

Council wins marketing award for *Discover our Parks*



Some of the Communications and Parks team members who worked on the *Discover our Parks* Week Campaign, from left, Colleen Montgomery, Daniel Tobin, Petra Molloy, Hannah McLeod, Michele Frey, Kelly Braithwaite, and Cassie Scobie.
PHOTO: Eirwen Harris Mitchell.

THE INVERCARGILL City Council's stellar marketing campaign for *Discover our Parks* has won a national award. Recreation Aotearoa presented Council staff with the award for marketing and media at a ceremony in Auckland last week.

In March, Council's Parks and Recreation team organised a week of events to celebrate Parks Week 2019, titled *Discover our Parks*.

The events were held at a different location each day, intended to showcase the wide range of fantastic green spaces available in the city, and the way they could be used.

The events were also an opportunity for the community to meet and engage with Council's Parks Rangers.

Recreation Aotearoa Parks and Open Spaces Programme Manager Karl Nesbitt said the award winner was selected from the 26 councils which registered their events for Parks Week 2019.

"This award is presented to the council which promotes the value of its parks through Parks Week using social media and videos and connects with its community," Mr Nesbitt said.

"We at Recreation Aotearoa felt that the marketing and inclusive way Council staff and the community were brought together to promote their parks this year stood out.

"Invercargill City Council is a deserved winner for a 2019 Parks Week Award, and one of five New Zealand Parks Award recipients for the year."

Council Interim Parks Manager Michele Frey said the award was a huge achievement, with Invercargill having some great competition from some big councils.

"Our Rangers, who were the stars of our *Discover our Parks* events, did an amazing job each day sharing our parks with our people and engaging with them", Ms Frey said.

"I know they're excited about planning future events already."

"We also want to thank the community groups and organisations, especially Sport Southland and Healthy Families, which really worked hard to help make *Discover our Parks* a success," Ms Frey said.

"This was the first time the Invercargill City Council Parks and Recreation team has put on such a large-scale series of events, so it's fantastic to see not only the community enjoying our parks, but to be recognised for this work at a national level."

Parks Week is an annual international campaign. In New Zealand, it is run annually by Recreation Aotearoa, a charitable organisation which works to enable its members to provide quality recreation experiences, places and facilities throughout the country.

SMAG a finalist for NZ Museum Awards



BY KIMBERLEY STEPHENSON

Collections Manager

LAST week it was announced that the Southland Museum and Art Gallery is among the finalists in the 2019 ServiceIQ NZ Museum Awards with *The Dawn Raids: Educate to Liberate* being shortlisted in the category of Exhibition Excellence: Social History.

Created in partnership with local author and educator Pauline (Vaeluaga) Smith, *Dawn Raid* explored the unfair government policies around immigration that were implemented in New Zealand in the 1960s and 1970s, and the disproportionate impact that this had on local Pacific Island communities.

The show is now touring, having recently opened at its first offsite venue, the Fresh Gallery in Otara, Auckland, in early April.

Established in 2008, the ServiceIQ NZ Museum Awards celebrate individuals and organisations that achieve excellence in the museum and gallery sector in New Zealand. Hundreds of entries are received from throughout the country every year.

The award nomination is a testament to the passion that Pauline and curator, Ari Edgecombe, brought to the exhibition and the relevance of its message.

Ari's curatorial practice is strongly rooted in community engagement and representation, and it is wonderful to see his hard work recognised by the wider museum and gallery sector in this way.

The nomination also acknowledges the work of the many people who contributed to realising Pauline and Ari's vision, including that of former Museum Manager Paul Horner, Senior Curator David Dudfield, the exhibition installation and collection teams, graphic designer Toby Walton, the Polynesian Panthers, and all of the lenders who contributed to the development of the exhibition.

The winners will be announced at the Museums Aotearoa conference in Wellington later this month.

ABOVE: Installation view of *The Dawn Raids: Educate to Liberate* at the Southland Museum and Art Gallery, April 2018.



Disc Golf changing lives across generations

SPORT SOUTHLAND

NEARLY every day, 12-year-old Levi Stout gets up bright and early and heads out to the disc golf course at Queens Park.

Most days he is accompanied by his nearly 80-year-old step-grandfather Monty Westrupp.

The pair are avid disc golf players – for Levi it started when his mother bought him and his brother discs to use at the Te Anau course several years ago while the family was on holiday in Manapouri.

That simple act sparked a huge passion in the young players.

When the boys discovered a disc golf course was to be built in Invercargill, they regularly hit Queens Park with their discs to try and work out where the course would go.

The course was the result of collaboration between Sport Southland's Healthy Families Invercargill team, the Invercargill City Council and Disc Golf South, with funding support from Community Trust South, the Invercargill Licensing Trust and the Invercargill Active Community funding Scheme, and was opened in November 2017.

Sport Southland owns the equipment (disc golf baskets, concrete tees, and signs) and the course is owned and maintained by Council's Parks and Recreation team.

When Levi pulled Monty along once the course was built, another firm fan of the sport was born.

"It's my exercise. I get up first thing in the morning and that's my exercise," Monty said.

Some days the octogenarian hits the course twice, and for young Levi, the activity has pulled him away from hours of screen time – previously he spent as much time as he could on his tablet, computer, or phone.

"(Disc golf) is just the whole package. You can get outdoors, it's good fun, you can play with as many people as you want and you don't have to take it too seriously to play," Levi said.

And while the sport is keeping both Levi and Monty active, it has had another, equally important, impact – it has strengthened the relationship between the pair, and they are both learning plenty from each other.

Previously they saw each other once a week on Saturdays when Levi came for lunch after rugby, but now they are spending many hours a week walking, talking, and playing together.

They have played in several tournaments together – Levi won the under 13 category the first year he entered, and the next year came second in the under 18 section, while Monty came second in his division.

Neither has any plans to give up playing together any time soon – Levi is Monty's unofficial "coach", regularly giving him pointers on improving his technique, and Monty is Levi's favourite playing mate – "He's the only one who will come out with me in the mornings".

Healthy Families Invercargill manager Jared Cappie said one of the aims of the disc golf course was to help families get active together.

"Levi and Monty's story is great because it shows the benefits of different generations playing together.

"Disc golf has been a really successful initiative and it would be great to see more low-cost family friendly opportunities created for, and by, the community."

ABOVE: Monty and Levi love the Disc Golf course in Queens Park. Photo: Sport Southland

Council disappointed traps found at Sandy Point



COUNCIL is aware of a post on social media showing leg traps set at Sandy Point.

Our Parks and Recreation team is working to locate and remove these traps.

We will hold them for 30 days to be claimed by the owner.

Council does not allow traps of this kind to be used on our land in areas where they may put people or pets at risk.

We are disappointed to see traps of this type being used at Sandy Point.

If you come across one of these traps, please do not attempt to set it off or remove it.

Please take note of the location of the trap as best as you can and notify us immediately.

We will need a good description of where the trap is, so that we can locate and remove it.

You can contact the Parks and Recreation team directly on (03) 2199070.



Show us what Bluff means to you

What is great about Motupōhue/Bluff?

Council is considering several projects in Bluff which include installing an information kiosk in the Bluff township and replacing a water fountain at the skate park.

- The information kiosk needs to be attractive, inviting, interesting and provide shelter from the weather.
- The water fountain will ideally be accessible to all people, and possibly include a dog friendly water feature.

Do you have good ideas about Bluff?

We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on the great things about Motupōhue/Bluff so we can factor these into our designs for projects including the information kiosk and replacement water fountain, as well as future planning for projects in the coming years.

What does Bluff mean to you?

Write to us, send us your pictures, or call in and see us at the community drop-in session to be held on the May 14. Draft designs for the information kiosk and water fountain will be developed for discussion with the Bluff Community Board and Bluff 2024.

Please turn over...



Community Drop-in Session

Show us what Bluff means to you

4-6pm, Tuesday May 14
St John Ambulance Hall, Lee Street

Please come and share your ideas!
Feel free to email parks@icc.govt.nz

Ideas required by May 18, 2019.

For more information please contact
Invercargill City Council
Parks and Recreation on:
(03) 219 9070 or
email parks@icc.govt.nz







Tickets on sale for ILT Kidzone Festival



The Kidzonian mascot visits ... guess where?! This photo will form part of a social media campaign for the festival. Photo: Venture Southland

ROLL UP, roll up – come one, come all! Tickets for the 2019 ILT Kidzone festival are now on sale!

Drawing inspiration from the wonderful world of the circus, the 2019 ILT Kidzone Festival will be held from Wednesday 10 to Monday 15 July at James Hargest College Senior Campus.

Festival Director Karen Witham said the countdown to Southland's biggest family festival was on with tickets now on sale.

"With over 160 activities on offer, including some festival favourites and some exciting new elements, the festival is a sure ticket to adventure and fun during the July school holidays," she said.

With the circus as its muse, the festival will embrace a carnival atmosphere with opportunities for festival attendees to learn how to juggle, perform acrobatics and explore their own creativity.

Famous in Southland and increasingly beyond, the festival provides an affordable school holiday adventure for families.

"Anything you create, choose to play on, take part in, or watch is included – the only thing you'll need to consider bringing is lunch or money to buy your lunch from one of our fantastic food vendors. For five hours of entertainment, the festival truly offers unrivalled value for money," Witham said.

Tickets are \$17.00 per person, per day, with under two-year-olds free, and can be purchased from the ILT Kidzone Festival website, at the Invercargill i-SITE, ILT Stadium Southland or at the gate on the day - if not sold out prior!

"Over 11,000 people attended the festival last year so my advice is for people to get in early and purchase tickets to their preferred day," Witham said.

ILT Kidzone is proudly presented by Venture Southland with generous support from community funders including Invercargill Licencing Trust, the ILT Foundation, the Community Trust South and Southern Trust.

Meet bestselling author Nalini Singh



Thursday 16 May

9:30am

Join bestselling author Nalini Singh for a morning chat at the Invercargill Public Library.

Nalini will give a short talk about her experiences as an author, followed by a book signing.

This is a must attend free event for all paranormal romance readers!