

What an awesome achievement, Invercargill!



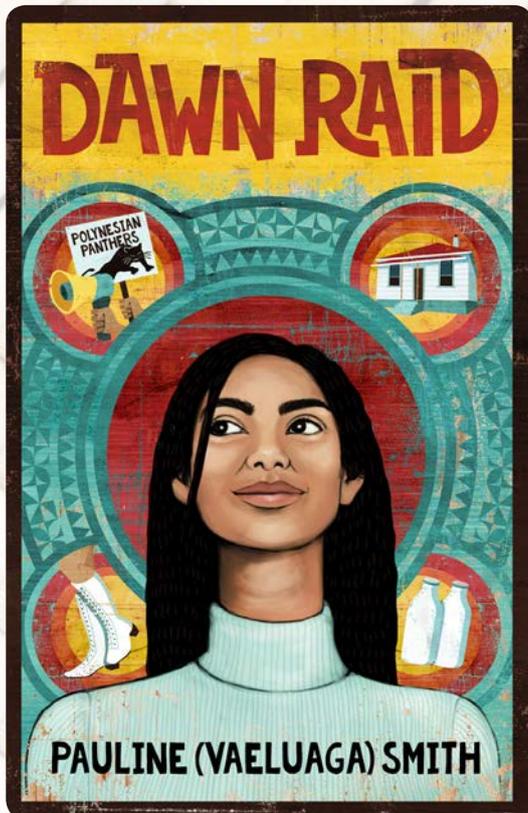
THE Southern Victory Parade yesterday was a huge success, with hundreds lining the street!

A huge thankyou to the Southern Steel, Southland Sharks, Southland cricket team, and all the amazing businesses and organisations who came to the party with volunteers, funding, and co-ordination for the big day.

It was a wonderful celebration of Southland sporting success, and a great turnout from our community.

There's no place like Invercargill for pulling together such a massive event in just a few days!

Next up – GO THE MIGHTY STAGS!



Dawn Raid makes author an award-winner



LEFT: *Dawn Raid*, cover design and illustration by Minky Stapleton.

ABOVE: The *Dawn Raid* exhibition.

BY KIMBERLEY STEPHENSON

Collections Manager, Southland Museum and Art Gallery

ONE of the great things about museums and art galleries is the collaborative nature of what we do.

Earlier this year, the team at the Southland Museum and Art Gallery was lucky enough to have the opportunity to partner with local author and educator Pauline (Vaeluaga) Smith to create *Dawn Raid*, an exhibition exploring the unfair government policies around immigration that were implemented in New Zealand in the 1960s and 1970s, and the disproportionate impact that they had on local Pacific Island communities.

Pauline was drawn to the subject of these government policies, and the resulting dawn raids on people's homes, after she began teaching a Pacific studies paper at the College of Education. She was surprised by how few of her students had any knowledge of the raids, or, if they did, thought that the events had been confined to Auckland and Wellington. Talking to a range of people who had lived through them confirmed that this was far from the case.

Pauline brought all of this knowledge to the development of the exhibition, which invited visitors to take another

look at this piece of our history – one that remains painfully relevant in the context of the debates going on both here in New Zealand and around the world on the subject of immigration laws and the treatment of migrants.

While the museum closure saw the exhibition come to an abrupt end, the show continues to have a life of its own. Last week, the team here at Niho o te Taniwha were happy to learn that the book of the same name that Pauline wrote for the Scholastic New Zealand My New Zealand Story series had been named the winner of the Best First Book Award in the 2018 New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults.

This is a worth-while read for people of any age, and well deserves the accolades it has received. Interest has also been shown by venues around the country in the *Dawn Raid* exhibition.

It is exciting to think that the exhibition may continue its good work in other cities, giving a voice to those people who experienced the raids, and empowering younger generations with a better understanding of the context in which they occurred.

New cute critters for Queens Park



WE HAVE welcomed some new animals to Queens Park Animal Reserve this month!

- three male alpacas – Fergus, Charlie, Lewis
- three female goats – Snowdrop, Poppy, Daisy

They were donated to us by John and Judith Flynn, who have previously supplied animals for display when they lived in Invercargill.

Despite having moved to Central Otago, the Flynn's are still proud supporters of Invercargill and its Parks.

The couple made the road trip with their precious cargo on Wednesday last week and delivered these lovely animals to the Park – thank you John and Judith!

Indian Independence Day

THE Invercargill City Council on Wednesday hosted a flag raising ceremony in partnership with the Indian community in Southland for the 72nd Indian Independence Day. We were proud to be able to celebrate the diversity in our community. Thank you to the Indian community in Southland for sharing this special ceremony with us.



Otatara is a special place



Leaves on the native miro tree.



One of the stunning rimu trees we aim to protect.



Bushy Point, a place loved by many.

BY JUDITH CHRISTIE
Environmental Information Officer

OTATARA is just three kilometres from Invercargill's city centre, but is a different world. Its natural and scenic appeal has made this area a very popular place for residential settlement, because it gives people a retreat from urban life while still being very handy to work, shops, schools and recreation.

Many properties in Otatara contain areas of nationally significant native bush, dominated by podocarps, including totara and matai. This type of bush, known as 'coastal sand dune forest', has been heavily altered around New Zealand, and is now one of the most threatened ecosystems in the country. This makes it imperative for us to protect it.

One way that we do this is through the policies and rules of our District Plan. Significant stands of vegetation are mapped, and currently in these identified areas a resource consent is required in almost all instances when a resident plans to remove vegetation.

The rules protecting indigenous vegetation are under review and the details are subject to appeal in the Environment Court. It is, however, unlikely that the need for resource consent in these areas will change significantly.

New owners of properties in Otatara which have protected vegetation are sent information on their properties, along with a publication Council has produced, called *Otatara Bushy Point Bushcare: a guide to enhancing your bush*. This identifies both native and pest plant species, and provides advice on caring for the vegetation.

The District Plan's objectives also limit new lot sizes in the Otatara Zone to 4000m² for dwellings connected to the Council's reticulated sewage scheme, or 10,000m² when owners must install their own septic system. This ensures that Otatara retains the special amenity that is appreciated by those who live there by having larger size rural-residential properties that allow a higher degree of privacy and a feeling of remoteness.

It is highly recommended that anyone thinking of trimming or removing vegetation in Otatara contact the Council's planning team.

Another source of valuable information and guidance is the Otatara Landcare Group, which is a charitable trust supported by members and volunteers, and is very active in protecting and enhancing the natural values of Otatara. Information on this group can be found at www.otataralandcare.org.nz

Those who have come and gone, and stopped by along the way!

BY CHERYL ANDERSON
Records Support Officer

THE Records team looks after all our inactive files – some more interesting than others!

We have in our archives a visitor book dating from 1920, with many notable visitors signing the book throughout the years.

Some of these will be featured in Flashback Friday posts on the Invercargill City Council's Facebook page.

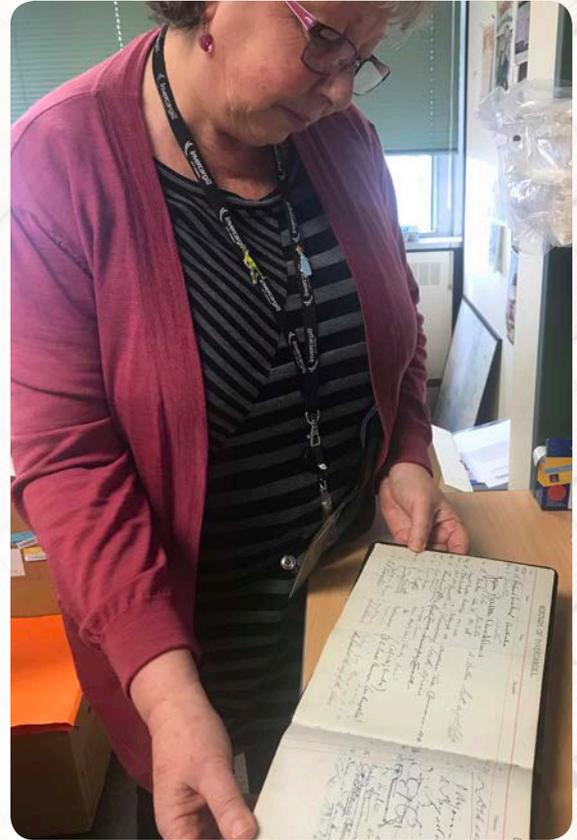
Notable entries are Jean Batten in 1934, Montgomery of Alamein in 1947, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 1958 and the Queen Mother in 1966.

The Vienna Boys Choir visited in 1973, and then-Prime Minister Keith Holyoake signed the book when he opened the new Civic Administration Building on 4 September 1971.

The visitor book was archived by Mayor Tim Shadbolt in 2013.

It is available to view for research purposes by contacting the Archivist at Invercargill City Libraries and Archives on Dee Street.

RIGHT: Archives Assistant Wendy McArthur with the archived visitor book.



New racks for Invercargill merchandise at airport



THE infinitely talented Simon Tonkin, who is Council's Development Liaison Manager, has created some beautiful wooden racks to display our Invercargill merchandise at the Invercargill Airport.

Thanks Simon!