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15th September 2020

Phone 434 9651

Issue 503

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Central Podiatry Limited

Nathan Dickson

Cost \$44 pension or community service, house calls available Quality treatment of all foot and lower limb conditions Community House, Oamaru Ph: 434 8862 Such a lovely beginning to the new growing season... North Otago is looking so pretty, with masses of lovely Blossom and Daffodils everywhere,"Spring makes its own statement so loud and clear, that the gardener seems to be only one of the instruments - not the composer." G. B Charlesworth.



Cleaning out ponds was first on the list for me last week. Leaves and old growth from pond plants needs to be removed and perhaps overflowing the pond will freshen it. Water Lilies, oxygen weed and water Irises are starting to make a move. A couple of years ago a helper and I removed all the yellow bog Iris from the big pond this was a much needed job, because this common yellow Iris was spreading so fast and took up a quarter of the pond with its mat forming roots (lesson learned, don't plant yellow bog Iris in a domestic pond) The place for this Iris is along the banks of a creek - the fibrous roots are fantastic at holding the sides back from erosion. Don't be tempted to add Bull Rushes to a domestic pond either - they also spread too quickly. While Water Lilies are not fully in leaf, sections can be cut and re potted. If you do not have a mesh pot specifically for aquatic plants, create holes in the sides of a plastic pot and use that. Line the pot with sacking or woven fabric and 3/4 fill with garden soil and a small amount of slow release fertilizer in the centre. Plant Water Lily section, then add stones or gravel to the top of the pot and submerge to the bottom of the pond. Now the sap is up, remove unwanted growth from Prunus trees, (Flowering Cherry). This is said to be the best time to make cuts in Prunus to avoid the spread of Silver Leaf, which can spread from tree to tree while in the dormant stage. Always on a warm dry day, cut out any weak growth and cross over branches before they grow thick.

Cut out all dead branches from beneath Kilmarnock Willows if you have them. This is the ornamental Pussy Willow, once used often in small gardens. Each new branch grows out from the bud of last year's growth. All subsequent year's growth dies and builds up under the new growth. The grafted weeping tree is much nicer to look at, with all those dead branches removed and it is easier to do this when bare of leaves.

Keep folia feeding new Spring growing plants (other than bulbs they store their own food). Liquid plant food will encourage strong growth. Now plant, plant, plant all the pretty Spring seedlings on offer now and sow seeds for Summer flowering, to save on buying seedlings later in the year. Lawns, Lawns benefit greatly from an early Spring feed of lawn fertilizer, but this works best with rain to wash it in. Unfortunately, too much soil is removed from new building sites these days, which means clay is not as far down, creating a solid moisture holding pan under soil. Gypsum (soluble lime) will work on opening up clay without changing the ph of soil. Frosts will soon be over, allowing new lawns to be sown. Remember to sow seed thickly, as annual weed seeds will be competing.

Vegetables: Soil is warming with the days becoming longer plants are now coming to life, so heaps to do in the veg garden as you ready it for planting. Break up and rake clods to fine soil down for direct seed sowing. Get Pumpkin, Butternut and Squash and Corn seeds started now under protection, until frosts finish - they need a long warm growing season to grow and ripen. It's great to be planting Salad veg again, especially while there are still no white Butterflies or aphids about. As an early season deterrent, start spraying fish emulsion on both veg and flowering seedlings - this will feed the plants and repel pests by fooling them into thinking their favorite food is now protein, not vegetable - repeat after rain. Get sprouted Potatoes in the ground. When leaves appear, start mounding over them to encourage leaves and stalks to grow longer producing more Potatoes. Keep water up to rows during dry spells. Fruit: All deciduous fruit trees can still be planted in September while the plants are just coming out of dormancy.

Strawberries: Delicious Strawberries are easy to grow - as little as 25 plants can yield more than 50 pounds... Strawberries need at least six hours of direct sun daily and will do well with a dressing of fertilizer with extra Potassium, regular irrigation and slightly acidic soil and covering the bed in straw, will keep the weeds down and the fruit clean. All other Berries on offer should be planted now. Cheers. Linda.



Burns Memorial Art Exhibition Saturday 12 September - Sunday 18 October 2020

It is 50 years of the Burns exhibition, let's celebrate the wonderful work created by students around the Waitaki.

Friends of the Forrester Lunchtime recital Friday 18 September 2020

Allen Hogan - flute, June Cameron - accompanist. Oamaru Opera House, 12:15pm - 1:00pm.













Do you have a hidden **Computer Virus**

McAfee Stinger is a standalone utility used to detect and remove specific viruses. It's not a substitute for full antivirus protection, but a specialized tool to assist administrators and users when dealing with infected system.



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www.mcafee.com/enterprise/en-us/downloads/free-tools/stinger.html McAfee Stinger search for particular trojan or rootkit that can trick regular antivirus software and be left undetected, but it won't destroy every kind of threat for your PC, so you'd better use it alongside a fully featured antivirus application.



Oamaru Hospital - Patients requiring medical assistance at our Emergency Department.

- Avoid the main reception area and go directly to the Emergency Department entrance beside our Ambulance Bay at all times, 24/7.
- If you have any cold or flu symptoms please wear a mask or put one on at the Emergency Entrance door & apply hand sanitiser.
- Please note only one support person with the patient. Also any visitors to the hospital will be screened at the doors.
- If you develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, call your GP or 0800 VIRUS19 (0800 847 8719) to get tested. You can get a free test at most GPs - call ahead to find out if you need a test and follow their advice.

For COVID-19 health advice and information, contact the Healthline team (for free) on 0800 358 5453.



Medway St and Steward St carparks return to paid parking

Council have today voted for an early return to paid parking in the Medway and Steward St carparks.

The free parking was to continue until 30 September, but due to complaints from numerous residents, usual parking fees will be payable from tomorrow, 2 September.

Free parking will continue in all other areas until 30 September. Time restricted parking remains as normal. During the free parking initiative, members of the public have experienced difficulty in finding appropriate parking in the vicinity of the Oamaru hospital and the Waitaki Aquatic Centre which has meant patients are missing or turning up late for hospital appointments and members of the public for swimming-related activities. This is in part due to members of the public using the free parking initiative to park their vehicles all day or for extended periods in the Medway and Steward St car parks. Mayor Gary Kircher was disappointed that the situation had come to this. "Councillors were very reluctant to return to paid parking earlier than expected, but too much all-day parking in the two carparks has left us with no choice. There have been repeated requests to leave space for those who need it to visit shops, the hospital, and the pool, but to no avail." Regulatory Manager Andrew Bardsley said, "The decision will alleviate the congestion being experienced in the Medway and Steward St car parks."



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Pieces Of April By April Hayes Dickson

While my back was turned Spring went and sprung. Without warning, daffodils and lambs have already popped, the days have become longer and I haven't even shaved my legs yet. Winter and its accompanying excuse to live in opaque tights is every girl's friend. A time to go blissfully razor free.

The onset of winter gives us licence to pretty much swaddle from head to toe. There are chilly North Otago days when the only part of the female form publicly on display are our eyes wedged between beanie and scarf.

From June to September, while we continue to manicure, pull and pluck our facial hair, everything from the neck down is left to its own devices.

These bristly months can be uncomfortable for our partners, especially when bare legs are rubbed up against each other unexpectedly in the middle of the night. The KOR (King of the Remote) has been known to yelp in the dark wondering who put a hedgehog in our bed.

Spring is traditionally seen as a time of rebirth often characterized by frolicking through forests. All the great poets have had a crack at expressing the rapture associated with the seasonal change. From the Bills (Shakespeare and Blake) to the Bobs (Frost and Browning) Spring has been lyrically waxed for centuries. And while I'm as happy as the next woman to welcome the joy of Spring, I think I'll wait until I'm fully waxed before I go gamboling again. piecesofapril@gmail.com

Get ready to Grumble, Waitaki!

Feel like you haven't had a chance to talk to council for a while? We feel that way too! With Covid and all the ins and outs of social distancing etc., March was the last time we were able to have a proper chin wag with residents and hear from them directly about the things that might be worrying them, or need fixing. Which is why we've come up with a tongue-incheek public engagement called 'Lets Get Ready to Grumble,' designed to give you the opportunity to come and have a chat with Councillors and Council Communications staff; air any peeves, tell us what you think, so we can understand the hot topics and start to offer solutions where possible. Last Sunday September 13 Wanda the conversation caravan was at the Oamaru Farmers Market and now the grumble gathering is hitting the road for Palmerston and Kurow.

To sweeten the grumbling process there will be free apple crumble with your grumbles. Mayor Gary Kircher says, "It's always important to keep in touch with people's concerns, and this latest initiative from our Comms team will be a great opportunity for you to engage easily with us. I'm looking forward to chatting about what you would like to see done, or done better, and I will be with Wanda at a couple of the sessions. Come and see us – and you don't even have to have a grumble!"

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Motoring with Peter

Hi! JPeter here, North Otago Motor Group. This weeks car of the week is the new generation 2020 Yaris Hatch GX 1.5ltr, smart zippy, super safe and fun. Drive away from \$25,990, petrol and hybrid. Come in and test drive today... We have over 35 years LOCAL experience in the industry and our team, Peter, Martin and myself are here to help you. Being



local has huge advantages for you. We are close to where you live; you can pop in and see us or we can come to you plus we have a service and parts department. See us any day including Saturday 9am-12, or call us to make an appointment outside working hours. Loads of options of vehicles too, from small run-bouts, SUV's to 4x4's. Plus we can cover everything from finance, insurance and extended warranties. Have a great week. *Peter 0800660070*

Excelsior Petanque Club

On Sunday 30th of August the Oamaru Excelsior Petanque Club hosted a Drawn Triples Tournament played between 10 teams of players from the Alexandra, Caversham, St Kilda, Waikouaiti, Timaru and Excelsior clubs.

The players were drawn into the 10 teams so that all players teamed up with members of 2 other clubs but not with those from their own club.

The format of the tournament was that of a round robin draw where all teams played the other 9 teams drawn rather than the usual qualifying, semi final and finals format.

The great weather helped to ensure that a great time was enjoyed by all.

The results were as follows; First place to Kay George(Caversham, David Beer (Alexandra) Sandy McCulloch (Excelsior) with 8 wins,2nd place to Carol Reed,(Caversham),Wendy Farlem (St Kilda) Herb Tonkin(Excelsior) with 6 wins plus 38 differential points,3rd place to Jan Milford(Caversham),Lyn Andrews(St Kilda) Suzanne Tonkin(excelsior) 6 wins plus 24 points and in 4th place with 6 wins plus 20 points was Bev Kendal(Caversham) Mavis Thompson(Timaru) and Alec Clarke (Excelsior).

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Let's talk about Cervical cancer

In New Zealand, about 160 women develop cervical cancer each year – and about 50 die from it. Cervical cancer is caused by some strains of the human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is a very common virus that is passed on by sexual contact. Cervical cancer is cancer of the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus or womb. Cervical cancer develops slowly over time, usually taking many years, when abnormal cells grow on the cervix. These abnormal cells are caused by infection with highrisk types of HPV. You can help protect yourself against cervical cancer by having regular cervical smear tests. Cervical smear tests can detect abnormal cells that may one day become cancerous. All women between 25 and 69 who have ever been sexually active should have regular smear tests. Women who have had abnormal changes may need to have more frequent tests for a period of time. Each year there are around 25,000 abnormal smear test results among New Zealand women. Without cervical screening about one out of 90 women will develop cervical cancer and one out of 200 will die from it. With cervical screening about one out of 570 will develop cervical cancer and one out of 1280 will die from it.

Early changes in the cells of the cervix don't usually cause symptoms, which is why doctors encourage women to have regular cervical smear tests. If early cell changes develop into cervical cancer, the most common signs include vaginal bleeding between periods, bleeding after intercourse, pain during intercourse, unusual vaginal discharge, vaginal bleeding after menopause, excessive tiredness, leg pain or swelling or lower back pain,

All these symptoms are common to many conditions and may not mean you have cervical cancer. However, if you have these symptoms, have them checked by your doctor.

Treatments for cervical cancer include surgery, radiation treatment, chemotherapy or a combination of these treatments.



You're invited to join us at the Opera House
7pm, Tuesday Sept 29
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50 years of the Burns Memorial Art Exhibition

This year the Forrester Gallery is celebrating half a century of the annual exhibition the Burns Memorial.

The Burns Memorial Exhibition is always a highlight of the galleries programme. Last year we ran the exhibition online due to the gallery being closed for refurbishment, so we are really looking forward to having a show back in the gallery this year. It is our most popular show and a time where we have our highest numbers of visitors; children with their families, grandparents, early childhood centres and schools. Elizabeth King, Forrester Gallery Educator and Engagement Officer says "I am always astounded by the variety of work that gets brought into the gallery. Teachers go to a huge effort to research new ideas and techniques. So far this year I know we have a dinner party installation, clay pinch pots and fish linocuts. It is always great seeing the secondary school folio work come in too. The work not only inspires young artists, but we often get teachers in wanting to know how things were made.

This year we were planning a party opening with cake, activities and cultural performances but due to Covid we have decided to run this next year. It was wonderful that we had offers of groups wanting to perform and we look forward to hosting an opening party for the exhibition in 2021. Because this year is Burns 50, we want to find out some of the history of the exhibition which we will share in a series of blogs during the exhibition. "The exhibition started in 1970 and is named after George Burns (1903-1970). Mr Burns, who was born and educated in Oamaru, was editor for the Christchurch Star-Sun. During his time there The Star ran an annual schools' art exhibition throughout the South Island. Although this South Island exhibition no longer takes place the Burns Memorial Art Exhibition is held each year in memory of George Burns. They were first run by the North Otago Art Society and held in the Athenaeum above the Waitaki Museum. In 1984 the venue changed to the Forrester Gallery where they have been held ever since.

Ms King said "One little gem I have found when I was researching the exhibition was an OamaruMail article from 1987. Featured was teacher Jean Leggett talking to her pupils Anna McIntosh and Helen Polson. Anna is now Head of The Arts at Waitaki Girls High School. If you grew up in the Waitaki do you remember having art in the Burns memorial Exhibition. Did you visit the exhibition- who was your Art teacher? Did you carry on with your Art? Please get in touch with the gallery if you want to share your memories or photographs of the Burns Memorial Art Exhibition." The exhibition opens on Saturday 12 September and will run until Sunday 18 October.

For more information contact eking@waitaki.govt.nz or 433 0853 The staff at the Forrester Gallery want to thank all the students and their teachers for their hard mahi putting together the artwork for the exhibition.





Is poor gut health affecting your mental focus?

179 Thames St, Ph 434 9663

Health 2000 - Poor gut health

BY GLEN CURD, RESEARCHER & LECTURER if you have overindulged a little too much in comfort foods lately, the permeable membrane of your gut wall may have taken a hammering! it's now time for some rest and restoration for both you and your insides.

Your gut membrane can be compromised by overindulgence in sugary foods, food allergies, stress, infections and antibiotics. Your intestinal cells which usually form tight junctions may become less impermeable than they should. This can result in a range of health issues. With many of your brain's neurotransmitters made first in your gut, issues here can be the cause of fuzzy thinking, lack of mental focus, tiredness and irritability.

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FreeWi-Fi for Waitaki?

Following a recommendation of the Performance, Audit and Risk (PAR) committee this week, Council will decide at the full meeting on 1 September whether to support the establishment of free public Wi-Fi for the district,



implemented by the Information Services team and limited initially to Omarama, the Oamaru Harbour zone and Palmerston, with a proviso that local business are engaged in the process.

Mayor for Waitaki Gary Kircher said, "Council has been talking about this for the past 5 years ormore, but it didn't happen due to competing priorities. The original vision was to have each community along the A2O cycle trail as a free Wi-Fi hub in a process which would ultimately see it rolled out to all of Waitaki's smaller communities. The hope had been to work with existing operators and providers to get a cost-effective network across the district. That has proven too difficult but we will still progress the plan, albeit at a slower rate. If we are able to work with others to expand the networkmore quickly, then we welcome that opportunity."

The Wi-Fi project was originally included in the Information Services Group Programme of Work schedule. The purpose of the project was to 1) help bridge the 'digital divide' so more residents in the district could have access to the internet and 2) help with economic resilience (existing businesses) and economic development (new businesses) by promoting businesses and activities within the district to residents, as well as domestic and international visitors. When people use the free Wi-Fi, they will see 'What's on in the Waitaki' when they log on. The project was ranked as lower priority for a couple of years, but last year elected members confirmed increasing interest in having free Wi-Fi available in the district. Now, with the impact of COVID-19, it is even more important that local citizens (as well as visitors) who may be struggling financially and yet need access to the internet for job search and job applications, have an option of free access

Mayor Kircher said Council, community, local businesses and visitors will benefit from the implementation of Wi-Fi to access a public network, access information about Waitaki offerings "and, of course, be better able to share great photos of the district's beauty on Instagram and other social media."

Community diary

Wednesday 16th September

Excelsior Petanque Club; Ph 4372557, Wed & Sun 1-3pm, Excelsior Rugby & Sports Club.

Free JP for certifying documents, affidavits, & declarations. 10-1pm at the Public Library.

North Otago Orchid Society meetings held at the St John's meeting room at 1:30pm. Exe st. New members welcome, Ph. 434 7324.

Thursday 17th

N.O. Asthma Society Respiratory Exercise Class, 10am, St John Hall, Exe St. Ph 437 2673.

Migrant Meet and Share, 10.30am at the Landsar Rooms in Severn St. Build connections & learn about life in Waitaki. Ph Maria 021 066 5143.

Friday 18th

AA; Orwell St Chapel, 12noon. Ph. 0277227818.

Saturday 19th

Newcomers Coffee Group at 10am at either the Opera House or The Brydone. Ph 0272428643

Sunday 20th

AA Meeting; Orwell St Chapel, 6pm. Ph. 0277227818 or 4372337.

Oamaru Baptist Church; Sandringham St, Service at 10am. All welcome.

Reformed Church Oamaru, 4 Eden St, morning service at 10:30am, followed by Sunday School, afternoon service at 5.00pm.

St Paul's Church, Coquet St, service and kids club. All welcome, 10am.

Taize Service; 7pm St Luke's Church cnr Tees and Dion 0223924852. Itchen Streets.

Monday 21st

Genealogy help by local genealogist - at the Oamaru library 10 am - 12noon.

Tokarahi Spinners and Weavers meeting. Ph. Christine 434 2223

Waitaki Woodturners; meet at 1 pm at our clubrooms - Oamaru Race Course & Tuesday evening at 7 pm. Ph 439 5795.

Tuesdays 22nd

AA Meeting; Orwell St Chapel, 7:30pm, Ph. 434 0227 or Ph. 432 4191.

Age Concern Gentle Exercise. 1:30 – 2:45pm Seated exercise class with music, followed by afternoon tea. Offered during Alert Level 2 with appropriate precautions. Orwell St Church.

U3A Waitaki, talks, discussions for enquiring minds, 2-4pm. St Johns Hall Lounge. Ph. 434 6613.

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AGM Notices

Creative Fibre North Otago Spinners & Weavers Monday 28th September 10am St Luke's Hall, Wharfe Street. Ph 03 437 2501.

Oamaru Steam & Rail Society AGM 24th September at 7:30pm OSR Clubrooms, 1b Humber St. followed by supper, all welcome.

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MGM Handyman Services,	► Walls Funeral Services434 8266	→ AG Plumbing 0214349.
Your professional handyman 022 3106294		Blocked drains & CCTV Camera
• Wayne Nuttall Builders 437 2513		→ Cunningham Plumbing, Oamaru
027 434 3409	Gardening & lawns	Plumbing & Drainlaying0800 555
Carpet & Vinyl layer	Ashleys Lawn & Garden Care.4372865	▶ Foley Plumbers Oamaru434 23
• Dion0223924852	Includes ride on lawns0221086606	Sam Boswell0800 303
pecialising in second hand carpet & repairs	► CHANGEZ Landscape Property Services Property maintenance - Steve 021 1148 900	▶ Hiflo's Group 03 434 98
Flooring Specialist free measure and quote n Oamaru township	► Crew Cut large lawns	Plumbing, Heating & Rockgas
	Paul Houlaham 021 331 261	Professional Podiatrist
Chiropractor	Damaru Garden Maintenance	▶ Simply Feet Podiatry437 90
Oamaru Chiropractic021 729 868	Richard Kennedy021 0474758	316 Thames Hwy, open Mon-F
Robert Brydges	Roses, garden weeding, hedges & lawns	Picture Framers, Printing
Ron Sim Chiropractor434 8784	Stevenph/txt027 2609988	► Waimate Picture Framers03 68985
31 Essex St, Weston	General Store	For all your framing requirements02729187
Cleaning	▶ Roses General Store021 515 205	► Oamaru Print and Copy Ltd434 96
• A1 Spic n' Span434 5534	9 Tyne Stafter hours434 8285	From business cards to larger posters print & desi
Almost ALL Cleaning	Handyman	Progress Coach
AA Gutter Cleaner0274 335 295 For your annual Gutter Cleaning	► Handyman027 642 6474	▶ Jenny Malcolm0274 4770
► A+ Services NZ Ltd0800 155 166	Old job, water blasting, repairs, call or text.	Helping you progress forward.
windows, gutters and carpets 027 7144 812	Insulation	Real Estate
Kimis Home Cleaning027 292 1023	▶ Dunbars Insulation 027 789 8788	▶ RayWhite - Leona Stretch0274 8209
Your home cleaning service	local and affordable	Essential Realty Ltd Licensed REA 200
Counselling	Interior Design	Transportation & Rental Vehicles
AYR St - Counselling 027 6861849	Tracey Vickers Design 027 5420 215	Airport/Hospital, Oamaru Tour434 95
aye MattingleyDip.Grad.S.Sc.Otago.NZRSW. MANZASW	Upholstery and Furnishings03 439 5370	transfers (Merv Aitcheson)0272268.
Barbara Liffiton0211 807 366	▶ Waitaki Interiors	▶ Driving Miss Daisy 434 84
NZ RCpN, Grad Dip GT, Prov NZAC	All window furnishings	Appointments, Dunedin & Timaru Hospital, Shop
Dental Civil 124.7560	Immigration	▶ Oamaru Dunedin shuttle434 30
Oamaru Denture Clinic434 7560	► Immigration & Secretarial Services Ltd	Mon - Fri, Door to Door027 25650
eg Clinical Dental Technician, 4/6 Coquet St	sylviane@isservices.nz027 737 8360	▶ Smash Palace433 14
Dressmakers	Joinery	Cars, Vans, Bicycle Hire & Shuttle Service
• Robinson Gray	► Inex Joinery/Kitchens 4 Less	TV Installation & Repairs etc
Tailored clothing & alteration ▶ Jenny Boon	335 Thames Hwy 4341533 or 021 1085500	Nathan Oakes TV, Sound, PC Install
	▶ Rycole Joinery Custom designed kitchens	Repairs 0210 237 0646 or 03 437 24
Priver Lessons		Upholstery
XTO Driver training Ltd027 262 2031	Mobile Travel Broker	Craft UpholsteryKirk 021 022 98
Driving Instructor/Driving Lessons	▶ Jannine Hore439 4230	www.craftupholstery.co.nz
OVD and CD	The Travel Brokers - member of Helloworld	Window Tinting
Oamaru Public Library433 0850	▶ Lynne Sinclair, NZ Travel Brokers	▶ Tint a Window0800 368 4
cleaning service (resurface), \$5 per disc	Longest established broker in North Otago432 4172	UV fade, heat, glare & privacytintawindow.co.nz
	J	, , , , ,



Mon-Fri 8:30am - 6pm Sat 9am - 5pm Sun 10am - 4:30pm

Email: nodispensary@xtra.co.nz 213-215 Thames St, Oamaru Opposite Subway

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME 3



Havenwyck Pets Creating Calm



Kitty Litter

Buy one get one FREE!

while stocks last

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 2pm

Petshop - Training - Rehoming 2 Coquet St (03) 427 0174

Havenwyck Pets- Travelling with Pets

As the school holidays approach and December gets closer we start to think of what we are going to do with our critters.

Holidays with our dogs are a fantastic way to spend time with the family, there are many accommodation options that allow dogs, just look out for the pet friendly logo on their websites or give them a call!

Cats, rabbits and birds generally don't like to travel but if they do stay at home ensure they have a caregiver to feed and check them daily. House sitters are a wonderful option for those with multiple critters.

When travelling in the car ensure your pets are secure in a cage or crate, use safety rated harnesses and snuggly bed to keep your pet comfortable.

Remember to keep windows down when stopping and avoid travelling on hot days.

Happy Holidays! Kind Regards, Leanne Wreakes-Fallen DipVN

Leanne Wreakes-Fallen DipVN





Must Visit - Golden Bay

Farewell Spit. There is only one way in by road over the Takaka hill - make sure you include a stop at Ngarua Caves where you will find a cave full of stalactites and stalagmites. From Nelson it is about a 1 hour 45 minute drive to the small, arty and vibrant township of Takaka and a 30 minute drive further west is Collingwood which is right at the doorstep of Farewell Spit and the end of the Heaphy Track. Join a licensed tour operator to discover the 25km long Farewell Spit nature reserve with its ever changing sand dunes and internationally renowned bird sanctuary. Both Kahurangi and Abel Tasman National Parks are easily accessible from Golden Bay for walking and tramping. At Te Waikoropupu Springs you will find the largest coldwater springs in the southern hemisphere with some of

Golden Bay is a long bay stretching from Takaka up to

You will be spoilt for choice with the multitude of beaches to explore and enjoy in Golden Bay – Tata Beach and Pohara are the more accessible ones, Totaranui Beach is truly stunning and Wharakiki Beach with its extraordinary landforms is not to be missed.

Catch your dinner at Anatoki Salmon, dine at the Mussel Inn, enjoy the Takaka Saturday market, take a walk to Wainui Falls, go on a caving, kayaking or horse back adventure, discover the many cultural and historic sites, head to Labyrinth Rocks Park – Golden Bay is such an appealing destination to take a holiday and definitely one of the must visit destinations in New Zealand.

Jannine Hore - The Travel Brokers

the clearest water ever measured.