



The Catlins Connection

Community Guide ... No 80

March 2026 Calendar

TCAS Prime Lamb Competition: Wednesday, 18 March

Sunday 1 March

Owaka Yacht Club, Pagey Trophy, 1pm
 Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30, Service 11am
 Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 2 March

SOPSSA Athletics day at SOHS
 Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 3 March

Steady As You Go Exercises, 10 am, Owaka Grace Hall
 Catlins Search & Rescue Mtg, 7.30pm

Wednesday, 4 March

Open Mic Music & Poetry Night, 6—8 pm, Catlins Café
 Catlins Men's Group, Presbyterian Church, 7 pm
 Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7 pm

Owaka Bowling Club, 6.30pm

Thursday, 5 March

Speech & Language Presentation, 7 pm, Owaka Grace Hall (see ad)
 Parent Support Group, Plunket Room, 10-12pm
 Owaka Euchre Club, 1 pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 6 March

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 7 March

Forest and Bird Sea Week, Kaka Pont, 11am (see ad)
 Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm

Otago Cavalcade, finishes at Middlemarch

Sunday 8 March

Owaka Patchwork Grp, 9.30am-4pm Supper Rm
 Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30, Service 11am
 Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 9 March

Owaka Fire Brigade Meeting, 7 pm
 Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 10 March

Steady As You Go Exercises, 10 am, Owaka Grace Hall
 Owaka Library Book Group, 2pm, Owaka Library

Wednesday, 11 March

Catlins Club (3.30 -4.30pm), Owaka Museum, Primary School children (Years 1-8)

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Owaka Garden Club, 1.30pm Supper Room

Thursday 12 March

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm
 Owaka Euchre Club, 1 pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 13 March

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 14 March

Owaka Yacht Club, Campbell Regatta, 11.30am

Forest and Bird Free a Tree (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Sunday, 15 March

Owaka Yacht Club, Campbell Regatta, 12 midday

Forest and Bird Working Bee, 1pm, Branch meeting 10 am (see ad)

Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30, Service 11am

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 16 March

Catlins Coast Inc, Papatowai Fire Station, 7 pm

Owaka Lions Club, 6.30pm, Supper Room

Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 17 March

Steady As You Go Exercises, 10 am, Owaka Grace Hall

Owaka Search & Rescue, Training, 7.30pm

Wednesday, 18 March

TCAS Prime Lamb Competition Sellars Woolshed, Owaka Valley, Prize Giving 4pm, (see ad)

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Catlins Men's Group, Presbyterian Church, 7pm

Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7pm

Thursday, 19 March

Catlins Historical Society, 1.30 pm

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1 pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 20 March

Catlins Senior Citizens Meeting, 1.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 21 March

OTAGO ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Sunday, 22 March

OTAGO ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30, Service 11am

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 23 March

OTAGO ANNIVERSARY DAY

NO Mainly Music

Tuesday, 24 March

Steady As You Go Exercises, 10 am, Owaka Grace Hall

Wednesday, 25 March

Catlins Club, 3-30pm—4.30pm, Museum

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Wise Owls, Wild Life Rescue Hospital. 10am—12 pm, Library

Thursday, 26 March

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room, 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1 pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 27 March

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm, Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 28 March

F&B Restoring Long Yellow Ribbon (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Sunday, 29 March

Owaka Patchwork Grp, 9.30am-4pm Supper Rm

Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30, Service 11am

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Puketiro Gun Club, 1pm

Owaka Yacht Club Eason Trophy, 12 midday

Monday, 30 March

Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday 31 March

Steady As You Go Exercises, 10 am, Owaka Grace Hall

Owaka Going Forward Group, Supper Rm, 7pm

Congratulations
 to our long serving
 community
 member.

John Randall
 Burgess, KSM



This edition of the Catlins Connection
 is kindly sponsored by

The Catlins Area School
 1 Stuart Street Owaka, (03) 415 8036



The Catlins Area School
 CONNECT LEARN GROW

OPEN MIC NIGHT

CATLINS CAFE



Music and Poetry

Wednesday, 4 March

Free Entry 6-8 pm Welcome



VOTING HAS BEGUN!



LET'S KEEP THIS AWARD IN THE CATLINS!
 COME AND TASTE OUR "BURGER NATION" ENTRY
 FEBRUARY 25th - MARCH 29th!
 Kitchen Cooking Burgers 11am - 3:30pm
 (Closed Tuesdays)

Peake's Kitchen & Papatowai Store



Check out our current hours

2501 Papatowai Hwy
 www.peakeskitchen.com
 0224090798



Stay up to date here

@peakeskitchen
 hello@peakeskitchen.com

QUIET SPACE

Owaka Presbyterian Church

Open for reflection

7 pm until 8 pm

Friday evenings



'Anchored
 In
 The Catlins'



Marie Reid-Beadle
 Sue McPhee

13 March - 8 May 2026

Owaka Museum Gallery
 Wahi Kahuika

Dive into Art with the
 Yellow Submarine
 Artists



Steady As You Go®
 Age Concern Otago



Exercises Recommencing

Tuesday, 3 March, 10 am

Grace Church Hall (next to Owaka Motors)
Benefits: Balance, Leg Strength, Flexibility, Mobility, Coordination, Spatial Awareness, Wellbeing, General Fitness, Social Connections

Gold Coin Donation

Enquiries to Liz Rowe 027 259 6193,

Glenda Landreth 027 273 6314

Good social time and a chance to meet others.



THE
BLACK SHEEP
BOUTIQUE

11 Main Road Owaka

theblacksheepboutiqueowaka@gmail.com

theblacksheepboutiqueowaka.myshopify.com



Catlins Medical Centre (2017) Ltd

With the weather being so unsettled at present it doesn't help keep the sickness away and is keeping the Doctors appointment book quite full.

If you are able to book ahead for an appointment that is ideal but if you do have an emergency please do not hesitate to call and we will do our best to accommodate you but please understand sometimes there may be a wait.

As of the 10th March I will be stepping down from my position as Practice Manager and going down to an administration role for 3 days a week, so I am not leaving the practice just having a change of direction.

I have enjoyed the challenge of being Practice Manager over the past 8 years and loved being able to support people and hopefully making the practice a pleasant place to visit.

Tracy Jury will be taking over the role of Practice Manager and I wish her well and hope she enjoys her new challenge.

We will be closed on 23rd March for Otago Anniversary observance so please be aware this will make it a short week and also if you need a script please call us to arrange this early.

We have a locum Dr Johann Urschitz coming from the 24th March to 2nd April, as Dr Claudia Mosavi will be taking a break.

Thank you all again for your continued support of the Catlins Medical Centre.

Kind regards

Debra Hollows, Practice Manager

Our Hut, Tahakopa

Seeking a local house painter to paint **OUR HUT** building.

Area is 54 square metres . Paid position

Phone 03 4158075, D & E Sinclair

Owaka District Parenting Group

SPEECH & LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT FOR KIDS

- Presented by Helen Gibbs, Ministry of Education SLT
- Learn about how kids develop speech & language skills
- Get tips for supporting your child's speech & language skills at home
- Find out what to do if you need some more support



Thursday, 5th March 2026
7 PM - 7:45 PM followed by
a Q&A session

**OWAKA GRACE CHURCH
3 CAMPBELL STREET**

Kids welcome,
supper provided

EMAIL A QUESTION IN ADVANCE

@ owakapsg@gmail.com



SOUTH OTAGO FOREST & BIRD Environmental Events March 2026

Sat 7th March 11am-1pm
**Celebrating Sea Week 2026 – Create a
sand sculpture at Kaka Point Beach**



Friday 13th March 10am-12pm
Save Denniston Plateau Clyde St, Balclutha



Sat 14th March 2pm-4pm
Free a Tree – Otanomomo Scientific Reserve
Contact: Jim: 027 440 9529 janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz
Roy (03) 418 1319 johns-stones@rivernet.co.nz



Sun 15th March 145 Hinahina Rd, Owaka
10am Forest & Bird Branch meeting
1pm Working bee in F&B's plant nursery

All members & supporters welcome
Contact: janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz
027 440 9529 (03) 415 8532



Sat 28th March 2pm
Releasing plants at Dutton's Bridge
Contact: John 022 167 4952 cruden.mitchell@gmail.com



For general enquiries:
SouthOtago.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz



The Catlins Historical Society

WANTED!!!!

Volunteers for a few hours a month to help staff the
Owaka Museum and Catlins Information Centre
at the weekends.

The Museum relies heavily on visitors to the district for its
funding. It is open 7 days per week, but we need your help to
ensure it stays open to the public at weekends.

Full training given – time commitment 3 or 6 hours per month.
**If you have a passion for the heritage and attractions of the
Catlins area – this will suit you!**

(Volunteers work alongside a Council Information Officer or an
experienced volunteer. They do not work alone.)

Can you help?

For more information phone
Owaka Museum 03 4158323 or call in to see Mike McPhee at
the Owaka Museum (**Monday to Friday**)

Clutha PRINT

COMMERCIAL PRINTERS

WE'RE YOUR LOCAL AGENTS FOR



INK CARTRIDGES

Bring your empties in for refilling

Ph: 418 4044 - 18 James St, Balclutha
www.cluthaprint.co.nz

Create a sand sculpture sea creature Kaka Point beach

11am-1pm Saturday 7th March 2026

All ages welcome, bring your own spade!
Winners will be chosen by beach visitors
popular choice.
Visit the stall for information and
other children's activities.

Seaweek.

annual prime lamb competition

Wednesday 18th March 2026

To be held at Sellars woolshed - 959 Owaka Valley Road.

The perfect chance to show your support for the local school
and catch up with others in our community.



Keen on donating?

Please make contact with Rachel Worth on 0274 639 489

To be judged on export basis for lambs
between 14kg - 19kg and 19.1kg - 23kg

All donators are welcome to join in the prizegiving at 4pm
followed by a complimentary BBQ. Every lamb wins a prize!

THE CATLINS AREA SCHOOL HOME & SCHOOL



Farewell to Lenore Kopua

On the 15th of February past and present members of the Owaka St John Committee attended a thank you lunch for Lenore Kopua who recently retired from St John after 47 years of service.



Memories were shared regarding the early formation of St John in Owaka, the first ambulance and uniforms. Lenore has been active in a variety of St John roles - operational, committee member, secretary, and St John First Aid Tutor. Lenore was promoted to a Member of the Order of St John in 1992, then further promoted to Officer in 1997.

Lenore has also been involved in many roles within the community - Playcentre, The Catlins Area School in a variety of roles such as Lab Assistant, Sports Coach, The Catlins Post, Exam Centre Co-Ordinator and Costume and Prop extraordinaire for many school productions.

Along with these roles Lenore has been involved with Victim Support, Craft group and is a Justice of the Peace.

Hato Hone St John wish to take this opportunity to thank Lenore for her enduring service to both St John and the wider Catlins Community. Messages of thanks or well wishes can be sent to Lenore via

tania.walker@stjohn.org.nz or
lynelle.barrett@stjohn.org.nz.

We wish Lenore all the very best as she moves to a new chapter in her life.

Owaka St John Committee

Restoring the Long Yellow Ribbon

Plant care for late summer!

Dutton's Bridge pull-off, Owaka Hwy
4th Saturday of every month
meet at 2pm stay half an hour or half a day!

~~28th February,~~ 28th March, 25th April

Together we are planting back the kōwhai, ribbonwood, matai, tōtara, mikimiki and others on the Owaka River side.

Bring shears, flax knife & gloves, if possible; plants (& refreshments) provided.

All welcome ☺

Wear sturdy footwear and suitable clothing, hat etc. for the weather. For details contact: Catriona txt: 0223 914 698



**For Emergencies Call
111**

Catlins Medical Centre
Ph: 03 4158006 (24 hours)

**Catlins Health and Gifts
Pharmacy Depot**
Open 9.30am-5.30pm Mon-Fri
Prescription Collection Point
from 4.30pm, Wendy Dewe
Ph: 03 4158109

Catlins Information Centre
Ph: 03 4158371
catlinsinfo@cluthadc.govt.nz
Week days, 8.30am-5pm
Weekends & Public Holidays 9.30am-4pm

**Owaka Community Library
& CDC Services**
PH: 03 4158371 After Hours 0800 801350
owakacommunitylibrary@cluthadc.govt.nz
Open 7days, 8.30am-5pm

Owaka Transfer Station
Open 1-3 pm, Sundays
Waikawa Road, Owaka

Owaka Museum
Mike McPhee (Manager)
Week days, 8.30am-5pm
Weekends & Public Holidays 9.30am-4pm
Closed Christmas Day
Ph: 03 4158323
owakamuseum@outlook.com
Follow on Facebook Wahi Kahuika,
Owaka Museum

Alcoholics Anonymous
Basil and Baylys Hall
35 Main Road, Owaka
Friday 7:30 pm
0800 AAWORKS (2296757)

Basil & Baylys Ltd
Farm Garden/Permaculture
basilandbaylys@gmail.com

Catlins Cafe
Open 8am to 5pm every day except 9am
- 5pm Sundays & Public Holidays
Ph 03-415 8040 or 0274352521

Catlins Club for Kids (Yr 1-8)
Mike and Steph
catlinsclub@gmail.com

Catlins Coast Inc
Hilary McNab, Ph: 027 4166819
Catlins Community Co.
Hamish McDougall

Ph: 03 4158273
**Catlins Early
Learning Centre Little Hoiho.**
8am to 5pm Mon to Fri
Manager: Lisa Foster,
Ph: 0273599178

Catlins Historical Society
Karen Bradfield, 034158377

**Catlins Historical Society
Volunteers**
Jenny O'Connell, Ph: 027 4128071

Catlins Men's Group Gregory
Kent, Ph: 022 047 2973

Catlins Motors, (Matt),
17 Main Road, Ph: 034158179
catlinsmotors@outlook.com

Catlins Search and Rescue
Greg Ramsay, Ph: 03 4158437

Catlins Senior Citizens
Ron Gallagher, Ph 03 4158176
Hina Hina Hall
Melanie Burgess, Ph: 027 4826260

Katea Indoor Bowling Club
Barry Gray, Ph: 03 4158415

**Our Hut Heritage Hub
Films, Tahakopa**
Wifi-Unifone available
Don Sinclair, Ph: 03 4158075

**Owaka Combined Sports
Bodies**
Nathan Wilson, Ph: 03 4158599

Owaka Cricket Club
Francis Parker Ph: 027 8244587

**Owaka & Districts Parents
Support Group**
Abigail Tarbotton, Secretary,
03 4158975

Owaka Euchre Club
Dawn Miller, 0272345056
Pat Ratahi 0274158873

Owaka Garden Club
Meets 2nd Wednesday of month
Community Centre Supper Room
1.30pm, Anne Berney, 034158216

**Owaka Going Forward
Committee**
Marion Leslie, Ph: 03 4158588

Owaka Golf Club
Every Saturday tee off at 1pm
Doug Dewe, Ph: 03 4158060

**Owaka Grace Presbyterian
Fellowship** (next to Owaka Mo-
tors), Sunday Services: 10.30 am
Visitors Welcome, Pastor: Matt
Tarbotton, Ph:034158975

Owaka Hall Committee
Debra Hollows, Ph: 03 4158428

Owaka Ladies Golf
Tuesdays, Christine Mitchell
Ph: 03 4158 386

**Owaka Community Library
Book Group**
2nd Wednesday of month, 2pm
Ph: 03 4158371

Owaka Lions Club
Wayne Hollows, Ph: 0274374619

Owaka Mainly Music
Monday, 10am, Owaka Grace Hall
(next to Owaka Motors)
Heni Landreth, Ph: 03 4158117

**Owaka Memorial
Community Centre**
Caretaker: Louise Burgess
PH: 027 4385589

**Owaka Outdoor Bowling
Club**
Dawn Smith, Ph: 0276574012

Owaka Patchwork Group
Meets second and last Sundays of
month at Community Centre
Supper Room, 9.30am-4pm
Marion Leslie, Ph: 03 4158588

Owaka Pilates, (HT Pilates Plus)
Hollie Turner, Ph: 0221944265,
holliephysio@gmail.com

Owaka Presbyterian Church
Sunday Services: 10.30 am
Visitors welcome
John Spicer, Ph 03 4128184

Owaka Rugby Club
Chris Chittock, Ph: 027 3182388

**Owaka St John
Ambulance Volunteers**
Jim Young, Ph: 03 4158532

Owaka St John Committee
John Spicer, Ph: 03 4128184

Owaka Swap Shop
Rear of Owaka Community Centre
Open: Mondays 12-1pm,
Thursdays 2.30-4pm
Annette Patterson, Ph: 03 4158491

Owaka Swimming Baths
Alyssa McDougall, Sec, 027 3052159
or 03 4158273
Sarah Chittock, Pres

**Owaka Volunteer Fire
Brigade**

Mark Cuthbert, Ph: 03 4158509

Owaka Yacht Club
Hina Hina Estuary
Mark Preddy, Ph: 03 4128674

**Otago Youth Adventure
Trust (Tautuku Outdoor
Education Centre)**
Warden: J Geissler,
tautuku@youthadventure.org.nz

**Papatowai and Districts
Community Association
(PADCA)**

Ian Morison, Ph: 021 2797170

**Papatowai Country Store &
Peake's Kitchen**
Tom and Nicole Peake
Ph: 0224090798

E: peakeskitchen@gmail.com

**Papatowai Forest Heritage
Trust**

Mary Sutherland, 0274150205
E: marysutherland@icloud.com

**Papatowai Volunteer Fire
Brigade**

Tony Miller, Ph: 03 4158669

Puketiro Gun Club
Chris Bennett, Ph: 034158513

Romahapa School
Principal: Ph: 03 4128849
**Romahapa Women's In-
stitute**, Romahapa Hall, 7.30 pm,
1st Wednesday of month. Shona
Preddy Ph: 034128674

South Otago Forest & Bird
Jane Young, Ph: 03 4158532

**South Otago Pony Club
(Owaka)**
Wednesdays 4pm
McGill's Farm, Newhaven
Denise McGill Ph: 03 4158358

Tahakopa Fellowship
Our Hut, Tahakopa
Fortnightly services
Keith Olsen Ph: 0274158244

The Catlins Area School
Glenys Hanley, Principal
Ph: 034158036

The Catlins Bat Project
Catriona Gower
catlinspekapeka@gmail.com

Wise Owls
Owaka Community Library
Last Wednesday every month
Ph: 034158371

Community Email Convener
Join the *Catlins Community
email Group* to receive up-
to-date community notices.

Contact:

[catlins-
community@googlegroups.com](mailto:catlins-community@googlegroups.com)

Would you like an email edition of
the Catlins Connection?

Contact Helen-May via email
greenwoodfarm@xtra.co.nz

Justices of the Peace:

Owaka:

Mr MI Patterson JP, 03 4158491 or 027 9076677
Ms KI Goffe JP, 021 777732

The Catlins Region:

Mr A Keen JP, 027 208 7250

Kaka Point:

Mrs MJ Dunn JP, 03 412 8626 or 027 6512151
Mr MJ Ford JP, 03 412 8792 or 027 4128045



The Catlins Connection is an initiative of the Owaka Going Forward Committee

The Catlins Connection is published monthly. Information or events from all Catlins organisations must be submitted before the 20th of each month to

Glenda Landreth, 03 4158119 or 027 2736314, cjgalandreth@gmail.com Helen-May Burgess, 027 4384538, greenwoodfarm@xtra.co.nz