

# The Catlins Connection

## Community Guide ... No 78 December 2025—January 2026 Calendar

### Monday, 1 December

### Tuesday, 2 December

Search and Rescue Meeting, 7.30pm

Catlins Craft Group, 1.30--4 pm, St John Room

### Wednesday, 3 December

Catlins Café Open Mic Night 6-8pm

Owaka Bowling Club, 6.30pm

Men's Support Grp, Presbyterian Church, 7pm

Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7pm

### Thursday, 4 December

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

### Friday, 5 December

F&B Bittern Muster, 9.15pm (see ad)

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

### Saturday, 6 December

Clutha Santa Parade, 1 pm

Clutha Christmas Market, 10am--2pm

F&B Bittern Muster, 9.15pm (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off 1 pm

### Sunday, 7 December

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

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

### Monday, 8 December

TCAS Prize Giving, 6pm, Community Centre

Owaka Fire Brigade Meeting, 7pm

### Tuesday, 9 December

TCAS No school buses running

Owaka Library Book Group, 2pm at Library

### Wednesday, 10 December

Owaka Garden Club, Supper Room, 1.30pm

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm

### Thursday, 11 December

Catlins Historical Soc Mtg, 1.30 pm,

Owaka Euchre Club, 1pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

### Friday, 12 December

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

### Saturday, 13 December

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Owaka Museum Christmas Market, Com-  
munity Centre, 9am-1 pm

### Sunday, 14 December

Owaka Parenting Grp, Christmas Party, 4-  
7pm (see ad)

F&B Free a Tree (see ad)

Owaka Patchwork Grp Supper Rm, 9.30am-4pm

Owaka Yacht Club, Greer Trophy, Start  
11.15am

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

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

### Monday, 15 December

Owaka Lions Club Meeting, 6.30 pm

Catlins Coast Inc, Papatowai Fire Station, 7pm

### Tuesday, 16 December

Catlins Community Company Ltd AGM,  
St John Room, 7 pm (see ad)

### Wednesday, 17 December

Men's Support Grp, Presbyterian Church, 7pm

Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7pm

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm

### Thursday, 18 December

Owaka Euchre Club, 1pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

### Friday, 19 December

Senior Citizens Christmas Meeting 1.30 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

### Saturday, 20 December

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm

### Sunday, 21 December

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

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

### Monday, 22 December

### Tuesday, 23 December

### Wednesday, 24 December

Tahakopa Christmas Eve Service, 7.30pm  
(see ad)

### Thursday, 25 December

Christmas Day

Community Church Service, Presbyterian  
Church 10 am (see ad)

### Friday, 26 December

Boxing Day

### Saturday, 27 December

Owaka Bowls Christmas Triples 1 pm (see ad)

F&B Tree Care, Dutton's Bridge, 3pm

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm

### Sunday, 28 December

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

F&B Bat Walk, (see ad)

Puketiro Gun Club, 1pm

### Monday, 29 December

### Tuesday, 30 December

Tea Towel Tuesday, St John Event, 10-4 pm,  
(see ad)

### Wednesday, 31 December

New Years Eve ... NO Pounaweia Fireworks

Papatowai New Years Eve Carnival (see ad)

### The Catlins Connection

#### New publishing costs

Sponsorship..... \$250

Half page ad..... \$75

Small business ad..... \$30

Community Notices ..... Free

**The DECEMBER Edition of the Catlins Connection is kindly sponsored by  
Chris & Glenda, Sam & Rachael Landreth & families  
Katea, Owaka**

**The JANUARY Edition of the Catlins Connection is kindly sponsored by  
The Catlins Community Company  
Grateful thanks for their 2025 grant.**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026

**Thursday, 1 January**

**New Year's Day**

**Friday, 2 January**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys**

**Saturday, 3 January**

**Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off 1 pm**

**Sunday 4 January**

**Catlins Historical Society Heritage Tour,**

Meet at Museum, 1-pm (see ad)

**Owaka Presbyterian Combined Service,**  
10.30am

**Monday, 5 January**

**Tuesday, 6 January**

**Wednesday, 7 January**

**Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm**

**Men's Support Grp, 7pm, Presbyterian Church**

**Thursday, 8 January**

**Friday, 9 January**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys**

**Saturday, 10 January**

**Lions Charity Golf Tournament, (see ad)**

**Sunday, 11 January**

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

**Owaka Patchwork Group, 9.30am-4pm**

**Kaka Point Market, Willsher Bay 10am-3pm**

**Monday, 12 January**

**Tuesday, 13 January**

**Wednesday, 14 January**

**Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm**

**Thursday, 15 January**

**Friday, 16 January**

**Catlins Senior Citz Meeting, 1.30 pm**

**F&B Bat Walk, Tawanui , (see ad)**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys**

**Saturday, 17 January**

**F & B Free a Tree (see ad)**

**Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm**

**Sunday, 18 January**

**Owaka Presbyterian Combined Church Service,** 10.30am

**F&B working Bee, Plant Nursery, (see ad)**

**Monday, 19 January**

**Owaka Lions Club Meeting, 6.30 pm**

**Tuesday, 20 January**

**Wednesday, 21 January**

**Men's Support Group, 7pm, Presbyterian Ch**

**Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm**

**Thursday, 22 January**

**Friday, 23 January**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys**

**Saturday 24 January**

**F&B Restoring Long Yellow Ribbon (see ad)**

**Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm**

**Sunday, 25 January**

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

**Owaka Patchwork Group, 9.30am-4pm**

**Puketiro Gun Club, 1 pm**

**Monday, 26 January**

**TCAS School Office Opens**

**Teacher Only Day**

**Tuesday 27 January**

**TCAS Yr 11-13 Course Confirmation**

**Wednesday, 28 January**

**Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30pm**

**Thursday, 29 January**

**All students to TCAS today**

**Owaka Parent Support Gp Plunket Rooms,** 10—12 noon

**Friday, 30 January**

**Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys**

**Saturday, 31 January**

**Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm**



## CATLINS MEDICAL CENTRE STAFF

**WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**SURGERY HOURS OVER THE 2025-2026 HOLIDAY PERIOD ARE AS FOLLOWS**

**CHRISTMAS DAY –Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER CLOSED – Phone 03 4158006 FOR EMERGENCIES**

**BOXING DAY– Friday 26<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER CLOSED – Phone 03 4158006 FOR EMERGENCIES**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER NORMAL HOURS**

**NEW YEARS DAY - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY CLOSED – Phone 03 4158006 FOR EMERGENCIES**

**NEW YEARS Observance –Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY CLOSED – Phone 03 4158006 FOR EMERGENCIES**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY NORMAL HOURS**





## The Great Matuku-hūrepo Muster 2025

- listening out for our rare bittern

The male bittern boom most often around the full moon! Hence, the plan is to sit out at sites at sunset, for 60+mins Fri & Sat evenings around the full moon **December (5 & 6)**.

No experience necessary but the ability to hear VERY low frequency booms is a distinct advantage!

**Meet 9.15pm:** MacLennan Bridge (Papatowai side);  
Catlins River Bridge (Purakaunui Rd side), Catlins Lake



There is lots of information about bittern on the website:  
<https://www.lovebittern.com/thegreatmatukumuster>



Catlins contact: Catriona 0223 914 698  
[catlinspekapeka@gmail.com](mailto:catlinspekapeka@gmail.com)

Love Bittern project in the Catlins is supported by:



♦ *Locals Supporting Locals*

\* *For your Christmas Shopping*

\* *New Items Arriving Weekly*

\* *Free Christmas Wrapping*

\* *Gift Vouchers*

\* *Discount for Locals*



*Open 9 am until late, 7 days a week*



Happy festive season to you all

We will be closed

23rd Dec-26th Dec

Open Everyday From the 27th Dec — 11th Jan

Summer Hours 2026

Thursday 11am-3pm

Friday 11am-3pm

Saturday 11am-3pm

I may be OPEN outside these hours sometimes.

Please feel free to text me on 0272751880 .

THE  
**BLACK SHEEP**  
BOUTIQUE

11 Main Road Owaka

[theblacksheepboutiqueowaka@gmail.com](mailto:theblacksheepboutiqueowaka@gmail.com)

[theblacksheepboutiqueowaka.myshopify.com](https://theblacksheepboutiqueowaka.myshopify.com)



## Owaka Bowling Club Christmas Triples Tournament

Open to everyone

Contact Dawn Smith for entries  
027 6574012

Saturday, 27 December, Start time 1pm  
Wear mufti, Afternoon tea supplied, Prizes.



*Thank you to the community for your generous response to our food appeal*



## SOUTH OTAGO FOREST & BIRD Environmental Events

Dec 2025 – Jan 2026

Fri 05 & Sat 06 December 9:15 pm

**Matuku Muster – Listening for Bittern**

**MacLennan & Catlins River Bridges**

Catriona: 0223 914 698 [catlinspekapeka@gmail.com](mailto:catlinspekapeka@gmail.com)



Sun 14 December/Sat 17 January 1pm

**Free a Tree – Otanomomo Scientific Reserve**

Jim: 027 440 9529 [janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz)



Sat 27 December/Sat 24 January 3pm

**Restoring the Long Yellow Ribbon at**

**Dutton's Bridge** Catriona txt 0223 914 698



Sun 28 Dec/Fri 16 Jan **Bat Walks at Tawanui**

Annette txt 0274 158 168 [annettepowaka@gmail.com](mailto:annettepowaka@gmail.com)

**Annual Bat Surveys Jan & Feb**

Catriona txt 0223 914 698 No experience necessary.



Sun 11 January 10am–3pm

**Kaka Point Market Day Action for Hoiho!**



Sun 18 January 10am **Branch meeting**

1pm **Working bee in F&B's plant nursery**

Jim & Jane's place 145 Hinahina Rd, Owaka

**NB** Native plants for sale by arrangement.

[janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz) 027 440 9529 (03) 415 8532



**Guided Walk on the Long Track at Lenz**

We hope to be able to offer this popular activity once we can get the track clear again.



OWAKA DISTRICT  
PARENTING SUPPORT  
GROUP INVITES YOU TO  
OUR ANNUAL 2025  
**FAMILY  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**  
SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 4PM-7PM  
POUNAWEA PLAYGROUND  
Free sausage sizzle, juice box & ice-  
blocks  
Santa to handout presents  
Older children welcome  
Fun games, bubbles and balloon  
animals  
RSVP by Monday, 8th Dec to Abigail -  
022 659 3851 - with number of adults  
over 5's and under 5's.

**KAKA POINT COMMUNITY  
MARKET DAY**  
Sunday, January 11th 2026 | 10am-3pm  
All proceeds going to the enhancement of Willsher Bay Domain  
**CALLING ALL INTERESTED  
STALL HOLDERS  
MUST REGISTER BY 31ST DECEMBER**  
\$40 FOR A SINGLE 3MX3M SITE  
\$70 FOR A DOUBLE 6MX3M SITE  
THIS IS AN OUTDOOR EVENT THEREFORE STALL HOLDERS  
MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN MARQUEE AND TABLES  
-WILLSHER BAY DOMAIN-  
Contact Christene at [kakapointmarket@gmail.com](mailto:kakapointmarket@gmail.com)

## Catlins' Bat nights!

9.30pm Sunday 28 December 2025

9.15pm Friday 16 January 2026

8.45pm Saturday 7 February 2026

Catlins River Rd, Tawanui  
meet 1km before campsite

(carshare may be possible: meet outside  
the Lumberjack 40mins before start)

### BOOKING ESSENTIAL

For more details & offers/requests for car shares  
contact (text is best!): Annette 0274 158 168

[annettepowaka@gmail.com](mailto:annettepowaka@gmail.com)

Find out more about our local bats  
and the insects they may be eating!

We don't walk far – bring a chair if  
you like. Wear warm clothes as it  
gets cool later on. Also sturdy  
footwear and bring a torch.

All equipment provided.  
Free – koha welcome!

NB. Will be cancelled if weather  
is very cold or wet



**Forest & Bird**  
GIVING NATURE A VOICE



## YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAY DESTINATION: "PAPATOWAI, THE CATLINS"

Explore your own backyard and enjoy a day trip to Papatowai and all the beautiful surrounding areas of The Catlins. A great range of natural attractions on your doorstep for the whole family to enjoy!



- AWARD WINNING BURGER
- GOURMET PEAKE'S PIES
- CHEF MEALS & SANDWICHES
- ICE CREAM BY THE BEACH
- PAPATOWAI COUNTRY STORE
- ARTISAN LOCAL PRODUCTS
- SOUVENIRS AND GIFTS
- BEER, WINE & CIDER
- DOC CAMP AVAILABLE
- EXTENDED HOURS OF OPERATION OVER SUMMER FROM DECEMBER 27th



Check out our  
current hours



Things to do  
in The Catlins

2501 Papatowai Hwy  
www.peakeskitchen.com  
0224090798  
@peakeskitchen  
hello@peakeskitchen.com

## OWAKA HEATED SWIMMING pool

### MEMBERSHIP COSTS:

Family (Members of one household only) - \$175

Individual Adults (Over 18 years) - \$125

Senior Citizens - \$95

\$20 for a keycard (if you haven't got one already)

### CASUAL KEYCARDS:

Available at The Catlins Country Store.

\$5 per person/swim + Keycard Bond refundable on return.

Visitor Admission with a keycard holder \$5

### POOL MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENTS AVAILABLE BY:

emailing - owakaswimmingbaths@gmail.com or link on

Owaka Heated Swimming Pool

OWAKA, TOKONUI AND CLINTON LIONS CLUBS



## 4WD TRIP

WITH PROCEEDS GOING BACK INTO  
THE COMMUNITIES

COVERING THE CATLINS AND  
CLINTON AREA WITH MEAL AND  
ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

14&15 FEB  
2026

### PRICES

\$285 PER PERSON FOR WHOLE WEEKEND -  
INCLUDES ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS.  
OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATIONS  
EMAIL- CATLINS4WD@GMAIL.COM



CATLINS 4WD TRIP

**Clutha PRINT**  
COMMERCIAL PRINTERS

WE'RE YOUR LOCAL AGENTS FOR



Cartridge World

INK CARTRIDGES

Bring your empties in for refilling

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



## Catlins Medical Centre

It is important that if you are needing a prescription refill for over the holiday period then please call and either request this or make an appointment. We do not want patients running out over the holiday period.

I would like to thank our patients for their understanding during the recent weather event. Due to the power outage it did make things a bit difficult for our staff and the running of the Practice but they did extremely well under the circumstances.

Dr Claudia Mosavi will be working over the Christmas period along with reception and nursing staff.

A number of people have now joined our patient portal **WellNZ**. This makes it easier to arrange repeat prescriptions and check on your results once the doctor has looked at them.

***We wish to welcome Tracy Jury who will be starting on 10th December as our new receptionist. We hope she will enjoy being part of the Catlins Medical Centre team.***

If you need any assistance with this just contact our reception staff.

See page 2 for our holiday hours

***Debra Hollows, Practice Manager***



## Catlins Historical Society

### Catlins Cemetery Tour

Discover stories of our early residents

**Sunday 4 January 2026, 1 pm**

Meet at the Owaka Museum

Afternoon tea provided

Bookings: Glenda Landreth,

**03 4158119/027 2736314**

Mini bus ride available or bring your own transport.

Adults: \$15  
Children: free

## SCHOOL DATES FOR 2026

Term Dates have been set for 2026. *Mark these on your calendar now!*

**Monday 26th January** - Office opens, Teachers Only Day

**Tuesday 27th January** - Year 11 -13 Course Confirmation

**Wednesday 29th January** - Buses run, all students return, Mihi Whākatau

Thursday 2nd April - End of Term 1

Monday 20th April - Start of Term 2

Friday 3rd July - End of Term 2

Monday 20th July - Start of Term 3

Friday 25th September - End of Term 3

Monday 12th October - Start of Term 4

To Be Confirmed - End of Term 4





# GET SET FOR SUMMER SAFETY



Otago  
Regional  
Council

## SAFER BOATING

Make sure safety is your first priority if you're going out on the water this summer. Before going out, check the weather conditions, your vessel and all your gear, including safety and communication equipment.

### BOATING SAFETY CODE

- 1 Wear your lifejacket
- 2 Take two waterproof ways to call for help
- 3 Check the marine weather forecast
- 4 Avoid alcohol
- 5 Be a responsible skipper



**IF IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT**

## PREVENT THE SPREAD

Lagarosiphon, didymo and lake snow are the three major freshwater pests present in Otago, and they can spread from a single drop of water or plant fragment.

When you're out on the water this summer — boating, paddleboarding, kayaking, or swimming — make sure before you move between waterways, you always **Check, Clean and Dry** any clothing and equipment to prevent freshwater pests hitchhiking from one waterway to another.

When you leave a waterway, check there's no plant material attached to your boat, trailer, clothes or footwear. **Let's all do our bit to protect Otago's waterways.**



Lagarosiphon

## CAN I SWIM HERE?

Every summer ORC's environmental monitoring team checks more than 30 popular swimming spots around Otago for bacteria and/or algae to see if they're safe to swim in.

### SWIM SMART CHECKLIST:

- Avoid swimming for 48 hours after heavy rain, as runoff can be washed into waterways.
- Follow any warning signs.
- Check the water is clean and clear.
- Stay away from any pipes, culverts, and flocks of birds.
- Check for hazards.
- Learn how to spot toxic algae and know the hotspots for blooms in Otago.

Check your local swim spot and plan your trip with the latest information.

## STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

Find out more at [orc.govt.nz/summersafety](http://orc.govt.nz/summersafety)



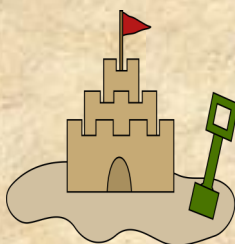
## Papatowai Beach Carnival

Wednesday, 31 December

12 Noon–3.30pm

### Old Fashioned Family Day Out

- \* Sand Castle Building
- \* Mini Golf (closest to the pin)
- \* Lucky Dips, \* Competitions,
- \* Golf Hit, \* Chocolate Wheel,
- \* White elephant sale table,
- \* Jaffa Whack, \* Mt Curl pottery,



2pm: Big Dig (\$2 per child)

3.15pm: raffles drawn

10 pm: Bonfire in the evening

Cash only



## TEA TOWEL TUESDAY



A celebration of art and history

Enjoy a special tea towel collection and cuppa

ST JOHN  
FUNDRAISER



St John



Basil and Bayly's

30 Dec 10 - 4pm

Gold coin donation





**Christmas Day**  
**Community Church Service**  
Presbyterian Church  
10 am ... All Welcome

# OPEN MIC NIGHT

CATLINS CAFE



*Music and Poetry*

**Wednesday, 3 December**



Support the Owaka Museum & have a great day out at the Catlins Historical Society's

## Christmas Market

**Saturday 13 December**

**9am – 1pm**

**Owaka Community Centre**

***Stall bookings now open***

Sites: \$25 single \$40 double

Contact Glenda Landreth (03) 415 8119  
027 273 6314 [cjgalandreth@gmail.com](mailto:cjgalandreth@gmail.com)



**Owaka Museum Community Gallery**  
Wahi Kahuika, the meeting place "a rest on your journey"  
10 Campbell Street, Owaka

## *Out and About*

7th November 2025 – 16th January 2026



Photograph by Heidi Beckers



Painting by Jenny Longstaff

A mixed media  
exhibition by

**Heidi  
Beckers**

and

**Jenny  
Longstaff**

Members of the  
Otago Art Society

•  
Featuring  
photography,  
paintings,  
prints  
and  
cards



*You are warmly invited to attend*

## THE CATLINS AREA SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING 2025

**MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 6:00 PM**  
followed by supper

The Owaka Memorial Community Centre  
9 Ovenden Street, Owaka





## Restoring the Long Yellow Ribbon

Dutton's Bridge pull-off, Owaka Hwy

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month

meet at 3pm

stay half an hour or half a day!

**26<sup>th</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**22<sup>nd</sup> November – wildlife survey day**

**27<sup>th</sup> December – tree care**

Planting back the mataī, tōtara, kōwhai, ribbonwood, mikimiki, and others on the Owaka River side. Spring is time to enjoy the new leaves, birds nearby and to give the trees some care - bring a shears or flax knife if possible; plants (& refreshments) provided.

All welcome 😊

## Owaka Museum



### The **BIG WIND** Event

Do you have photos or stories about the big winds that blew through the Catlins on 23 October, 2025?

As a record the Museum is collecting anecdotes and information about this event. This will be compiled into a small book for sale.

Please send any information to

Mike McPhee ... owakamuseum@outlook.com or 03 4158323

Glenda Landreth ... cjgalandreth@gmail.com  
034158119

*Information to us before the end of January  
would be appreciated.*



## Owaka Museum

### New Exhibition -

### Opening December

### From the Romans to the Great War and Beyond

Features of the exhibition include seldom viewed items from our collection.

Have you visited our excellent museum?

Open every day of the year except Christmas Day and Anzac morning.

Weekdays: 8.30am - 5 pm

Weekends: 9.30am-4pm







**SOUTHERN  
VIEW  
BUILDERS LTD**

Peter Hussey

Phone: 0273586590

Email: peter@southernviewbuilders.co.nz

Meet Peter, a fully qualified builder originally from North Canterbury. I've moved down with my wife and 3 children to be closer to family and I'm excited to make the Catlins our home.

At Southern View Builders, we take pride in serving our clients with honest work and craftsmanship.

Whether it's a new barn, shed, farmhouse renovation, or a custom-built home, you get to work directly with the person doing the job, no middleman, no runaround, just honest work done right.

Locally owned and operated, reliable and hard - working, fair and up front pricing.

Find us on Facebook at Southern View Builders

Ready to take bookings now



**Holiday  
Owaka Food Guide**  
*Tahatika Coffee Traders*

Main Road, Owaka  
For great coffee and hot drinks

*Catlins Café*

Open 7 days a week  
Café 8.30am—until 7.30pm  
Christmas Day, Open 4pm  
Phone 03 4158040

*Owaka Four Square  
Supermarket*

Open 7.30 am—7 pm everyday  
Closed Christmas Day  
Phone: 03 4158201  
ATM Available

*LumberJack Café & Restaurant*

Phone for open hours and bookings  
Phone 03 4158747

*Peake's Kitchen and Country  
Store ... Papatowai*

Closed December 22,23, 24, 25,26  
Open extended hours from December 27  
Phone: 022 4090798  
www.peakeskitchen.com

*Kurumi Kitchen, Japanese  
Takeaway Food Caravan*

Waikawa Road  
0211552538

*Little Rocket Coffee... Papatowai  
At the Lost Gypsy Gallery*

Closed: 24-25 and 31st December  
Open everyday except Wednesdays  
Little Rocket Hours: 10am-5pm  
Lost Gypsy Hours: 10am-5pm (same days)  
'till the end of April

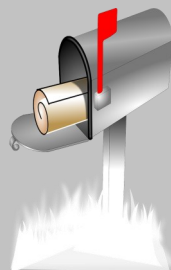
**Tahakopa Christmas Eve  
Carol Service**  
**Wednesday, 24 December**  
**Our Hut, 7.30pm**  
Supper Provided  
All Welcome



**The Catlins Connection Team  
Wish to Thank**

Our 2025 Sponsors  
Our 2025 Advertisers  
Our mail delivery people:  
Ross & Trish Campbell, Carol & Barney Bloxham,  
Annie Riley

*Seasons Greetings from  
Glenda and Helen-May &  
Owaka Going Forward*



**SWAP SHOP SUMMER  
HOURS**

Monday 15  
December is our  
last shopping day  
for 2025

Our normal hours 12-1pm

**We reopen on Monday 5  
January 2026**

Our normal hours 12-1pm

*We hope you have a wonderful summer  
Best wishes from the Swap Shop Team*



**Tahakopa Community Christmas Evening**  
**Friday 19 December, 7 pm**  
**Tahakopa Hall**

- ◆ Please bring a plate
- ◆ Gold Coin donation

*Merry Christmas everyone*

**Enquiries to Rachel: 021 2943447**  
www.CreativeCertificates.com



OWAKA HEATED SWIMMING BATHS

# GOLF BALL DROP

SPONSORED BY LISTER HELICOPTERS

**WIN \$1000**  
 IF YOUR BALL LANDS CLOSEST TO THE HOLE

**\$10 A BALL OR \$20 FOR 3**

**WATER SLIDE**  
**LOLLIE SCRAMBLE**  
**ADULTS & KIDS CHIPPING COMP**  
**REFRESHMENTS & BBQ**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**  
**OWAKA RUGBY CLUB | 11AM - 3PM**

CALL NADINE 027 319 3143 OR  
 PURCHASE TICKETS BY DIRECTLY DEPOSITING TO  
 03-1734-0042968-00 OWAKA HEATED SWIMMING BATHS  
 PARTICULARS: YOUR NAME REFERENCE: PHONE NUMBER



NIAGARA FALLS CAFÉ SOUTHLAND

## Niagara Falls Bluegrass & Roots Festival

**2026**

**6 & 7 February 2026**

Niagara Falls Café, Southland




**The Catlins Community Company Limited**  
**AGM**  
**Tuesday 16 December**  
**7.30pm**  
 St Johns Rooms, Owaka  
 Apologies to R Ferigo  
[beckyferigo@gmail.com](mailto:beckyferigo@gmail.com)

## Thank you

To all the suppliers of slink lambs and calves that the Owaka Lions Club collected this past season. Together with the donated lambs and calves and the collection fee we were able to donate over \$12,000 to the Catlins Historical Society reroof project at the Museum. Without your contribution this would not have been possible. Thanks again,

**Owaka Lions Club**



## Owaka Lions Annual Charity Golf Tournament

**Saturday, 10 January**

Tee Off Times: 8 am and 1 pm

Entries to John Niles before Wednesday 7 January  
 \$35 entry fee.  
 Proceeds to Balclutha IHC & Camp Quality Child Cancer

Contact John: 027 2066031



# GOLF



## 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@cluthadec.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@cluthadec.govt.nz  
Open 7 days, 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 Craft Group**  
St John Rooms, First Tuesday of  
month, 1.30-4 pm  
Lenore Kopua, Ph: 0274517797

**Catlins Early Learning Centre Little Hoiha.**  
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  
Marian Smith, Ph: 027 3803132

**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 Motors), 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 Institute**, 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

Would you like an email edition of the Catlins Connection?  
Contact Helen-May via email

## 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, cjglandreth@gmail.com Helen-May Burgess, 027 4384538, greenwoodfarm@xtra.co.nz