



The Catlins Connection

Community Guide ... No 79 February 2026 Calendar

Best wishes for a successful 2026 year.

Sunday 1 February

Owaka Yacht Club, Hook Trophy, 2.15 pm
Owaka Grace Church Service, Morning tea 10.30 , Service 11am

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 2 February

Tuesday, 3 February

Owaka Going Forward Group, Supper Rm, 7pm

Catlins Search & Rescue Mtg, 7.30pm

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

Wednesday, 4 February

Open Mic Music & Poetry Night, 6-8 pm, Catlins Café

Catlins Men's Group, Presbyterian Church, 7pm

Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7 pm

Owaka Bowling Club , 6.30pm

Thursday, 5 February

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room, 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1.pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 6 February

Waitangi Day

Niagara Falls Bluegrass and Roots Festival, Niagara Café, (see ad)

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 7 February

Niagara Falls Bluegrass and Roots Festival.

Niagara Café, (see ad)

Owaka Speed Shears Competition, Community Centre, Doors open 4pm, (see ad)

Catlins Bat Walk, 8.45pm, (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1 pm

Sunday 8 February

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 February

Owaka Fire Brigade Meeting, 7 pm

Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 10 February

Owaka Library Book Group, 2pm, Owaka Library

Wednesday, 11 February

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

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Waimumu Field Days

Owaka Garden Club, 1.30pm Supper Room

Thursday 12 February

Waimumu Field Days

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1.pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 13 February

Waimumu Field Days

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 14 February

Owaka Swimming Baths Golf Ball Drop (see ad)

Owaka Lions 4WD trip (see ad)

F&B Free a Tree, 1pm (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Sunday, 15 February

Owaka Lions 4WD trip (see ad)

Owaka Yacht Club Grant Trophy, 1.45pm

Forest and Bird Meeting AGM, 10 am, followed by working bee (see ad)

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

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 16 February

Owaka Lions Club, 6.30pm

Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 17 February

Owaka Search & Rescue, Training, 7.30pm

Wednesday, 18 February

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Catlins Men's Group, Presbyterian Church, 7pm

Owaka Fire Brigade Training, 7pm

Thursday, 19 February

Catlins Historical Society, 1.30 pm

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1.pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 20 February

Kindrid Spirit Concert, Our Hut, 7pm (see ad)

Catlins Senior Citizens Meeting, 1.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm. Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 21 February

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

Sunday, 22 February

Owaka Patchwork Grp, 9.30am-4pm Supper Rm

Puketiro Gun Club, 1pm

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

Owaka Presbyterian Church Service, 10.30am

Monday, 23 February

Mainly Music, 10am, Grace Hall

Tuesday, 24 February

Wednesday, 25 February

Catlins Club, 3-30pm—4.30pm, Museum

Owaka Outdoor Bowls, 6.30 pm

Wise Owls, 10am –12 pm, Donald McIntosh, Owaka Library (see ad)

Thursday, 26 February

Parent Support Group, Plunket Room 10-12pm

Owaka Euchre Club, 1.pm, Fire Brigade Rooms

Friday, 27 February

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7.30pm, Basil & Baylys

Saturday, 28 February

F&B Restoring Long Yellow Ribbon (see ad)

Owaka Golf Club, Tee Off, 1pm

OWAKA HEATED
SWIMMING BATHS

present

SPEED
SHEARS

SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY AT
OWAKA MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HALL

DOORS OPEN 4PM
COMPETITION STARTS @ 5PM

FOOD & BAR AVAILABLE

FREE COURTESY COACH PICK UP & DROP OFF
[OWAKA, KAKA POINT, BALCLUTHA]

*This edition of the Catlins Connection is kindly sponsored by
L.R. and J. Lean Limited*



Wednesday, 4 February
Free Entry 6-8 pm Welcome



NEW HOURS
*Closed Monday and Tuesday
Open every other day
12 noon—closing*

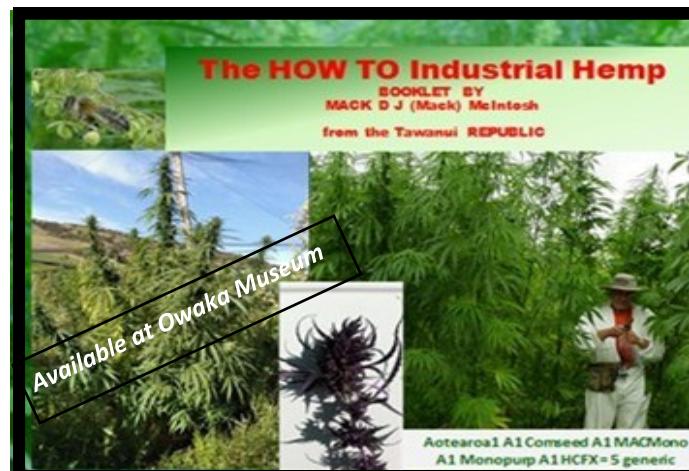


*Mainly Music
9th February 2026
10am in
Grace Church building
Preschooler, parents
Caregivers
Welcome all
Home baking for MT*



**Steady as You Go
Exercises**

*Expressions of interest wanted
for those wishing to attend in 2026
Day and starting date to be confirmed
Contact : Liz Rowe 027 2596193 or
Glenda Landreth 027 2736314*



Owaka Community Library

Wise Owls

25 February, 10 am—12 noon
Speaker: Mack McIntosh
Speaking on his experiences growing
hemp cultivars at Tawanui.



VASSALLI MERINO **SALE**



THE **BLACK SHEEP** BOUTIQUE

11 Main Road Owaka

theblacksheepboutiqueowaka@gmail.com

theblacksheepboutiqueowaka.myshopify.com



OWAKA COMMUNITY FUND UPDATE

Catlins Historical Society has received \$3,000 from the Owaka Community Fund towards replacing the ageing roof on the Owaka Museum building.

The new roof will ensure the ongoing protection of important Catlins' heritage and provide a warm, dry space for the community to enjoy.

This grant is made possible thanks to generous donors committed to giving back to the Owaka community. Every gift to Clutha Foundation is carefully invested so it grows, with income distributed to support local projects every year, forever.

You can help grow this fund to support your community for generations to come.

cluthafoundation.org.nz

027 220 7145

givewhereyoulive@cluthafoundation.org.nz



Kindred Spirit

Join the North Carolina duo, Kindred Spirit, for a tour of Americana tunes from the 1930/40s, folk, cajun, country, western swing, singer-songwriters and originals.

\$10 per person, bring a plate for supper

Date: Friday 20th Feb 2026

Time: 7 PM

Venue: Our Hut, Tahakopa, The Catlins

SOUTH OTAGO FOREST & BIRD
Environmental Events
February 2026

Sat 7th February Bat Walk at Tawanui
Annette txt 0274 158 168 annettepowaka@gmail.com



Mon 9th-Sun 22nd February
“On the Brink” Exhibition featuring five
threatened Catlins species
Te Pou Ō Mata Au 6 Clyde Street, Balclutha



Sat 14th February 1pm
Free a Tree – Otagomomo Scientific Reserve
Contact: Jim: 027 440 9529 janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz
Roy (03) 418 1319 johns-stones@rivernet.co.nz



Sun 15th February
10am Forest & Bird AGM followed by a
regular branch meeting 145 Hinahina Rd, Owaka
1pm Working bee in F&B's plant nursery
Contact: janejimyoung@slingshot.co.nz
027 440 9529 (03) 415 8532



Sat 28th February 2pm
Restoring the Long Yellow Ribbon at
Dutton's Bridge Catriona txt 0223 914 698



Sat 7th March Celebrating Sea Week 2026
Kaka Point 11am (tbc)



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



NIAGARA FALLS
BLUEGRASS & ROOTS FESTIVAL

Featuring
Canadian duo **ZONNIS**

Plus: Valley Bluegrass
Lachie Hayes • Matt Joe Gow
Callum G Hampton
Hayes Family Band • Amber Temple
Anna Van Riel • Endangered Shrubs
One Big Pine • The Commoners
Midnight Caravan • Mudcake
She and the Trio Keening
And
Anna Rowley

FRI 6th - SAT 7th FEB 2026

The Catlins – Through My Lens

Photography by Wilma Sharp

23rd January 2026 – 6th March 2026

Owaka Museum

10 Campbell Street

Owaka



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

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 February would be appreciated.

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

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



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, mataī, 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



The Catlins Community Directory

Keep this page up to date.
Please contact Helen-May or Glenda with any changes

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
owakacomunitylibrary@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 Craft Group
St John Rooms, First Tuesday of month, 1.30-4 pm
Lenore Kopua, Ph: 0274517797

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 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 catlinspeka@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, cjalandreth@gmail.com Helen-May Burgess, 027 4384538, greenwoodfarm@xtra.co.nz