



window on **wakefield**

Your Local News

Community News for the Wakefield Area

Keep our Rivers Healthy

by Tui Team, Wakefield School

The Tui team at Wakefield School has been learning about how to keep our rivers healthy. We went to check the Wai-iti River and the Eves Valley Stream. We want everyone to know how to look after our rivers. We made posters to let people know how to keep our rivers healthy. Here are some of our posters.

Keep your four wheel Driving
For 4 WD tracks



Wash your car
On the grass
Don't do it on
the drive way



Bury your carcasses
Don't dump them
by the river!!



Keep cows Out of the
river



WINDOW ON WAKEFIELD

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Wakefield Community Hub

Media Release - 29 May 2026



The Tasman District Council's decision to pause and defer the Wakefield Hub Project until the Long Term Plan deliberations later in the year is extremely disappointing for the Wakefield community.

Council's decision does not change the fact that Wakefield urgently needs a fit-for-purpose community facility. Neither does it change the reality that Wakefield is long overdue for Council investment. Community engagement and fundraising clearly endorse the need for the hub.

The Wakefield Hub Steering Committee, Wakefield Community Council and our local partners will continue to work with Council staff and elected members to move the project forward.

We assure the community that this project is still very much alive and we are confident that whilst the decision to 'pause and defer' obviously affects the project timeframe, it does not change our passion and drive to make the Wakefield Community Hub a reality.

Wakefield Bowls

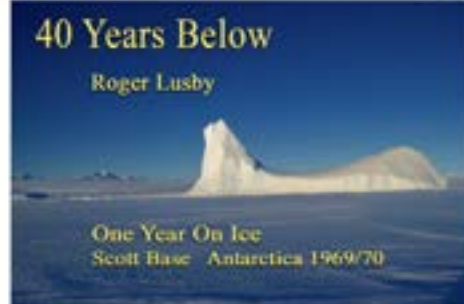
Wednesday 15th April was the Marsden House Funeral Services Open Triples and Bevan was on hand to present 1st prize to the winning team from Wakefield Bowling Club - Mel Mounsey, John Mills-Ramage & Margaret Trenker.



The annual ANZAC day tournament on 25th April was again sponsored by Tasman Pine and their representatives Toouse and Mason were on hand to present the winners of the Wakefield Feathers Trophy to Maurice Dodsworth, Mark Moffat and Barry Chinnery.



A FUNDRAISER FOR
THE WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY HUB
FRIDAY 26TH JUNE 2026
@WAKEFIELD VILLAGE HALL



Roger Lusby presents
40 Years Below a Year in Antarctica

Fifty-five years ago Roger Lusby wintered over as base mechanic at Scott Base Antarctica.

Over the last three years he has created a personal audio-visual show that includes pictures, stories, songs, poems and humour to share his experience.

Featuring
A tribute to Sir Ernest Shackleton - his crew and the loss of his ship Endurance 1914



FRIDAY 26TH JUNE 2026
DOORS OPEN 6.30, SHOW STARTS 7.30PM
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TICKETS \$30 WAIMEASOUTH.ORG.NZ/EVENTS

Feedback from earlier shows
Enthralling, Inspiring, Superb, Informative & enlightening.
I felt like I had been to Antarctica.
I have been to many presentations of time spent in Antarctica over the years but none have evoked such a feeling for the unique place of peace and solitude yet mixed with extremely tumultuous and unimaginably harsh conditions. You evoked all those conditions so well.

Wakefield Community Council

We are pleased to announce that going forward there will be monthly updates from the WCC in the Window On Wakefield.

Our monthly meetings are the 3rd Monday of every month and are open to the public with our AGM occurring on the 20th July 7pm.

It was amazing to see so many people attend the opening of the new public basketball court as well as new signage at McGazza Land this month.

The WCC supported two plays in the Village Hall this month as a fundraiser for the Wakefield Community Hub.

The WCC also did a verbal submission to TDC regarding the annual plan.

If you want to know more about what is happening in the community, feel free to come along to a meeting or get in touch today.

Nathan Dunn
wcc.chairperson@gmail.com



Wakefield Community
Council AGM

Monday 20th July
Wakefield Village Hall
7pm start



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Town and Country Vet

by Brenda Halliwell, Vet

It's amazing that one whole year has passed since we moved into our new clinic in Richmond! We are all really enjoying working in a purpose-built building that enables our team to provide great care for all creatures great and small. There have been challenges as we navigate a new building, a new layout and new systems but the team has worked well together ironing out the bumps and figuring out how to do things better.

On any given day, we now have the space and flow to have multiple teams working:

- several vets will be consulting
- several vets will be doing surgery (anything from routine ops to more complicated procedures and dentistry and radiology)
- another vet manages hospital inpatients
- our amazing nurses also work in teams - in surgery and anaesthesia, helping the consulting vets, managing the pharmacy, looking after inpatients, running nurse clinics and the hydrotherapy room.
- meanwhile our reception team do a great job of answering all sorts of questions on the phone and at the front desk, and looking after everyone who comes into the clinic
- our support staff manage all the admin and keep things running smoothly.
- Kathy is kept busy grooming out all the tangles in her Tangled pet grooming room
- and Ruby runs Therapaw which is the equivalent of physiotherapy for our pets. We have seen many pets regain full function and quality of life thanks to Ruby's skills.

Our cat-only feline-friendly area has recently become gold standard accredited by iCatCare, an international charity that aims to improve cat welfare through sharing research and knowledge about all things feline. Increasingly we aim to work with cats when they come into the clinic rather than forcing them to fit in with us. Our cat ward is such a nice calm place to be that we all want to be in there!

And there's still more to do...the hyperbaric oxygen chamber is close to being back in action. We are looking forward to having an outdoor dog exercise/walk area so our inpatients can stretch their legs and sit out in the sun (when appropriate!). And the waiting-room coffee machine still has to be cranked into life (fortunately the staff coffee machine was fully functional early on!!!!)

So we say thank you to our lovely clients who have moved with us. We appreciate your enthusiasm, support and patience through this big change! And look forward to helping you and your furry friends into the future.

Town and Country Vet Richmond is at 3 Brock Way and is open 7 days with a vet available on-call after hours.

Town and Country Vet Wakefield is at 25 Edward Street and is open Monday to Thursday with a vet available on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.



"...for all creatures great & small..."

HOURS:

Monday 8.30 – 5.00 with Brenda consulting all day

Tuesday 8.30 – 5.00 with Brenda - morning consults only

Wednesday 8.30 – 12 Nurse only

Thursday 8.30 – 5.00 with Paula – morning consults only

Friday 8.30 – 12.00 Nurse only

Ph 541 8974

info@tcvet.co.nz * www.tcvet.co.nz

Edward Street, Wakefield

Head office 35 McGlashen Avenue, Richmond



544 1200 24 hours

Wakefield Village Kindergarten

by Maretta Burbidge

Children at Wakefield Village Kindergarten recently took part in a meaningful series of activities to commemorate ANZAC Day, helping them connect with an important part of Aotearoa New Zealand's history in a hands-on and age-appropriate way.

In the lead-up to the day, kaiako (teachers) introduced the significance of ANZAC Day through stories, conversations, and creative exploration. The tamariki learned about remembrance, gratitude, and the importance of honouring those who served.

The children expressed their learning in a variety of ways. They baked their own delicious ANZAC biscuits, an activity that sparked discussion about history and sharing. They also created bright red poppies and other ANZAC-themed artwork, using different materials to represent remembrance and respect.

As part of the experience, the tamariki made floral posies and worked collaboratively on a handprint wreath, before visiting the local memorial to respectfully lay their wreath and posies. The visit provided a special moment for quiet reflection, with children showing genuine curiosity and respect as they observed the memorial and talked about its meaning.

Through these experiences, the children developed a deeper understanding of ANZAC Day while strengthening their sense of belonging within the Wakefield community. Wakefield Village Kindergarten is proud to support opportunities like this, where tamariki can engage with local traditions, express empathy, and contribute in meaningful ways.



Kei Wareware Tātou – Lest We Forget



**Wakefield and Districts Health Trust
AGM**

**Tuesday 28th July – 7.15 pm
Wakefield Health Centre**

Higgins Heritage Park Happenings

by David Win

Cool mornings and evenings but that hasn't stopped our teams from enjoying the fine days at the park – well, after the proverbial cuppa or two! – and there is still plenty to do with restorations, maintenance and the like.

We often get comments about the toilet doors on our main block. Each door is made of a different local timber which was milled at the park. They are: Radiata Pine (*Pinus Radiata*); Macrocarpa (*Cupressus Macrocarpa*); Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga Menziesii*); Sitka Spruce (*Picea Sitchensis*); and Japanese Cedar (*Cryptomeria Japonica*).

Building a sawmill at the park was first mooted by Ross Higgins and others in 1970. A possible Government grant of \$250,000 was an inspiration however this was not to be. In 1973 Ross Higgins and John Christian, a retired sawmiller decided to build a replica of a 1920's sawmill. The mill was powered by an IHC WD40 diesel tractor engine until 1974. The diesel engine failed in 1981 and was irreparable.

In 1984 Ross purchased for \$10,000 a 1906 10HP Marshall portable steam mill engine and converted the mill to steam power using a plan from Brownlee's 1876 Havelock Mill. The counter shaft was designed by Kelvin Cochrane, a chief engineer, and supported by beams from the Waiau Bridge which was donated by Duncan Rutherford. Other materials came from the Waitaki Picton freezing works. Unfortunately, the Marshall appeared to lack power – it was suggested that this was the reason steam had been replaced by electricity 50 years previously. Ross persevered and refurbished the Marshall and with the aid of pulley belts from Brownlee's Rau Rau mill located in Ruru area on Lake Brunner. This provided a display of a sawmill powered by a steam engine which linked to the early development in New Zealand's history. Regulations and subsequent expense now make it prohibitive for the sawmill to operate by steam and it is now run with a Dorman diesel.

Our "woodsmen" team, Grant, Kevin and Rex are kept very busy with the firewood and sawmill fundraising operations. From "logs to timber & firewood" is also another very good way to keep warm!

Thanks also to Tasman Pine Forest Ltd for their support of our park operations.



Upcoming Park activities include:

- **7 June Museum Open Day** - Jigger and honey train rides and model trains operating
- **5 July Open Day** 10am – 3pm
- **2 August Open Day** 10am – 3pm

Follow us on Facebook and www.higginsheritagepark.co.nz



Can we celebrate your special event or help remember someone dear to you?

Please send your obituaries, birth announcements, wedding stories, other important notices to us at

windowonwakefield@gmail.com or phone 021 221 1009

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Waimea South Historical Society

by Yo Tye

ANZAC THEMED MEETING HELD 23 APRIL AT WAKEFIELD PUBLIC HALL

Earlier in the year it had been decided to research all 44 soldiers on the Wakefield War Memorial. Although this project will not be completed in one year, a start was made in 2026 and information about ten of these soldiers was presented to an attentive audience. We think it is important to tell the stories of these soldiers though what is presented below is only a tiny sketch of their full stories. [The first seven are shown below].

1. Private Harold John Ernest Smith, Regimental Number 63225 (WWI), was researched by Sue Thomas who was first up to present her findings. Ernest, as he was known as, was born in Nelson on 17 June 1893, the ninth of the eleven children born to Thomas and Annie (nee O'Brien). Ernest was employed as a musterer at Gordon Downs (now known as Golden Downs) where his mother lived with her second husband Frederick Langley, after the death of his father in 1902. He left New Zealand for his tour of duty on 21 Nov 1817 aged 24 on board the ship 'Maunganui' as part of the 32nd Reinforcements 'E' Company. Tragically he contracted bronchitis on the voyage and upon arrival in England he was placed in the Brimstone isolation Hospital which was part of the Tidworth Military Hospital in Wiltshire. He died from illness (measles and purulent bronchitis) on 8th Feb 1918 and is buried in the Tidworth Military Cemetery.

2. Private James Ernest Gibbs, Regimental Number 53773 (WWI), was researched by Marilyn Gibbs. He was born 28th Feb 1897, the third of twelve children born to Albert and Ann (nee Hill) Gibbs of Lone Oak Farm, Wakefield, where he was employed as a farm labourer. He is the uncle of Marilyn's husband Colin Gibbs. James left Wellington on 16 July 1917 on board the ship 'Athenic' as a rifleman for the New Zealand Rifle Brigade, 'H' Company Reinforcements. He was killed in action at Somme in France on 6 April 1918 aged 21 and is buried in Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, Somme. Marilyn read out a moving letter written to James' father Albert from a fellow soldier who was with him when he died, which expressed the sympathy of his fellow soldiers and described him as being a 'fine cobbler'.

3. Major Douglas Alexandra Dron, Regimental Number 6/1517 (WWI). Margaret Clark researched Douglas, her half great uncle and his two brothers Edward Thomas and Lawrence Campbell. Lawrence was invalided home from the war and died in 1974. Edward died during WWI and is listed below. Douglas was born 4 June 1890 at Waimea West. His parents William and Elizabeth (nee Drummond) Dron lived in Teapot Valley. Douglas became a school teacher and was the headmaster at Tarakohe School in Golden Bay when war was declared. He left Wellington on 14 Feb 1915 as part of the Canterbury Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements. He fought at Gallipoli but was killed during active service in France on 8 Oct 1918 and is buried in Honnechy Cemetery, Nord, France. Douglas' father William received a letter from a fellow soldier who was with him when he was killed and described Douglas as a gallant and well loved person who always thought of his men.

4. Edmund Thomas Dron, Regimental number 80343 (WWI). Brother of above. Edward was born 10 Aug 1891 in Nelson. His occupation was listed as farmer. He left Wellington on 2nd Aug 1918 on the ship 'Tofua' as a Rifleman and part of the 42nd Reinforcements 'C' Company. One month after arriving in England he was transferred to the Military Hospital in the training grounds at Cannock Chase suffering from bronchitis and died from pneumonia a few days later. He is buried in the Cannock Chase War Cemetery.

5. Lance Corporal Peter John Jenkins, Regimental number 7/735 (WWI). Warwick Johnston researched Peter. He was born on 4 Oct 1894 in Nelson, his parents being Peter and Mary Teresa (nee O'Rourke) Jenkins. At his attestation he was listed as a farmer in Murchison for Mr A. O'Rourke, most likely his mother's brother Ambrose. He left Wellington on 26 Mar 1915 as part of the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, 3rd Reinforcements, on the ship 'Maunganui' and landed in Egypt for more training before heading to Gallipoli to capture Hill 60 which overlooked the Suvla Landing. They were defeated and all but 18 of the 119 men were killed, Peter being one of those killed. His burial place is unknown but his mother is buried in the St Joseph's Church graveyard in Wakefield.

6. Private William John Robson, Regimental number 82473 (WWI) Sarah Arnold researched William who appears on her family tree. William was born in Motupiko on 26 Mar 1898, the son of William John and Elizabeth (nee Mead) Robson and was one of ten children. His grandparents William and Eliza owned what we now know as Robson's Reserve. William John's parents had been goldmining and farming at Wangapeka before eventually moving to the Robson property in 88 Valley and William Jr began learning the Baker's trade in Wakefield though he listed his occupation as a farm hand. William left Wellington on 2 Oct 1918 as part of the 43rd Reinforcements, 'B' Company on board the 'Matatua'. Tragically William John died on 26 March 1919, the day of his 21st birthday, having contracted the 'Spanish Flu' whilst training at Sling Camp in England. He is buried at Tidworth Military Cemetery in Wiltshire.

7. 2nd Lieutenant Ivanhoe Edward Baigent, Regimental Number 3341-Boer War and 22618 -WWI. Yo Tye researched Ivanhoe, known as Ivan. He was the 10th of 11 children born to Arthur and Annie (nee Price) Baigent of Pigeon Valley. Ivan was only 8 when his mother died. His father remarried to Caroline Lloyd in 1892. Ivan was born 10 Nov 1880 in Wakefield. After leaving school he and some of his brothers worked in North Island, Baigent owned sawmills. On 30 Jan 1901 he left from Auckland to fight in the South African War as part of the 6th Contingent where he received a Distinguished Conduct Medal after rescuing a comrade on horseback whilst under heavy fire. In 1911 he was part of a New Zealand contingent who attended the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary at Buckingham Palace. He returned to his work at a Baigent sawmill at Akatarawa, near Upper Hutt. On 15 Jan 1917 he left Wellington for Sydney then on to Suez in Egypt as part of the Wellington Mounted Rifles. He was leading his men for an attack on Gaza when they themselves were attacked on 14 Nov 1917 and he suffered a gunshot wound to the abdomen and died shortly afterwards. He is buried at the Ramleh War Cemetery in Israel. A letter he had written to his younger brother Len three weeks prior to his death was verified in the Wellington Supreme Court as being a Will and Len was awarded the powers of administration over his estate.



Waimea South Historical Society

Firstly - a correction to last months story with headline of Field Trip to Lone Oak Farm, Bridge Valley

Whilst the Gibbs family do have land in Bridge Valley, Lone Oak Farm is actually at the head of Gibbs Valley and the family has been there since 1848 whereas the Bridge Valley property was only bought in 1983. Gibbs Valley is named after James Gibbs, the original settler.

Advanced Care Planning, 26 MAY 2026

by Maria Brooks

The Speaker on 26 May 2026 was Mary-Ann Hardcastle from Nelson Bays Public Health, Queen Street, Richmond. The topic was "Advanced Care Planning". This is a voluntary process of thinking about, discussing, and documenting your values, goals and preferences for future health and end-of-life care.

Advance Care Planning:

- encourages conversations about what is important to you and your whanau
- can help you feel more in control, reduce anxiety and give you peace as you face the future
- can help you understand your condition in the face of serious illness, while building a stronger relationship with those treating you
- can help your whanau to understand your condition and reduce their anxiety as they understand what is important to you
- means you have control over how you are cared for and treated when you may not be able to speak for yourself

Mary-Ann gave us other examples of the benefits of having an Advanced Care Plan. Yes, it got us thinking about what our wishes maybe as regards our care in the future. None of us know how our lives will pan out so having a plan can give you peace of mind.

The plan can be done online - planonline@myacp.org.nz Or you can do a hard copy in a booklet she made available to us.

For more information you can look on this website: <https://myacp.org.nz>

Upcoming meetings:

Tuesday 9 June 2026: coffee meeting at The Villa in Wakefield, 9.45am onwards

Tuesday 23 June 2026: speaker Ruth Collingham, fundraising coordinator, Wakefield Community Hub, venue Wakefield Fire Brigade, 9.45am-11am.

Tuesday 7 July 2026: coffee meeting at The Villa in Wakefield, 9.45am onwards

Live Well Stay Well is a local health and social group that meets twice a month in Wakefield. Our goal is to keep well and healthy, by encouraging good health practices and exercise, but also by having a positive social connection with others in our community.

Maybe you are new to the area, or feeling a little isolated, and would like to meet and get to know others who live locally, within a friendly environment. Or would you like to learn more about our community? Then our group could be for you.

Our group meets twice a month in Wakefield, mostly on a Tuesday morning from 9.45am to 11am.

One Tuesday we will meet in a local café for a coffee and chat, and the other Tuesday we have a guest speaker focussing on health knowledge or who can help us understand and learn more about our community. This could also be a visit to a local business of interest. We aim to arrange a varied and interesting programme.

The group is run on an informal basis and there is no joining fee. However when we have a guest speaker or go out for a visit we do ask for a \$2 gold coin donation to help us cover the hire of the hall facilities and tea and coffee and/or a small gift for our speaker.

We advertise our programme in "Window on Wakefield", your local news magazine, plus on the Community noticeboard in Wakefield.

We also communicate what is happening each month by an email group. You are very welcome to join us. We would love to meet you!

If you would like to be on email list, please contact one of the convenors:

Sandra 027 609 9202, Sonja 027 374 0500 and
Christine 027 677 0080

Live Well, Stay Well

Tuesday 9 June and 7 July 2026 coffee and a chat at Café The Villa, Wakefield at 9.45am

Tuesday 23 June 2026 9.45am—11am

Speaker

Ruth Collingham

Community Facilitator

for the Wakefield Community Hub

**How the Wakefield Community Hub is already
bringing the community together.**

Venue: Wakefield Fire Brigade,

Pigeon Valley Road, Wakefield.

**For information contact Sandra 027 6099202,
Sonja 027 3740500 or Christine 027 677 0080**

IN THE BUSH

Reporting In From Evie South – President

Welcome to our June update and thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our community and reserves.

As we walk through our Scenic reserves in Wakefield, we are reminded of the incredible diversity of birds, animals, plants, and trees.

However, not everyone may share the same appreciation for these reserves as we do for our community.

Some might see the use of native trees for making huts as acceptable. Still, we believe this perspective is often rooted in a lack of understanding of the vital role our scenic reserves play in protecting our environment. We are committed to working tirelessly to preserve these native plants and prevent harm, to enhance educational and recreational opportunities for future generations.

We all must learn to value and respect what these natural areas offer us, especially to foster pride and a shared sense of stewardship.

FAULKNER BUSH – 3 AREAS OF NATIVE PLANTINGS TRASHED.



The expression that kids are just being kids is so totally not appropriate actions within a Class 1A Scenic Reserve, where any such destruction is a prosecutable offence.

When native plantings dating back over 20 years are obliterated, it not only damages the environment but also shows a lack of respect, emphasising the need for community awareness and responsible behaviour.

PLEASE, especially during the school holidays, just make your children, grandchildren, or visiting children aware that hut-building in any of our Scenic Reserves is a NO-GO ZONE for such activities.

THE EDWARD BAIGENT MEMORIAL SCENIC RESERVE

On the positive, a great day was had on the 9th of May for our planting of approx. 500 native trees on the Northern side of this Reserve.

Fabulous weather and great team turnout, plus some most welcome extras, thank you Bob Gaul and his very willing son-in-law.

Lynne and Avis were kept busy with the refreshments, even telling us off if we were not on time for our break! Also, a shout out to the preparation team (Dunc, Eric and Muzz) who got the area ready for our planting, spraying, hole digging and mulching. The rest of the mulching will happen mid-June; I just ran out of time, as our big push was to get all the trees planted. Dunc, you were a legend on the tractor, thank YOU.

Again, our sincere appreciation to Jarrod and Jason of Tasman Bay Asphalt for coming on board to donate the trees and to acknowledge the efforts of our Society for our Community and Region.

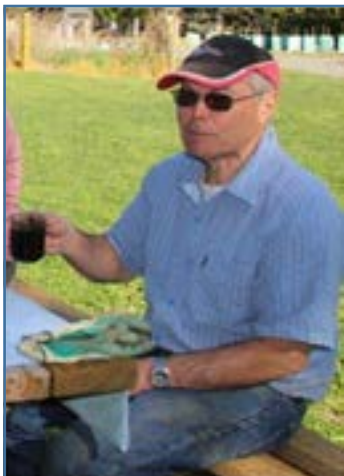
WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER

Jeffrey (Jeff) Gordon SIMPSON 25.9.1948 – 13.5.2026

Jeff and his wonderful wife Gowan have been pivotal members of our Society, contributing many years and countless hours of hard graft.

When Jeff was around, we could always rely on his “dry” sense of humour to keep us in check. We will SO miss you!!

But we will always remember your smile & generous spirit.



JOIN OUR TEAM. Any spare time?? How about joining our telephone tree to let you know when we are out and about maintaining our Scenic Reserves. Kind regards Evie for the Volunteer Team **Phone or Txt** 027 907 2879 Landline 03 541 8980 No message minder Or **Email** tuiville@xtra.co.nz

Wakefield Country Players

by Amby Cowe

Rehearsals are well underway for Wakefield Country Players' next musical performance - Something Rotten!

With a cast of eighteen, we can't wait to bring you this very entertaining comedy.

Set in the 1590s, brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star known as "The Bard." When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. But amidst the scandalous excitement of opening night, the Bottom Brothers realize that reaching the top means being true to thine own self, and all that jazz.

Something Rotten!

Will open on the Wakefield stage on Friday 21st August, with six performances planned.

On 21, 22, 26, 28 and 29th August there will be 7:30pm shows.

On Sunday 23rd we will have a 2pm matinee.

This is a show for mature audiences.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page (facebook.com/wakefieldcountryplayers) for updates.

To book tickets, email bookcountryplayers@gmail.com or phone 03 541 9046

**Can we celebrate your special event or help
remember someone dear to you?**

**Please send your obituaries, birth announcements,
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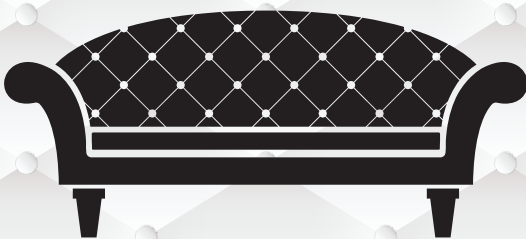
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Willow Bank Heritage Village

by Medea Grieder-George

April has been a busy and rewarding month at Willow Bank Heritage Village, filled with education, community visits, and special events. We welcomed a local school to our hands-on education programme, where students experienced history first-hand using ink nib pens, slate boards, the 1875 Albion Press, and traditional laundry methods.

We also hosted Brant Adam Photography for a styled wedding shoot, showcasing the village as a unique and memorable setting for couples planning their special day. As we look ahead to the 2027 wedding season, we'd love to hear from anyone considering Willow Bank as their venue.

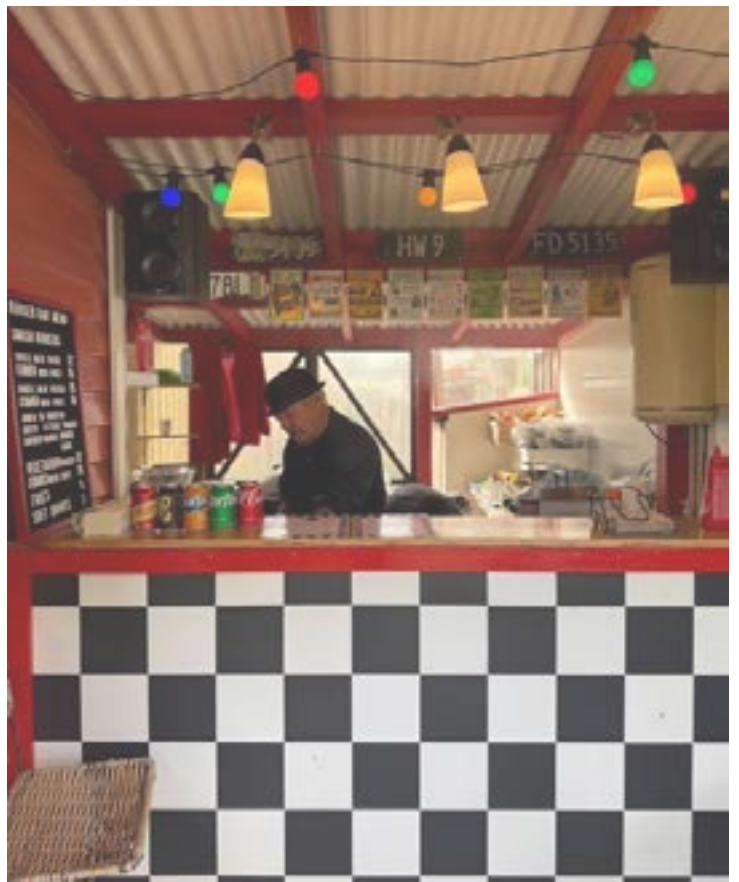
In partnership with Tasman District Library, we took part in their holiday programme at Washbourn Gardens, where families enjoyed traditional games in the sunshine.

A major highlight was our Apple Harvest Open Day on 19 April. Despite a rainy start, the weather cleared and the day went ahead successfully, with a great turnout and hands-on apple pressing. Entertainment from RUM, Ragged Crow Morris Dancers, and the Nelson Bays Harmony Chorus added to the festive atmosphere. What began as a wet morning quickly turned into a lively, enjoyable day of food, entertainment, and fresh apple juice.

We also hosted the Golden Bush Garden Club, who enjoyed scones, hot drinks, and a relaxed, fun-filled visit. We love welcoming groups to Willow Bank and can cater for everything from garden clubs and community groups to school and tour groups. We'd be delighted to host more visitors for a unique and memorable day out at Willow Bank Heritage Village.

What's coming up at Willow Bank;

- 29th April – Welcome Wednesday: Enjoy a relaxed midweek visit and soak up the village charm.
- 8th May – High Tea: Bookings essential via our website for this elegant afternoon experience.
- 17th May – Apple & Pear Harvest Open Day: Bring your own apples or press some of ours with traditional wooden presses and take home fresh juice.



Faulkner Bush Kindergarten

by Jenny Gray

We can't quite believe it, but three months have passed since we opened the doors at Faulkner Bush Kindergarten. From our first week when children attending each day was single digits we are now averaging over 20 children each day and still growing. It's been so much fun getting to know the Tamariki, seeing friendships develop, and have them settle into kindergarten life with growing confidence.

We've had so many visitors through the door, many of whom remember the old scout hall and can't believe the transformation, some of the original features and history have been kept but with the help of a new kitchen, a large outdoor deck, landscaping and a lot of hard work it's now a bright, warm and peaceful space for our Tamariki to spend their days.



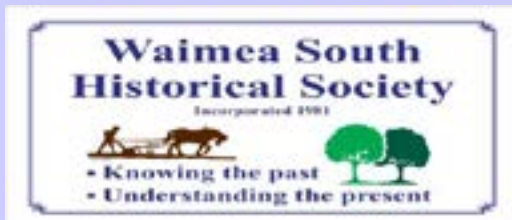
We've had many adventures over these first few months, however a recent planned power cut created quite the adventure for us all. When we received the notice to say there would be a power cut, we weren't quite sure what to expect. Would we be able to open? How dark would it be? How would the Tamariki react?

Turns out we didn't need to worry, we finally had the excuse we needed to get our lovely fire up and running. Tamariki turned up with torches and a keen sense of adventure. Once the lights went out, thanks to a lovely sunny day, it wasn't too dark inside but the Tamariki still had fun using the torches to make patterns on the roof and shadow puppets on the walls (Something I think kaiako had more fun with than anyone else). Everyone took to the different environment with ease, enjoying the fun, new learning opportunities and exploration of it all.

Open Day:

Wednesday 10 June 2026, 9.30am – 11.30am – 24 Treeton Place

June 10th marks a special moment in kindergarten history – it's the day the very first kindergarten in New Zealand opened in Dunedin back in 1889. To celebrate this day, we are opening our doors and invite you to come and have a look around our Kindergarten and see for yourselves how the building has been transformed. We're very proud of our space and would love to show you around.



Interested people are welcome to our June meeting to be held

Thursday 25th of June 2026 in the Holy Trinity Church Hall

27 Dorset St Richmond at 2pm



"Guess which 5 year old got sent home on her first day".

Trish Palmer (nee Milliken) is our speaker, and yes she is now grown up from this little girl at Spring Grove School in 1971. Trish who lives in Stanley Brook, is a passionate Waimea South History person and former committee member of our society. She will be talking to us about people and places you will all know from this area.

Come along and let Trish entertain you.

Any enquiries 021 542 338, A gold coin donation please.



Wakefield Health Centre

Some Winter FAQs

by Gavin Drummond

So winter has arrived and with it the usual range of winter infections. I thought I would try and cover some of the frequently asked questions about these 'bugs'.

1. When should I worry about a high temperature?

This is a good question, and behind that question is usually a concern that a child may have a febrile seizure if their temperature goes too high.

A fever is one of the body's ways of getting rid of germs. Unfortunately, we usually feel unwell with a high fever, and just occasionally a child can get a seizure. There is no particular temperature when a seizure happens. It seems that a seizure is more likely if the temperature goes up very quickly, and some people just seem to have a lower threshold for having seizures.

In general, we treat a fever if the sick person is unwell with it. If a child is younger than three months it is good to see the doctor if the fever is over 38. If a child is between three and six months it is good to see a doctor if the fever is over 39. However, how a child or adult is feeling and acting is more important than just the number on the thermometer, so if in doubt, come and see us at the Health Centre. Looking after a sick kid or adult can be scary and we would far rather check them out than have you worrying.

2. What is the best way to treat a fever?

In general we treat a fever if the sick person is unwell with it. A really good article for advice on treating a fever in children can be found at: <https://patient.info/health/feverhigh-temperature-in-children>. Taking fluids is really good for bringing a fever down and preventing dehydration. If a child is younger than 6 months, Paracetamol is the safest medicine for a fever. Older than this Ibuprofen can be used but NOT if the person is dehydrated. For fevers that won't come down with just Paracetamol, it is fine to add in Ibuprofen as well.

3. What do I do about dehydration with tummy bugs?

This can be a problem when even a mouthful of fluid seems to bring on more vomiting! However some fluid does actually get absorbed so it is worth persisting. A useful guide is to give 1 ml of fluid for every Kilogram of body weight every 5 minutes and keep this up for 2-4 hours. For example if a baby is 10 kg, they would need 10 ml (2 tsp) of fluid every five minutes. Our nurses are a great source of advice in these situations.

4. When should antibiotics be used?

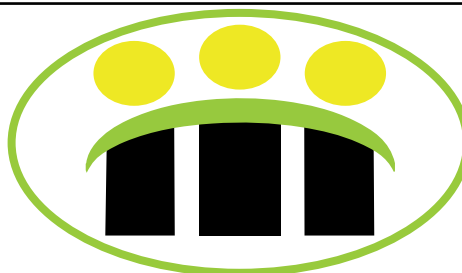
Briefly, most coughs and colds and flu-like illnesses are caused by viruses and antibiotics are not effective against viruses. They are effective for bacterial illnesses.

You will have heard reports of looming antibiotic resistance and you may have heard about recent research on our microbiome, the mass of bacteria that live in our bodies and that have a huge effect on our health.

Antibiotics can affect the balance of these bacteria in our body and that can have a negative effect on our health. So we try and use antibiotics wisely.

5. Why are there no drugs in the jungle?

Because the parrots eat 'em all (Paracetamol) !!!!!



Wakefield Health Centre

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Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5:30pm

Wednesday 8.30am – 7pm

Phone 541 8911

12 Edward St Wakefield





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They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"
Lamentations ch 3 vs 22 and 23 NIV



Wakefield Craft Group

Come and join the ladies Craft Group
held on Wednesday mornings
in the Fire Brigade Supper Room
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9.00am - 12pm

Bring any project - sewing, knitting, crochet.
Learn to knit or crochet or just come for a look
and join us for tea, coffee and company.
Small donation

For more information phone Judy on 5418342

WAKEFIELD ANGLICAN PARISH COMMUNITY LUNCHES

These are held at the Anglican Worship Centre
on 3rd Thursday of the month and everyone is most
welcome to attend.

A donation to assist with purchasing the food would be
appreciated.

If attending, and it's possible, please call Liz Massey
by the Monday 021 1850 168.

June 18th, July 16th, August 20th
September 17th, October 15th, November 19th

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Wakefield Community Toy Library

WAKEFIELD TOY LIBRARY

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hear about what toys you think we should add to our collection.

You can share your ideas by emailing us on
wakefieldtoylibrary@gmail.com

or pop in and see us during our opening hours,
Saturday 10:00am-11:00am and Mondays 3:15pm-4:30pm

The Wakefield Community Toy Library is for everyone!



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Sue White 027 474 6324
www.lordrutherfordhall.org.nz

Higgins Heritage Park & Community Fair
info@higginsheritagepark.co.nz

Post Memory NZ
Sarah Arnold 072 341 7820
postmemorynz@gmail.com

Spring Grove Drill Hall
C Stratford 021 0268 5176

Totaradale Golf Club
Catherine or Ali 541 8030
totaradalegc@gmail.com

Wakefield Anglican Church
St Johns on the hill
Traditional Service: 9.00am
1st Sunday of each month

The Worship Centre
Service: 10.30am every Sunday
Food & Faith: 5.00pm every 2nd & 4th Sunday
Ph 541 8883 wakefieldanglican@xtra.co.nz

St Johns Worship Centre
Bookings Nigel Massey 027 243 1207

Wai Iti Workshop:
5pm - 7pm, 1st and 3rd Monday of month
@ Toy Library, 61 Edward St
waiitiworkshop@gmail.com 021 757 753
For electrical repair inquiries
please text 021 148 9854

Wakefield Football Club
wakefieldfootballclub@gmail.com
www.wakefieldfc.nz

Wakefield Health Centre
541 8911

Wakefield Pharmacy
541 8418

Wakefield Playcentre
541 7097
Mon & Wed 9:30am - 12noon
Tue, Thurs & Fri 9am - 1pm
wakefield@playcentre.org.nz

Wakefield Volunteer Fire Brigade
CFO Wattie Mortimer 022 492 8841
DCFO Alana Shields 027 309 2953

Willowbank Heritage Village
willowbank2002@gmail.com

Country Players (Drama)
Jen Amosa 541 8139
enquiries@countryplayers.org.nz
www.countryplayers.wordpress.com

Nelson Vintage Engine &
Machinery Club
Allan 027 319 7427

Faulkner Bush Kindergarten
24 Treeton Place
029 040 10518

St Joseph's Catholic Church
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027 337 4622
office.admin@parish.org.nz

Waimea Sheepdog Trial Club
Sally Powell 021 773 461
Email: sally@tcvet.co.nz

Waimea Area Quilters
Kay Norgate 021 0811 4860
Marilyn Gibbs 03 541 8435
marilyncolingibbs@gmail.com

Wakefield Bush Restoration Soc Inc
Evie South 541 8980 or 027 907 2879

Plunket Nelson Area Office
For appointments etc 539 5200

Target Shooting Wakefield
targetshootingwakefield@gmail.com
Holly Gibbons 022 406 1674

Wanderers Sports Club
027 714 6160
jimmy@wandererssports.co.nz

Wakefield Toy Library
Saturday 9.30-11.30am
wakefieldtoylibrary@gmail.com

Wakefield Art Group
Thursdays 9.30am - 12pm
Alison 541 8822

Wakefield Website
www.wakefield.org.nz

Justice of the Peace
Katie Greer - Ph 021 547 756

Wakefield School PTC
ptawakefield@gmail.com

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Wakefield Bowling Club
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Wakefield Community Council
Nathan Dunn 0210 869 0807
wcc.chairperson@gmail.com

Wakefield Village Kindergarten
20 Whitby Way
Phone 021 0227 1762
or 03 5418086

Wakefield Tennis Club
Ngaire Calder 027 279 9938
www.caldertennis.co.nz

Wakefield Village Hall
Sarah Ching 03 541 9046
ambynz@hotmail.com

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Wakefield Police
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jamie.white2@police.govt.nz
Senior Constable Matthew Berquist
matthew.berquist@police.govt.nz
Sergeant Craig Clayworth
craig.clayworth@police.govt.nz

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(can ask to be put through to
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Emergency – 111

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In the event of an emergency, your first task is to ensure the safety of your own home, family and neighbours. Once you have attended to this, if you have specialised skills/ equipment, and/or feel you can assist others; or require assistance yourself, please make your way to the Welfare Centre which will be at the St Johns Worship Centre in Edward Street [unless notified otherwise].

Please note that the existence of a Welfare Centre does not absolve each individual from their responsibility to be personally prepared. You should ensure that you have your own survival kit in place, and that you are able to be fully self sufficient for at least three days.

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