors of other community members. In the 1930s members of the Italian community in Island Bay held a celebration of the Italian fascist invasion of Ethiopia in the 1930s. Some local Italians suffered

discrimination and oppression when Italy joined Germany in World War Two. Some local Italians fought in the New Zealand forces.

Deputy Mayor Foon’s ancestors were on different sides in the Chinese civil war. And many Māori and Pākehā locals have ancestors who fought with and against each other in the New Zealand Wars.

In 1846, in the battle that took place at Boulcott’s Farm in the Hutt Valley, Wellington City Councillor Wi Neera’s great-great-great-great-grand uncle from his father’s side was leading an armed resistance against the Crown while his great-great-great-great-grandfather from his mother’s side was a member of the Government.

One advantage of a multicultural community is that we can see each other as people and, in my faith, as children of the one God who wants us to live in peace.

The wars of our ancestors are not our wars. Ours is the peace they hoped for. Let’s remember those who fought; those who died or were injured; and those who mourned. And let us have no more war. As a prophet of my religion said, Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Matthew 5:9)

Kia tau te rangimārie i runga i a tātou - may peace be upon us.





The BRC Charitable Trust met last month to allocate grants for its first funding cycle of 2023. While Trustees would like to respond affirmatively to all grant applications, more requests for funding were received than the allocation available this round. As a result, some applications were turned down, and some organisations/ groups received full or partial funding for their projects/activities.

We are pleased to announce the following recipients received funding:

<b>Brooklyn Junior Cricket Club</b>	To purchase balls, bats, stumps, nets and gear trolley
<b>Brooklyn School (Netball/ AIMS Games)</b>	To enable some students to participate in the Netball/ AIMS Games
<b>Brooklyn Scouts</b>	To enable some scouts to attend Scout Jamboree (Dec 23)
<b>Capital Montessori School (Kingston)</b>	For the purchase of a carpentry bench and accessories/tools
<b>St Bernard's School (Senior)</b>	For the purchase of six guitars
<b>Two Todman</b>	To put towards the costs of reviving the Brooklyn Festival

The second funding cycle of 2023 will occur in four months' time. Applications open 1 September and close 30 September. 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 \$5,000 for each project).

The BRC Charitable Trust



“  
 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

THE  
**VOGELMORN**  
 FOUNDATION

Visit us at  
[www.tvf.org.nz](http://www.tvf.org.nz)

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



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

PO Box 14-330, Kilbirnie  
 Wellington, 6022  
[admin@tvf.org.nz](mailto:admin@tvf.org.nz)



Kia Ora neighbours! I wanted to start with a massive THANK YOU to everyone who has come out and supported the start of our Refillery here at Two Todman!! What a wonderful community we have. We have been thrilled with the feedback and use of the refillery so far and it's been lovely connecting with more of our local community.

For those that haven't heard about the initiative, last month we expanded our work here at Two Todman with the launch of a Refill Station - a spot where people can come to get top-ups of common household consumables without creating more waste from plastic packaging. We have a selection of Eco Store home cleaning products and body care goods to begin with, such as laundry and dish detergents; house hold cleaning; and shampoo; body wash; etc. All going well, we would love to expand this

range and we welcome your feedback on what you would like to see stocked. Save up your empties and pop in to get them refilled!

Our store hours have extended as well, we will now be open on Sundays. We know lots of people are out and about getting things done on the weekend so we hope this helps make the refillery a little more accessible!

The donations for our Thrift Shop continue to roll in with a great selection of high quality clothing for the changing seasons. If you are looking for a wardrobe refresh or love the thrill of the hunt, be sure to pop in... lots of goodies looking for new homes.

We are lucky to be able to support a talented bunch of local artisans and makers through our boutique shelf in the shop! There is an awesome selection of wares available and every purchase of their goods is a vote of confidence for what they do and support towards their creative passion.

Thanks for all your support, we love being part of this community!

Maggie

Two Todman Community Worker



# BROOKLYN WELLNESS HUB

Do you want to be fitter, more mobile and live a more active lifestyle? Be in charge of your own health and wellbeing?

Movement is one of the tenets of a healthy lifestyle. We don't stop moving because we get older - we get older because we stop moving. Sadly, nowadays most of us don't move enough. Certainly, nowhere near what our ancestors used to have to do just to get dinner.

While formal exercise is important, in excess it can be damaging. The good news is that non-exercise physical activity (NEPA) or non-exercise activity thermogenesis (NEAT) has been shown to be extremely beneficial. Potentially even more so than really vigorous exercise.

So what exactly is NEPA or NEAT? It is defined as any energy expenditure during everyday activities that is not formal exercise. Increasing that can lead to appreciable improvements in health over time.

Here's a few ideas to incorporate more movement into your daily routine.

Walk more. As cliché as it sounds, walking is the most underestimated movement of the 21st century. Walking on uneven surfaces and stepping up raised surfaces, if you can do so safely, is fantastic for strengthening your feet and ankles

as well as balance and coordination, which in turn is important to prevent falls. And if you walk barefoot on sand or grass, you will also be grounding yourself which has its own benefits.

Take the stairs and don't shy away from walking up and down hills. The large muscles that this activity draws on are incredibly important for a healthy lower back and hips.

Carry heavy things. You can feel good next time you're carrying heavy bags of groceries. As long as the load is well balanced between the sides, you will not only strengthen your arms, but also your core.

Sit on the floor while doing things and practise getting up without any props.

Stand on one leg while doing the dishes. Make sure to switch sides and keep the hips level.

Dance! Expressing yourself through movement is amazingly healing not only for the body but also the soul.

The possibilities are endless. We hope that you use the ideas above as a starting point and find other creative ways to get yourself to move more.

For further information or appointments email: [brooklynwellnesshub@protonmail.me](mailto:brooklynwellnesshub@protonmail.me)



**BROOKLYN**  
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.



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

**Monthly update on issues and projects involving our community**

<b>NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 16 May 2023 at 7:30 pm</b> <b>Brooklyn Community Centre, 18 Harrison Street - Come and have your say</b>	
<b>Meetings</b>	Our next regular meeting is 16 May, GBRAI AGM is 20 June. We hope to see you at both.
<b>Brooklyn Permanent Cycleway</b>	WCC continues with its roll out of cycleways. We have been informed that the Brooklyn Road Cycleway will be made permanent and there is an intention to extend it. More information to come.
<b>ANZAC Day</b>	A huge thank you to the Brookly Community Association , Brooklyn Scouts, Girl Guides, Salvation Army band, and a dedicated group of volunteers for making Brooklyn's ANZAC Day commemoration so successful. Attended by several hundred residents, the Health Minister, MP Paul Eagle, Deputy Mayor Laurie Foon, Councillor Nureddin Abdurahman, and others. Very successful and moving.
<b>Water Leaks and Wellington Water</b>	Wellington Water is responsible for fixing drinking water, storm water, and sewage services, serving six councils region wide but is underfunded. To date, their website is showing the total number of fixed leaks since July 2022 (Wgtn, Porirua Wairarapa=6145 (12/04/23) compared to 5064 (03/03/23); Wgtn only=2531 (14/04/23) compared to 2081(03/03/23), regional total of reported leaks 3208 (14/04/23) 2934 (03/03/23); Wgtn only 1396 (14/04/23) 1350 (03/03/23). So, a lot done and a lot more to do. <a href="https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/resources/topic/drinking-water/water-treatment-plants-2/leaks/leak-stats">https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/resources/topic/drinking-water/water-treatment-plants-2/leaks/leak-stats</a>
<b>Landfill Precinct – Council Run Careys Gulley</b>	WCC has allocated \$36M for SLEPO (Southern Landfill Extension Piggy Back Option) to be operational by 2026. <a href="https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/our-wellington/2023/02/slepo-and-zero-waste">https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/our-wellington/2023/02/slepo-and-zero-waste</a>
<b>Landfill Precinct – C &amp; D Landfill</b>	C&D Landfill (building waste) in negotiations between WCC and a new private operator.
<b>Landfill Precinct – T &amp; T Landfill</b>	T & T Landfill is expected to seek an extension to its Resource Consent (which expires in 2026). Expectation that this will be granted.
<b>Brooklyn Lights and Road Sealing</b>	Work on the intersection is nearing completion. Involves dedicated left and right turns. Likely to slow some traffic but should see improved road safety and decrease of “suicide starts” across the intersection. With the rapid approach of winter, chip/road sealing work should have been completed now.
<b>Email us your ideas, queries or concerns, or to sign up to our newsletter at: <a href="mailto:brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com">brooklynresidentswellington@gmail.com</a></b>	

# 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 934 7445 or email: codwgpdl@gmail.com

**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 temcwhinnie@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

**10 - 11:30 AM KANGATRaining**

Post natal classes for new mums and their babies with Hannah Foley. Email hannah@kangatraining.co.nz

**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 17 June 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

**5 - 7 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 MEMORIES

This 1959 view shows a city bound tram with a good number of passengers, with an old bus waiting at a stop to do the Brooklyn West circuit. At the time, all public transport vehicles sported advertising signs which were authorized by the City Council.

The old two-storey building behind, now Two Todman, was one of the first to be built in Brooklyn. The builders were the Ferkins brothers whose mother, Annie, ran the first retail store in Ohiro before the Brooklyn township was formed.

A rough, steep track took us schoolboys up a short cut from Charlotte Avenue straight up the hill to the Sugarloaf monument, then we walked to our homes. The track took us very close to the house seen, but we were never challenged. Most of the houses seen in Charlotte Ave are still standing today.

Misses McGregor and Allan had the drapery next to the fruit shop on the Todman corner. As you went into the drapery, the two elderly ladies were behind the counter which was filled with compartments

containing buttons; cotton reels; pins and needles; craft materials; bobbins; etc. Everything was loose then, no pre-packaging as seen today. All around the walls were rolls of fabric; linen; dressmaking materials; etc. The floor was carpeted, the shop had a very high stud and being the largest drapery, was very popular with the local women.

A driveway separated the drapery from the dairy. The word 'Denhard', seen in the photo, was the bread commonly sold, this was later merged with Tip Top. The big bread factory in Newtown was known as Denhard Bakery for many years, and when a southerly wind was blowing the beautiful smell of freshly baked bread was enjoyed by all heading into Newtown.

Hodson's Drapery was owned by Ron Hodson on the corner for many years. As he concentrated on menswear there was no competition from other retailers so he did a roaring trade. Ron later moved to smaller premises on the Jefferson Street corner.

Chris Rabey

## OLLY'S A FREE SOUL

**Olly's a boy whose intentions are good, but he always just seems to be misunderstood.**

This nine-year-old won't schmooze for cuddles, has a bit of a grouchy expression, and might growl if he's approached too fast. But Olly loves being brushed, snoozing in the sun, and lazy days on the couch. He especially loves his food, so you can bribe your way into his heart!

He does like to hang out with people, but doesn't want to be fussed over too much. He likes pats, but not for too long. He enjoys having freedom to roam, but doesn't appreciate other cats visiting.

This poor boy has been through three homes and two shelter stays in the last four years, which has made him very cautious about loving and trusting people. His last home even



kept him locked in the laundry for very long periods all on his own.

So many people have let Olly down, and we really need to find him caring folks who are happy to let him do his own thing in his own time, and give him confidence that he will be properly loved. Make an appointment to meet him if you have a good home with lots of love for Olly.

There's more about Olly and all our other cats at [catsprotectionwellington.org.nz](http://catsprotectionwellington.org.nz). Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for pictures, stories and videos of cats in our shelter.

## BROOKLYN PROPERTIES SOLD IN 2022



- 39 Mornington Road
- 78 Mornington Road
- 105C Mitchell Street
- 11 Moffitt Street
- 11 Asquith Terrace
- 32 Taft Street
- 36 Bruce Avenue
- 4/83 Washington Avenue

If you are looking at selling in 2023 contact Everard Aspell

027 444 5248 | [everard.aspell@raywhite.com](mailto:everard.aspell@raywhite.com)

Ray White Wellington City | 1/77 Thorndon Quay, Wellington 6011

# from the LIBRARY

## DID YOU KNOW...?

You can access thousands of titles for free using the library's LIBBY or BORROWBOX apps and download eBooks and eAudiobooks directly to your device. Now you can take the library with you wherever you go without having to find extra room for all those books! \*

## Something for everyone!

LIBBY is our most popular source of eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines, and offers options for getting started with Android and iOS, eReaders or on your desktop. You can sync all your loans, notes, bookmarks and reading progress across all your devices; download eBooks and eAudiobooks for offline reading, or stream them to save space; and even enjoy our audiobook selection in your car through Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, or a Bluetooth connection – there are over 50,000 titles to choose from!

BORROWBOX is our second eAudiobook/eBook platform. Its content is mainly focused on eAudiobooks, but with over 3,500 titles is still a great content source.

You can access either app from your device's app store - all you need is a library card. Drop into the library and our staff - Helen, Diana, and El - will be only too pleased to help you. You'll also find a useful display outlining the various library apps here at Brooklyn Library.

(\* Actually, some of us quite like packing a suitcase full of books, even if it means leaving some socks behind, but that's librarians for you – you can't read socks, my

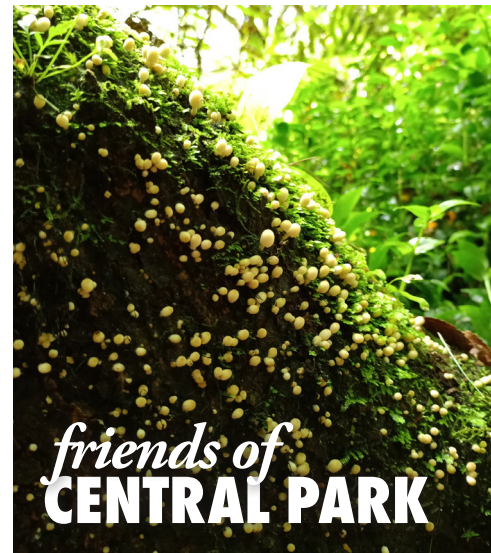


mother always used to say, alongside other useful aphorisms, such as: you can lead a horse to water, but a pencil must be lead. Whenever I run out of socks on holiday, I think of her.)

In other news, Helen will be providing wool, needles, and hooks for crocheting and knitting in the library, should you have a moment to spare between browsing our books. Why not take a few well-earned minutes out of your day to create something for an upcoming display – all contributions are welcome.

Brooklyn Community Centre

A. 18 Harrison Street, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021, New Zealand  
 P. 04 384 6799  
 E. [coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz)  
 W. [brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz](http://brooklyncommunitycentre.org.nz)



Have a close look at the beautiful fungi in this month's photo. They might be Armillaria or not, it's hard to tell with the untrained eye. What they definitely are is genetically closer to us than to plants. Obvious, right?

Originally, taxonomists had fungi down as a member of the plant kingdom because of their lifestyle. They're immobile and grow in the dirt. However, like us, they don't have chloroplasts to make energy from sunlight. Instead, they rely on breaking down organic food sources with digestive enzymes. Landcare Research even describes Armillaria as hanging out in 'gregarious groups'. Cute.

Classification of fungi changed with genetic analysis late last century. Apparently, plants broke away early in our evolutionary history, with us and fungi splitting later (about a billion years ago). Fungi are so unique they now have their own kingdom – fungi.

Like any discipline, there is a lot of specialty language to talk about fungi. Happily, some members of the family have very descriptive non-Latin names such as puffball, birdsnest and jelly fungi. Easy to identify. Some names are not

so happy – slime mould and smut fungi. Smut is not what you'd imagine.

Fungi do us an enormous service by breaking down organic matter and helping nutrients to cycle through the ecosystem. Thanks fungi. Depending on their variety, they're also tasty and can be used for medicinal and recreational purposes.

If you're curious, see [virtualmycota.landcareresearch.co.nz](http://virtualmycota.landcareresearch.co.nz). You could use this website to identify all the fungi you come across when you join our next working bee. Bring your own mug – we supply drinks and baking.

Thanks to New Scientist, Wikipedia, and Landcare Research for information in this article.

**Next working bee 28 May 2023 – 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](mailto:all.whites@xtra.co.nz)  
 Everyone welcome!

## CARPETECH CARPET MAINTENANCE

## BROOKLYN

(04) 385 4085 [carpetech@me.com](mailto:carpetech@me.com)  
 021 434 232 [www.carpetech.co.nz](http://www.carpetech.co.nz)



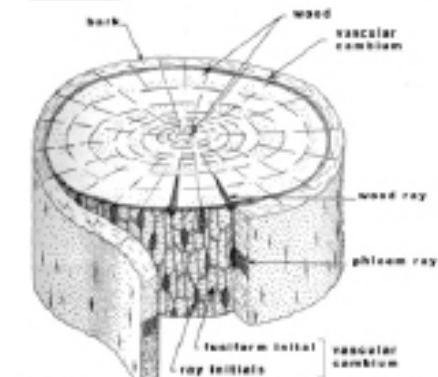


And a rather sad and troubling note to end on. A newsletter from the Tawatawa SEA reported that their “phantom plucker” had been active again - reasonably established plants pulled from the ground and left lying there, for no apparent reason. As far as we know, this hasn’t happened to any of our plantings, though we have had some random pruning of established trees. But, during the last two weeks, about 50-75 plants have been taken from our shade house in Vennell Street - a mixture of two year old flaxes, wineberry, and assorted older shrubs. We can only hope they have gone to a good home and are being looked after.

Janet Campbell

for Friends of Owhiro Stream

Email: [owhirosteam@gmail.com](mailto:owhirosteam@gmail.com)



BROOKLYN  
0800 4 TREE DR.  
971 8583  
[www.livingplanet.co.nz](http://www.livingplanet.co.nz)

Last month’s working bees were disrupted by holiday weekends and weather events, so instead of being on the second Saturday our staunch supporters gathered at the Jamieson’s site on the last Saturday of the month. This month, we return to our normal routine, meeting on Saturday 13 May - disasters excepting. We haven’t worked here of late, so what with the rain, and the warm temperatures, we are expecting to have our work cut out to cope with the growth and restore our picnic site to somewhere people might be tempted to linger. Just what a difference warmth and moisture make to growth is very evident at our bach on the East Coast, where after only a two month absence, that lovely purple flowered climbing plant *Ipomoea indica* (morning glory), after being dealt to on our last stay, had almost totally buried the hedge it had grown on in lush growth. So, with global warming, what will happen to Wellington’s weeds? Will we be getting more growth, and more varieties? Perish the thought.

## CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH THEIR SENSES

### Introducing Exciting New Literacy Tools at Capital Montessori

Huge thanks to the Two Todman Community fund in Brooklyn for donating money to purchase new literacy tools at Capital Montessori – Cursive Sandpaper Letters and a Moveable Alphabet!

Literacy is in a dismal state in our country. The teaching of handwriting, especially cursive handwriting, has become unfashionable in mainstream schools where digital tools are increasingly favoured. Even though research shows that writing letters by hand activates parts of the brain that are not activated by typing or tracing letters alone, teachers are rarely trained to teach handwriting in the classroom.

Maria Montessori developed Cursive Sandpaper Letters for her students. These letters engage students because they are sensorial. Children trace the letters with their fingers, then ‘scribble’

them in a sandbox. This sensory process lays the foundation for later use of pencil and paper. Montessori Sandpaper Letters provide a natural developmental pathway for children to learn the beginnings of writing from the motor skills involved in scribble drawing.

Cursive letters also improve muscle memory and strengthen letter recognition. Research indicates that it is easier for children with learning difficulties such as dysgraphia (estimated to affect 5-20% of children) to learn cursive handwriting. At Capital Montessori, children learn letters phonetically and can spell simple words with the Moveable Alphabet before they are able to physically write them.

We are inspired by the progress we see our children making using these exceptional learning tools. We are grateful to the Two Todman fund for making a tangible difference in the classroom and to our children’s lives.

Interested in learning more about the materials we use in a Montessori preschool classroom and how Montessori can support your child? Get in touch to organise a visit: <https://www.montessori.school.nz/contact-visit-capital-montessori-preschool>



**BROOKLYN BROWNIES, GUIDES AND PIPPINS**

brooklyn.brownies@gmail.com  
**Guides and Pippins**  
 Kathryn Lawrie 802 5049  
**Brownies**  
 Margaret Jones 389 3028

**BROOKLYN FOOD GROUP**

Local food and community. Working bees held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month from 9:30am 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 20 May 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 October 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 934 7445.

**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.

**8 May** – Brooklyn to Newtown Zoo. Start from the Brooklyn Library at 9:30am.

**15 May** – Korokoro Dam & Belmont Regional Park. Catch 9:30am Hutt Valley train.

**22 May** – Karori to Kelburn. Catch 9:40am No.2 bus to Karori from Lambton Quay.

**29 May** – Mt Crawford to Seatoun. Catch 9:25am No.24 bus on Willis Street.

**5 June** – King's Birthday Holiday.

**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 Vogelhorn 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

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