

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

www.icc.co.nz

Baby birds bounce back in Bluff

There is hope for an at-risk native bird which hadn't been seen on Bluff Hill for more than 100 years thanks to the efforts of the Bluff Hill Motupohue Environment Trust.

THE Trust reintroduced 43 South Island robins to the hill in between March and August 2017, and their hard work has paid off with seven chicks, from three sets of parents, having been sighted so far.

Trust chairperson Estelle Leask said the successful breeding of the birds was an awesome reward after extensive pest control programme undertaken by volunteers during the past 10 years.

Mrs Leask said stoats, rats, and other predators had been an ever-present issue in the 204 hectares of Department of Conservation reserve the Trust cares for.

The Trust also works along six kilometres of coastline in the Bluff Harbour/Awarua Bay area as well.

At present, 25 volunteers work to clear 23 trapping lines as frequently as possible, which, during summer, is often at least once a week.

The Trust receives support from their partners Invercargill City Council, Blacks Fasteners, Southern Generation Limited and Awarua Runanga also numerous other

sponsors, with logistical support from the Department of Conservation and Environment Southland, to undertake the work.

Mrs Leask said the Trust had permits to bring in a further 17 robins, which they hoped to do in March this year.

The next challenge for the Trust would be to come up with a pest management plan for feral cats in the area.

"We had applied to be able to reintroduce tieke – South Island saddlebacks – to the area, but we were declined because of our lack of appropriate feral cat management plan. It's a really challenging one because feral cats are the cause of so much biodiversity loss in this country, and throughout the world," Mrs Leask said.

The Trust was named the winner of the Southland Community Environment Award for Environmental Action in the Community in 2017.

Invercargill City Council is also working in the Bluff Hill area to remove wilding pines and gorse, and planting more native vegetation.



Panel calls for public feedback on dogs

AN Independent Community Advisory Panel in Invercargill is asking for the community's feedback on dog rehoming and euthanasia in the area.

Following the public response to a video showing a dog being euthanised by captive bolt in 2017, the Invercargill City Council suspended use of the euthanasia method immediately and called for an Independent Community Advisory Panel of six people to investigate options and report back to Council.

The Panel has spent the past several months meeting with various charities, organisations, and dog experts, and is now seeking the public's views through the Invercargill Dog Rehoming and Euthanasia Survey, as well as several "drop in" sessions.

This survey is designed to gain feedback from the public on their preferences on both of these issues.

The feedback will be reviewed by the Panel to help the members form their recommendations to the Council about what methods

should be used for rehoming and euthanasia of dogs in future.

The survey is available to complete online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/inglldog-panel>

A printable version can be found at www.icc.govt.nz, or hard copies will be available at the Invercargill City Library, Bluff Service Centre, and Invercargill City Council Civic Administration building from 5pm Monday January 22.

Background information relating to Council's Animal Services, the Independent Community Advisory Panel, and legislation which applies, is available at www.icc.govt.nz

The survey will be open until 5pm Wednesday, 31 January.

Panel members will also be hosting several informal "drop in" sessions at various locations throughout Invercargill and Bluff during the coming weeks.

The sessions are intended so that members of the public can ask questions, and share their opinions with panel members.

They will be held at the following locations:

- **Elles Road Dog Park, Invercargill**
Wednesday, 24 January
6pm-8pm
- **Feldwick Gates, Queens Park, Invercargill**
Saturday, 27 January
12pm-2pm
- **Gore Street, near the Bluff Service Centre, Bluff**
Saturday, 3 February
12pm-2pm



Esther Libeau paints the exterior of the Artists Collective on Tay Street, ahead of Rev Up weekend.

Rev Up on this weekend

THIS weekend should see our CBD shine, with more than 50 volunteers to hit the streets as part of the inner-city Rev Up.

Businesses like E Hayes & Sons, Diacks, Dadz Windowcleaning and more, along with community groups and organisations like Fire and Emergency NZ have thrown their weight behind the initiative, donating supplies and their time to the effort.

City Centre Co-ordinator Kari Graber said she was excited to see that the community was rallying behind its' businesses and help-

ing to ensure the inner-city was a beautiful place to be for everyone.

"The CBD belongs to everyone, not just to the retailers. The Rev Up is the opportunity for the community to give back, and that is exactly what we are seeing with people happy to volunteer their time, and their painting and cleaning skills!"

Some businesses, like the Artists Collective and Creativity Plus, had already begun their own Rev Up.

Owner Lana Osborne said she believed the Rev Up was a "brilliant idea".

"It's nice to have the community involved."

Members of the Artists Collective Anna Obers and Esther Libeau had been working on repainting the front of the shops on Tay Street, and Ms Osborne said she had noticed what a difference it made already.

"With the foot traffic, we're getting more and more people stopping to see what's happening, watching it develop, and coming in to see what else has changed."

The inner-city Rev Up is on Saturday and Sunday.



House winner

THE people's choice winner of the 2017 Gingerbread House competition was Maylanie Gelacio, with her entry "Barnyard" receiving 56 votes.

Maylanie was also awarded second place overall by the judges.

City Centre Co-ordinator and competition organiser Kari Graber said Ms Gelacio is a Southern Institute of Technology student. "We are so grateful to have SIT students participating in these community events, showcasing their talents to the city," Ms Graber said.

Signs coming soon to CBD

THE new smokefree areas policy will mean Invercargill residents can finally take a breath of fresh air in the city.

The Smokefree Areas Policy was unanimously passed at the Invercargill City Council meeting on 7 November 2017. The policy makes the area within the boundary of Tay, Spey Street, Deveron and Dee streets (including Wachner Place) a smokefree area.

The policy idea was originally submitted by the Invercargill Youth Council and has been actively encouraged by Smokefree Murihiku.

A Smokefree Murihiku spokeswoman said the policy directly supports the New Zealand government's goal of a smoke-free 2025. Smokefree 2025 isn't a ban on smoking, but sets the target of having fewer than 5% of New Zealanders identifying as smokers.

"Removing smoking from the public eye is one of the best tools for helping prevent the next generation from starting - which

is something even people who already smoke have said they want," the spokeswoman said.

A working group, including representatives from Well South, Sport Southland, Healthy Families, Public Health South, Cancer Society, and the Invercargill City Council are working to come up with a plan for signs to go up in the CBD to let people know the area is now smokefree.



Council meetings

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings:

- **Council Meeting**
Tuesday, 30 January, 4pm
- **Child, Youth and Family Friendly Sub-Committee**
Monday, 12 February, 4pm
- **Bluff Community Board**
Monday, 19 February, 4pm
- **Community Services Committee**
Monday, 26 February, 4pm
- **Regulatory Services Committee**
Tuesday 27, February 2018,
2.30pm

The above meetings will be held in the Council Chambers / Committee Room, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill, except for the Bluff Community Board meeting, which will be held at the Bluff Municipal Chambers, Gore Street, Bluff.

- www.icc.govt.nz

FOOD TRUCK Fridays

RETURNING FIRST FRIDAY IN FEBRUARY

Join us in Wachner Place, Fridays, 11am till 2pm

Enjoy some of the city's best food trucks & food stalls

Something for everyone with new foods arriving each week



noticeboard

For more about the Council's Noticeboard items contact the Communications Department on 03 211 1777.

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