

## Fiordland Takahē release

**Cemetery Team Leader Ricky Mulqueen was invited as a member of Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka to take part in a Takahē release. Ricky tells us about the experience.**

**ON** Wednesday 12 February I was fortunate to be part of a Takahē release into the Murchison Mountains, Fiordland.

The eight juvenile Takahē had been reared at the Burwood Takahē Centre run by the Department of Conservation.

We met at the centre an hour before our flight to catch the birds, after which we placed them in their boxes for the flight into the mountains.

We released the birds above the bushline in amongst the tussock, their favourite environment and food source.

It was an amazing experience to release them there and see them take off into their new home.

Jason van der Wetering who runs the Department of Conservation's Takahē recovery programme said there were approximately 180 Takahē now in the Murchison Mountains.

From a bird thought extinct in the late 19th century to its rediscovery in 1948 and through to now, when it numbers over 400 and rising by 10% a year, it is a true conservation success story .

I took a photo of Dr Jeffery Orbell's grave at St John's Cemetery Waikiwi.

Dr Orbell led the 1948 expedition into the Murchisons in search of the Takahē and rediscovered it.

*"He kahu ki te rangi, he moho ki te koropuku."*

*"A hawk in the sky, a moho (takahē) in a hidden place."*



TOP: Ricky with a Takahē about to be released.

CENTRE: The helicopter at the release site at the base of the Murchison Mountains.

INSET: Dr Orbell's headstone at St John's Cemetery.

## Branxholme supply main burst

THE water supply from Branxholme to reservoirs in town was reinstated Tuesday night after a pipe failure occurred at a property in Mclvor Road.

There was some damage to private property – the pipe ran through a holiday park. Council will of course be undertaking any repairs required.

There was no damage to Mclvor Road.

Residential properties in the urban parts of Invercargill and Bluff were not affected by the failure, although some rural properties connected to the Branxholme pipe line had a short term disruption to supply.

Water Services Manager Alister Murray said there was no reduced supply to the reservoir.

“We increased the inflow to our reservoirs to make up for the time it took to isolate the problem and re-route flow via our emergency procedure,” Mr Murray said.

The reservoir storage was expected to be within normal range by 8am Thursday.

## Splash Palace leisure pool to close for maintenance

BY PETER THOMPSON  
Manager Aquatic Services

**SPLASH** Palace will have the leisure/wave pool closed and emptied for maintenance from March 2-15.

To provide some context for this work, all pools are treated primarily with chlorine and ozone for secondary disinfection; during this close down we will be installing a new medium pressure UV disinfection system to all the pools which replaces the existing ozone system.

UV provides a better method of secondary disinfection as it treats 100% of the water instead of the 20% the ozone treats.

Medium pressure UV technology creates many wavelengths of light which has an enhanced ability to destroy chloramines and dangerous pathogens.

We'll also be replacing the old umbrella feature in the leisure pool! The new canopy cluster will bring a fun element to the leisure pool and is the first real change to the leisure pool in over 20 years.

Other work being carried out in the leisure pool includes underwater light repairs and replacement of any broken tiles.

## Te kupu o te wiki

word of the week

**Good Morning**

Here are a few different ways to say good morning...

**Mōrena:**

*Good morning - less formal*

**Tēnā koe i tēnei ata:**

*Good morning - said to one person*

**Tēnā kōrua i tēnei ata:**

*Good morning - said to two people*

**Ata mārie**

*Good morning*

The new canopy cluster for the leisure pool.



## Award-winning event returns to city

**Invercargill City Council is bringing you a suite of fantastic events as part of Parks Week 2020, 7-15 March.**

IN 2019, Council was recognised for its Parks Week celebrations, winning a Recreation Aotearoa award for its campaign *Discover our Parks*.

This year, staff are aiming to raise the bar with *Inside Out - Play. Plant. Participate.*

In collaboration with community groups, organisations, and other events, the week will be full of opportunities to get out from inside and enjoy our city's amazing parks and reserves.

The Council nursery, at Mclvor Road, will be open to the public on 7 March, with expert gardeners offering advice and guidance on plant propagation.

Sunday 8 March sees plenty happening with the ICC Surf to City, art events in Queens Park, and Summer Sounds at the Gun Pit in Bluff.

The Queens Park Winter Gardens will be open for a behind-the-scenes look at the indoor park on Thursday 12 March.

Our grand event for the week, though, will be a free screening of the animated family film *The Lorax*, to be held in Otepunu Gardens from 6.30pm on Friday, 13 March – what better way to get from the Inside, Out!

Keep an eye on the Inside Out Facebook page for more announcements, or check out Council's website.

[www.facebook.com/insideoutinvercargill](https://www.facebook.com/insideoutinvercargill)

[www.icc.govt.nz/parks-and-reserves/inside-out](http://www.icc.govt.nz/parks-and-reserves/inside-out)



## Parks and Recreation to Plant our Population

FROM Makarewa to Bluff, Otatara to Seaward Bush, Invercargill has some stunning green spaces and forests worth celebrating.

It is our people who help our city grow, and our parks and reserves offer places for our communities to thrive.

Now, the Invercargill City Council wants to help grow our green spaces, by planting the equivalent of our population.

The Parks and Recreation team have set an ambitious target to plant more than 54,200 trees or shrubs.

This project will contribute to reducing carbon emissions, improve habitat for native flora and fauna, and create natural environments for future generations.

Staff will be focussing on planting our ecological areas, but you will see new trees and native shrubs throughout our parks and streets.

To achieve this goal, staff are calling for volunteers to register for special planting days which will be held throughout the 2020 planting season. Whether you can lend a hand preparing sites for planting, or doing the planting itself, or assisting with post-planting care, there's plenty of ways you can get involved.

More information, including volunteer registration forms, will be available via Council's website soon.

The Plant our Population initiative will be officially launched during the nursery open day at Mclvor Road on March 7, with opportunities to register, and to take away a free seedling of your own so that you can contribute to the programme.



**Plant** OUR  
**population**

*Poipoia te kākano kia puawai.*

## Site investigation for Bluff Playground

**WORK** to understand the possible impacts from historic fuel tanks which were once located on a Bluff playground will begin early next month.

The land, now home to the Slaney Street Playground, was leased from the Bluff Borough Council by Europa (now BP) until 1987, and was the site of a significant fuel storage facility.

In 1993, the site was planted out and a playground built. Council Interim Parks and Recreation Manager Michele Frey became aware of a potential contamination issue on the site as a result of its former life as a fuel storage location, and detailed site investigations are about to begin.

Ms Frey said the investigation involves soil testing, with some excavation works happening on the site.

“Experts have told us that it’s possible there may be some contamination of the soil as a result of heavy metals having been present from the fuel storage,” Ms Frey said.

“We want to ensure that there has been no impact on groundwater, or the coastal marine area nearby.”

Ms Frey said work will begin mid-March, and site testing would take about two days. Council expected to receive the results from testing within about a month, she said.

The playground area will be closed to the public while soil samples are gathered, in order to avoid any risks associated with heavy machinery present.

“Once we have the results of testing, we should be able to identify if there has been any contamination. From there, we can investigate whether any remedial work will be required.”

### INVERCARGILL

## COMMUNITY FUNDING INFORMATION SESSION

Are you new to funding? What to get an idea of what funding options are out there? Or perhaps you have an idea or project and want to gauge if you can get financial support for it?



Come along to this **FREE** workshop and hear from the following funders about the funds available.

#### WHERE:

South Alive/The Pod  
133 Grace Street (Behind The Pantry)

#### WHEN:

Thursday 5 March - 1 PM - 3 PM

Seating is limited, please register:  
juanita.thornton@dia.govt.nz or 03 218 0703

Venue kindly donated by  SOUTH alive

#### FUNDERS

 Community Trust South

 Te Tari Taiwhenua Internal Affairs

 Invercargill **ILT**

 **ILT** FOUNDATION



## Southland Heritage Month - March 2020

### NZ History in the school curriculum

Southland Heritage Month March 2020 includes two important events for anyone interested in the inclusion of New Zealand history in the school curriculum. We are inviting all schools and their teachers to participate, especially those involved with teaching Social Studies and History (Inquiry Learning in primary schools). This will be a great professional development opportunity.

Contact [southlandheritagemonth@gmail.com](mailto:southlandheritagemonth@gmail.com) or 027 608 1393 by 28th February to secure your place for either/both of these events.

#### Southland Heritage Month Opening Night: *New Zealand History in Southland Schools*

Our opening event recognises that New Zealand history is to become a core component of the educational curriculum. Guest speakers will highlight special Southland stories that have shaped our provincial character and identity and which should be part of students' learning in Southland schools. Steve Watters, a former secondary school history teacher who coordinates *The Classroom* section of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage website [nzhistory.govt.nz](http://nzhistory.govt.nz), will explore the interesting journey that has led to this decision. Lloyd Esler will bring his broad knowledge of Southland history and experience of education inside and outside the classroom, and share his views. Ngāi Tahu historian Michael Stevens and a team from Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu will share tangata whenua perspectives and exciting history resources they have been developing. An additional speaker, to be confirmed, will place Southland history in a national context.

Thursday 5th March, 7:00 pm (doors open 6:30 pm)  
The Ascot Park Hotel, Mararoa/Whitestone Room  
No cost.  
Registrations by 28th February essential.

#### New Zealand History in Southland Schools: Workshop

This workshop builds upon the opening night, discussing opportunities to bring our stories into Southland history and social studies curricula. It will bring together Thursday night's speakers, teachers, historians, service providers (including museums), tangata whenua, and others passionate about Southland's unique stories. The emphasis will be on networking, resources, and practice that balances heritage experiences with classroom learning. The Ministry of Education, National History Teacher Association members and University of Otago History Department will be involved. This workshop is recommended as a valuable professional development opportunity for teachers of history and social studies.

Friday 6th March, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm  
The Invercargill Public Library Meeting Room  
\$30 includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea and printed resources.  
Registrations by 28th February essential.

