

# Bull Creek Moanariri



What a beautiful day we had on Christmas Day.



## Cruise ships



**26 Golden Princess**  
**W** Due 7.00 Sails 6.00 **F**  
**Ovation of the Seas**  
 Due 8.00 Sails 5.00 **F**  
*Boxing Day*

**27**  
**T**

**28 Norwegian Jewel**  
**F** Due 8.30 Sails 7.00 **F**

**29 Celebrity Solstice**  
**S** Due 7.30 Sails 5.00 **F**

**30 Seabourn Encore**  
**S** Due 7.30 Sails 6.00 **F**

## Merry Christmas!

We are all looking forward to rest, relaxation and fun at Bull Creek.

| Dates for programme 2018/2019 Summer holidays |               |           |   |   |
|---|---------------|-----------|---|---|
|   | Low tide      | High tide | Activity  | organiser                                     |
| 27 Dec<br>Thurs                               | 1.40pm        |           | Marquee erecting 9.30am<br>Committee Meeting 11am   | Billy/ Chris                                  |
| 28 Dec<br>Fri                                 | 2.40pm        |           | Track / conservation working bee. <b>9.30am.</b><br>Meet at Marquee:<br>Work to be done on 1) bush track. 2) Shelley Beach track 3) Revegetation area across the bay. 4) Track around the bay.<br>Bring: Weedeaters, buckets, shovel, Flax cutting knife. Lawn mowers, secateurs.<br><br>Sand Castle Competition judging <b>2.30 pm.</b><br>Prizegiving <b>4.30</b> at Marquee. | Joy & Coral                                   |
| 29 Dec<br>Sat                                 | 3.40pm        |           | Sports Day 1.30pm<br>BBQ 6pm<br><br>Talent Quest 7pm  | Billy,<br><br>Judges: Justin C, Emma M, Tammy |
| 30 Dec<br>Sun                                 | 4.40          |           | Fishing Competition - weigh in 4pm<br>1. Offshore<br>2. On shore  | Grant   |
| 31 Dec<br>Mon                                 | 5.40          | 11.30am   | 9pm Marquee/ fireworks /<br>12pm New Year fireworks   | Ray   |
| 1 Jan<br>Tues                                 | 6am           | 12.30pm   | 1pm Petanque (Marquee) /Golf<br><br>1.30pm Scavenger Hunt<br><br>ARTS: entries close 12 Marquee<br>Prize giving 2pm<br><br>A. Most creative shell decoration<br>B. Sand saucer/shoebox garden<br>C. Colouring in.   | Judges:<br><br>Wanda                          |
| 2 Jan<br>Wed                                  | 7am<br>7.30pm | 1.20pm    | 4pm Home brew (entries 3pm)   | colouring in                                  |

**Drivers:**

**Please slow down**



# Take care!

## There are sea lions on and around the beaches.

### New Zealand Sea Lions... Give us space!

← At least 10 m →

- We like our space so keep your distance, please.
- If we roar or charge, you are too close. Back away!

**Living with sea lions:**  
After centuries of being hunted, we are returning to mainland beaches. Big and beautiful, we can also be bold and boisterous.

- Try not to surround us, even if we are sleeping.

**Attention Dog Owners:**

- It is a legal requirement that dogs be kept under control around wildlife.
- If dogs are permitted here...

**Please keep your dog under control at all times**

Dog issues?  
Contact Dunedin City Council  
Phone : (03) 477 4000

For more information, visit [www.sealiontrust.org.nz](http://www.sealiontrust.org.nz)

- We often sleep in the dunes. Beware!
- Please don't provoke us for a photo. Be patient and you will get more natural photographs.
- We have **no** desire to eat you! We much prefer squid, fish, and crabs.

- Do not attempt to handle us as we can bite and may also be carrying diseases.

Photographs : Colin Emslie

If you are concerned for the safety of any wildlife on this beach please contact the Department of Conservation Hot Line : 0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468)



Many hands make light work.

Thank you to the large team of helpers who erected the Marquee this morning. The Marquee will be very valuable for crib owners events over the next week. We would love to see lots of volunteers to help at the working bees on Friday.



### Great to see a run of Kahawai on Christmas Day



### TREE REMOVAL

Trees of significance should not be cut down.

Permission to cut down trees needs to be obtained from the leasor.

Please remember we signed this



# Bull Creek Moanariri

Great work by a large team of volunteers clearing the tracks around the bay, Shelley beach -McLarens Beach track, the bush track and the tracks across the bay. Thank you very much for giving up your time to help make trips to the beach/bush more enjoyable.



## Thank you

Jack and Mata Roughan (Whangarei) have donated 2 new picnic/trestle tables for the marquee BBQ's and also contributed towards the purchase of Gabion baskets that were bought earlier this year when we needed to make repairs to the bush track.

Over the years Jack and Mata have frequently stayed with Bryan and Norma and worked on many working bees.

Thank you very much for your contributions.

A great team of helpers shifted bridges, rocks etc and built new gabions in March this year.

## Holiday Programme

| Date       | Start         | End     | Event  | Organizer/Judges                             |
|------------|---------------|---------|--|--|
| 29 Dec Sat | 3.40pm        |         | Sports Day 1.30pm<br>BBQ 6pm<br><br>Talent Quest 7pm   | Billy,<br>Judges: Justin C,<br>Emma M, Tammy |
| 30 Dec Sun | 4.40          |         | Fishing Competition - weigh in 4pm<br>1. Offshore<br>2. On shore   | Grant  |
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| 2 Jan Wed  | 7am<br>7.30pm | 1.20pm  | 4pm Home brew (entries 3pm)  | colouring in                                 |



Results of sand castle competition

## Results from Sand castle competition

| Name                        | Category   |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Henry Ingram                | Best 3 year old animal -unassisted                       |
| Ernie McEntyre              | Best 3 year old sea traveller- submarine                 |
| Lily Te Whata               | Best 4 year old unassisted                               |
| Kate Ransby                 | Best Lagoon craft  |
| Freddie Dick                | Best Monster Robot -5 years                              |
| Isla McGregor               | Best 6 year old beach landscape                          |
| Annalise Ingram             | Best sea creature- Octopus.                              |
| Isla McGregor               | Best 6 year old unassisted castle                        |
| Emma North                  | Best use of beach materials – Mermaid 6 yrs.             |
| Tristan Leckie              | 7 years Most creative use of technology- drone           |
| Max & Flynn Devlin          | Best dangerous animal- Piranha 4 & 7 yrs                 |
| Frankie, Scarlett, Milla    | Most detailed sea creature- Baby Turtle 7-9 yrs          |
| Alice Ransby                | Best Christmas scene 7 years                             |
| Olivia Dick                 | Best unassisted animal- crocodile 7yrs                   |
| Emily & Stanley Dick        | Best excavation- quarry 9 years                          |
| Mikayla Leckie              | Most artistic: 10-11 years Fish 1st                      |
| Riley Dickson               | Most interesting city scene 9-10 years 2nd               |
| Rosabelle and Alia          | Most interesting mountain scene- 10 yrs 3rd              |
| Hunter Joss Callaghan       | Best 9-10 years creation- starfish                       |
| Liam Dick                   | Best craft 10-11 years                                   |
| Micaela                     | Best double entry - Mermaid & Village 12 yrs             |
| Leo Shearer                 | Best castle 12 years                                     |
| Shearer family              | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Best Overall- The ruins                  |
| Griffin Family              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> = Best Overall - Taj Mahal               |
| Lennon Family               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> = Best Overall- Sea Turtle               |
| Bosa Hard Family            | 1 <sup>st</sup> = Best Overall Beach landscape sculpture |
| Callaghan/ Dickson families | 1 <sup>st</sup> = Best Overall Sea Creature- Octopus     |



Entries for the talent quest will be taken tomorrow at sports day.

# Bull Creek Moanariri

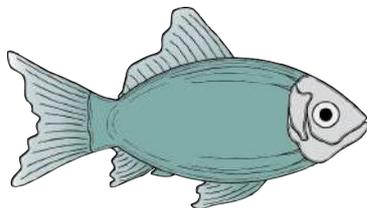
What fantastic weather! Fishermen finally had a fantastic day to get out in the boats. Everyone sweltered in the heat for Sports day. Thank you very much to Billy, Ali, Chris, John etc who made the sports day run so smoothly.

We are so very fortunate in the Bull Creek community with so many very willing helpers



Found: sunglasses

A pair of sunglasses was found on the beach after sports day. See Coral if you wish to claim them.



## Fishing competition

Tomorrow 30 Dec is the fishing competition. Low tide is 4.40pm. The weigh in will be at the marquee from 3.30 to 4.30pm with judging/prizes at 5.30pm.



There have been problems this week with many campers helping themselves to using the marquee, with children throwing things around, bouncing off the walls and climbing the ropes. When you are going past the marquee please check to see whether there are unsupervised children and ask them to leave.

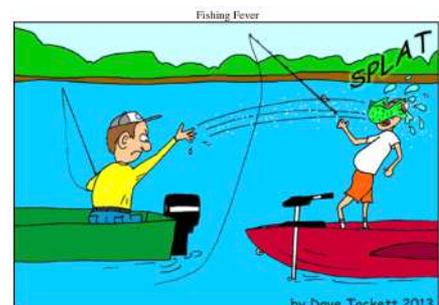
The marquee was purchased with crib owners funds for our pleasure and we do not want to see it damaged by visitors to the area.

.....

## To give away

Double bed, mattress with bed ends.

Please see Joan Clark.



**Arts Competition judging on Tuesday 1 Jan.**

There are colouring in competition pages available.  
See Coral if you have not received the pages you need.

Start creating your shell decorations now.  
Below are some examples of what you could make

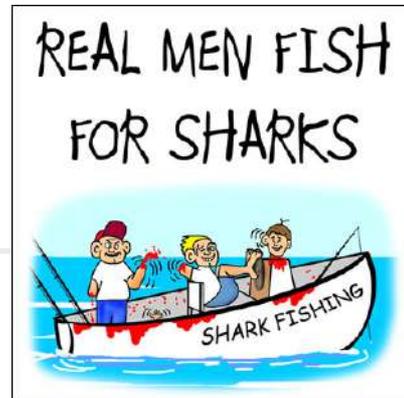


**Bull Creek 2019 calendars.**

Available for \$20 from Coral



\*\*\*\*\*



www.marine.ac.nz

Every time you visit the rocky shore you discover something new!  
How many creatures can you find in the picture?

|                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anemones    | <input type="checkbox"/> Octopus    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chitons     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sea Stars  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crabs       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sea Tulips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulls       | <input type="checkbox"/> Shrimps    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nudibranchs | <input type="checkbox"/> Snails     |

www.marine.ac.nz

## Bull Creek Sports Day results 29 December 2018

|                |  |                                  |                                       |
|----------------|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 8-9 girls      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Emily Dick             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Scarlett Shearer |                                       |
| 8-9 boys       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Riley Dickson          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Zephan Laing     | Frankie Shearer                       |
| 6-7 girls      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Olivia Dick            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Milla Shearer    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Alice Ransby          |
| 6-7 boys       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Max Devlin             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tristan Leckie   | Chase Joss Callaghan                  |
| 4-5 boys/gilrs | 1 <sup>st</sup> Kate Ransby            | Cameron Adam                     | Finn Devlin                           |
| 3 and under    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Walter Brook           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fletcher Adam    | Henry Ingram                          |
| 10-11 girls    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Mikayla Leckie         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alia Auld        |                                       |
| 10-11 boys     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Liam Dick              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aidan Ealson     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Hunter Joss Callaghan |
| 12-13 girls    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Poppy MacCulloch-Strom | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Danielle Gaspar  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Micaela Laing         |
| 12-13 boys     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Leo Shearer            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Clay Leckie      |                                       |
| 14-15 boys     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Lucas Shearer          |                                  |                                       |
| Womens open    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Cath Strom             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kerrie Bourne    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lisa Dick             |
| Mens open      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Hamish Te Whata        | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Matt Dick        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Justin McEntyre       |

### Sack Race

|             |                |                 |                        |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 8-9         | Riley Dickson  | Zephan Laing    | Jake Butler            |
| 6-7         | Max Devlin     | Isla McGregor   | Olivia Dick            |
| adults      | Jay Callaghan  | Hamish Te Whata | Matt Dick              |
| 10-11       | Josh North     | Aidan Ealson    | Hunter Joss Callaghan  |
| 12-13       | Leo Shearer    | Clay Leckie     | Poppy MacCulloch-Strom |
| 4 & 5       | Marlow Shearer | Kate Ransby     | Sylvia Brook           |
| 3 and under | Fletcher Adam  | Henry Ingram    | Walter Brook           |

### Gumboot Toss

|         |               |                      |                 |
|---------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| women   | Coral Butler  | Cath Strom           | Kristie Shearer |
| men     | Jake Lova     | Grant Shearer        | Ross Shearer    |
| 7-13    | Lucas Shearer | Leo Shearer          | Alex Winslade   |
| Under 7 | Freddie Dick  | Chase Joss Callaghan | Milla Adam      |

### Water balloon toss

|               |                  |                        |                              |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mens open 15+ | Ross & Lucas     | Jake & Jonathon Lemalu | Chris McLay & Steve Christie |
| 7 and under   | Finn Devlin      |                        |                              |
| 8 and over    | Alia & Rosabelle | Leo & Liam             |                              |

### Wheelbarrow race

|             |                               |                               |                              |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 3 and under | Walter Brook & Marlow Shearer | Ernie McEntyre & Jake Butler  | Reuben & Henry Ingram        |
| 4-5         | Alice & Kate Ransby           | Lily Te Whata & Emma North    | Miller Adam & Cameron Adam   |
| 6-7         | Olivia Dick & Milla Shearer   | Max Devlin & Freddie dick     | Alice Ransby & Isla McGregor |
| 8-9         | Tristan Leckie & Jake Butler  | Emily Dick & Scarlett Shearer | Riley Dickson & Zephan Laing |
| 10-11       | Mikayla Leckie & Poppy Strom  | Liam Dick & Leo Shearer       | Aidan Ealson & Alex Winslade |
| 12-13       | Alia & Rosabelle              | Lucas Shearer & Leo Shearer   | Mikayla Leckie & Poppy Strom |
| adults      | Hayden Lennon & Kane Adam     | Lucas & Ross Shearer          | Matt Dick & Grant Shearer    |

### Hill Race- Bull Creek Grunt

|             |               |              |                 |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 5-7 years   | Max Devlin    | Tristan      | Olivia          |
| 4 and under | Milla Shearer | Cameron Adam | Finn Devlin     |
| 11-13       | Clay Leckie   | Leo Shearer  | Liam Dick       |
| Adults      | Matt Dick     | Ross Shearer | Lucas Shearer   |
| 8-10 years  | Riley Dickson | Emily Dick   | Frankie Shearer |

### stilts

|                |                        |               |                 |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 13 under girls | Poppy MacCulloch-Strom | Leo Shearer   | Danielle Gaspar |
| 8-10           | Riley Dickson          | Jake Butler   | Aidan Ealson    |
| 6-7            | Milla Shearer          | Alice Ransby  | Taj Christie    |
| adults         | Marianna Brook         | Jay Callaghan | Lin Campbell    |

### Tug of war

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Boys     | Riley, Frankie, Tristan, Max, Freddy, Harper, Finn, Taj, Henry |
| Girls    | Annalise, Alice, Scarlett, Emily, Sylvia                       |
| Open men | Josh North, Alex Winslade, Blake Winslade,                     |



# Bull Creek Moanariri Newsletter

30 Dec 2018

no. 4



We are loving this fantastic spell of fine weather.  
Some photos from yesterday and results of talent quest.



## Tomorrow.

9m Marquee / fireworks  
12pm New Year Fireworks



## Results of the Talent Quest 29 Dec 2018

| AWARD                      | TO                 | ITEM                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Best Family item           | Shearer family     | 6 in the bed           |
| Best gymnasts              | Lily & Emma        |                        |
| Best Father/daughter pair  | Milla Shearer      | Xmas in the summertime |
| Best Christmas Cracker duo | Jake & Tristan     | jokes                  |
| Best poem                  | Freddie Dick       | Humpty Dumpty          |
| Best solo comedian         | Olivia Dick        |                        |
| Best Christmas solo        | Poppy              | Singing sensation      |
| Best Te Reo song           | Ernie & Mikayla    | Ma is White            |
| Best dancer                | Anna Tahl          |                        |
| Best solo musician         | Scarlett Shearer   | Ishim Boshi            |
| Best crowd interaction     | Jason Court        | Not so sweet Caroline  |
| Best ventriloquist act     | Daddy Cool and Taj | Mini me's              |
| Best Pole Dance            | Jason Court        |                        |



Bull Creek's got talent overall winner: Milla Shearer



## Results of 30 Dec 2018 Fishing Competition

|   |  |                                  |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Blue cod - Adults<br>    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chris Maybee</li> <li>2. Brett Leckie</li> <li>3. Phil McGregor</li> </ol>                               | 1714 gms<br>1381 gms<br>1205 gms |
| Blue Cod - Children   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Max &amp; Finn Devlin</li> </ol>   | 1175 gms                         |
| Trumpeter<br>            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ali Campbell</li> </ol>  | 722 gms                          |
| Wrasse. Under 8   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tristan Leckie</li> <li>2. Chase Joss Callaghan</li> </ol>   | 793 gm<br>475 gm                 |
| Wrasse. Over 8  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hunter Joss Callaghan</li> <li>2. Clay Leckie</li> </ol>   | 626 gm<br>595 gm                 |
| Red Cod   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Phil McGregor</li> <li>2. John Taal</li> <li>3. Ali Campbell</li> </ol>                                  | 2 kg<br>1.7kg<br>1.14kg          |
| Scarlett Parrot Fish<br> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mark Butler</li> <li>2. Anna Taal</li> </ol>   | 796 gm<br>581 gm                 |
| Dog Fish  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John Taal</li> <li>2. Emma McCready</li> </ol>   | 1.6 kg<br>1.2 kg                 |
| Jock Stewart  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brett Leckie</li> <li>2. John Taal</li> <li>3. Mark Butler</li> </ol>                                    | 1.2 kg<br>1.1 kg<br>1 kg         |
| Barracuda   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brett Leckie</li> </ol>  | 1.3 kg                           |
| Sea Run Trout   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Poppy McCullogh</li> </ol>   | 1.7kg                            |
| Kahowai<br>            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Liam Dick</li> <li>2. Leo Shearer</li> </ol>   | 2.5kg 60.5cm<br>2.1kg 60cm       |
| Eel   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frankie Shearer</li> <li>2. Marlow Shearer</li> </ol>  | 69cm<br>61cm                     |
| Paua<br>               | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clay Leckie</li> <li>2. Ross Shearer</li> </ol>  | 595 gm 160mm<br>546 gm 155mm     |
| Marvellous bucket   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ruby Butler</li> </ol>   |                                  |
| Sprats<br>             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ernie McEntyre x6</li> <li>2. Liam Dick x 6</li> <li>3. Emma North</li> <li>3= Marlow Shearer</li> </ol> | 17 gr<br>14 gr<br>13g<br>13g     |
| Lobster   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lily Te Whata</li> </ol>   |                                  |

|                         |                   |      |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------|
| Cockabullies/ whitebait | 1. Lily Te Whata  |      |
| Mussels                 | 1. Jake Butler    |      |
| Cats Eye                | 1. Mikayla Leckie | 73g  |
| Sea Slug                | 1. Jake Butler    | 186g |



**1<sup>st</sup>** Biggest Overall Fish: Liam Dick Kahowai 2.5kg

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Biggest Fish overall : Leo Shearer Kahowai 2.kg

Most unusual Fish (land): Poppy. – Sea Run Trout

Most unusual Fish (sea) – Brett Leckie- Trumpeter

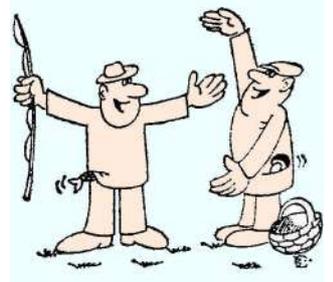


# Bull Creek Moanariri

Newsletter 5 31 Dec 2018



We were so fortunate this year to have large entries in the fishing competition from both onshore and offshore. During the weigh in there was fair amount of banter between the boaties as they were all hoping to have the biggest fish!



## A life on the ocean wave

Otago Daily Times 14 Jul 2018 ELENA MCPHEE elena.mcphee@odt.co.nz

**Name:** Bill Dickson

**Job:** Skipper of the re-search vessel

**Polaris II**

THE captain of the University of Otago's main research vessel says he has always had a love of the sea, and fortunately the positive aspects of his job outweigh the negative ones, such as bad weather, and seasick students.

Before he took up his post on Polaris II, Bill Dickson worked as a dive officer and small boat operator at the Portobello Marine Laboratory, but in the past he had been a commercial fisherman.

Mr Dickson, who also does voluntary work with the Portobello Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Dunedin Coastguard, took up the position of skipper of Munida in 2004, and became skipper of Polaris II two years later.

“I had a coastal skipper's ticket and a second class diesel engineers ticket from my time commercial fishing,” he said.

Good communication skills, the ability to think on your feet, and being willing to work long hours were essential to the role.

One of the highlights of his time as skipper so far was his first trip to Campbell Island, in 2007.

“It was a rough trip getting down, but worth it,” he said.

“It's just a long way from home and very few people actually get there.”

He returned there the following year, and altogether he had now done about 14 subantarctic



**On board . . . Polaris II skipper Bill Dickson takes a variety of people out on the University of Otago's research vessel.**

trips, he said.

Usually he stayed aboard the boat, rarely going ashore.

Day to day, Mr Dickson under-

took tasks varying from taking academics and schoolchildren on research and school trips to general maintenance and tidying of the boat — and paper-work.

The boat can sleep 14 people, and hold 42.

Working with large groups of students who were prone to seasickness was one of the low points of the job.

“There are a lot of the students that get pretty crook.”

The most challenging part of working as a skipper was the long hours, and bad weather — but highlights were getting to go places other people never get a chance to see and learning different things with a lot of different people.

While the 24m Polaris II is the main research vessel, the university has one smaller research boat, Beryl Brewin, and

some “runaround” boats whi... are based on Stewart Island and Otago Harbour.

Since Mr Dickson began the job more than a decade ago, it had become a lot more technical, with some “very expensive equipment and a huge emphasis on health and safety”.

The health and safety requirements in particular were “very stringent” and making sure Polaris II met them took a lot of time, Mr Dickson said.

Most people did not realise how much work the university department did.

“People probably don’t realise how many different projects we do around our coastline, one of

which we do every two months and have been doing for over 20 years.”

Some of the other highlights of the job were going to Lyttelton to drop off Munida— used by the university for 40 years — and bring home Polaris II.

One of the most unusual incidents at work was coming across some rare Shepherd’s beaked whales, while out with researchers looking for sperm whales.

The whales could be identified by their unusually shaped heads, Mr Dickson said.

“It’s always good to see something like that; that’s quite unusual.”

He said he had seen the whales out near Cape Saunders on the Otago Peninsula “several times now”.

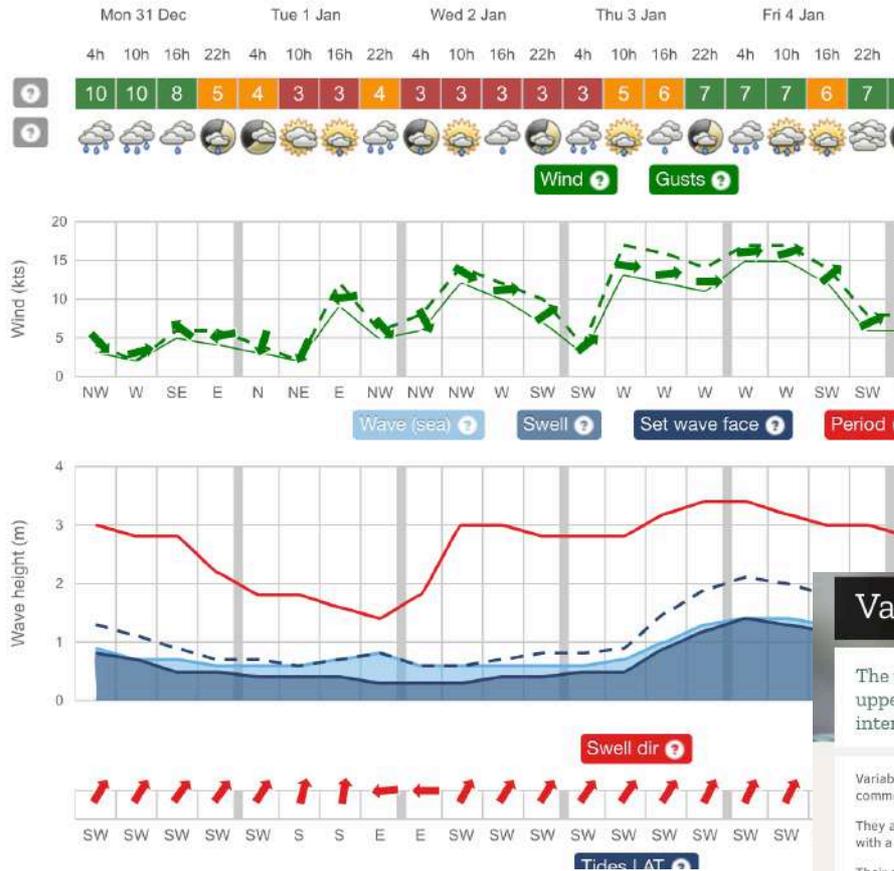
Write a comment...

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Upvote Downvote



Forecast updated at 10:50 Monday 31 December (Pacific/Auckland local t



|            |               |         |   |                  |
|------------|---------------|---------|---|------------------|
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| 1 Jan Tues | 6am           | 12.30pm | 1pm Petanque (Marquee) /Golf<br>1.30pm Scavenger Hunt<br>ARTS: entries close 12 Marquee<br>Prize giving 2pm<br>A. Most creative shell decoration<br>B. Sand saucer/shoobox garden<br>C. Colouring in. | Judges:<br>Wanda |
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## Variable oystercatcher/tōrea

The variable oystercatcher is a large heavily-built shorebird. Adults have black upperparts, their underparts vary from all black, through a range of 'smudgy' intermediate states to white.

Variable oystercatcher (*Haematopus unicolor*) occur around most of the coastline of New Zealand, and breed most commonly on sandy beaches, sandspits and in dunes.

They are very vocal; loud piping is used in territorial interactions and when alarmed. Chicks are warned of danger with a sharp, loud 'chip' or 'click'.

Their status is 'Endemic, Recovering'.

### Appearance

Adults have black upperparts, their underparts vary from all black, through a range of 'smudgy' intermediate states to white. The proportion of all-black birds increases as you head south.

They have a conspicuous long bright orange bill (longer in females), and stout coral-pink legs; their eyes have a red iris and the eye-ring is orange.

The pied morph (the form that has both dark and light colours) of the variable oystercatcher can be confused with the South Island pied oystercatcher.

### Diet

Variable oystercatchers eat a wide range of coastal invertebrates, including molluscs and crustaceans which they open either by pushing the tip of the bill between shells and twisting, or by hammering. They occasionally eat small fish and a range of terrestrial invertebrates, including earthworms.

### Nesting and breeding

They breed in monogamous pairs and defend territories vigorously against neighbours. Nests are normally simple scrapes in the sand and the 2-3 eggs are laid from October onwards. Incubation is shared and takes about 28 days.

The chicks fly at 6-7 weeks old and late chicks may not fledge until March. Chicks are vigorously protected by both parents, often well after fledging. Adults show high fidelity to their mate and the site.





# Bull Creek Moanariri



It seemed a bit of a shock to have a cool night on New Years Eve, after many hot days and nights. The children's fireworks including sparklers and cooking marshmallows went very well.

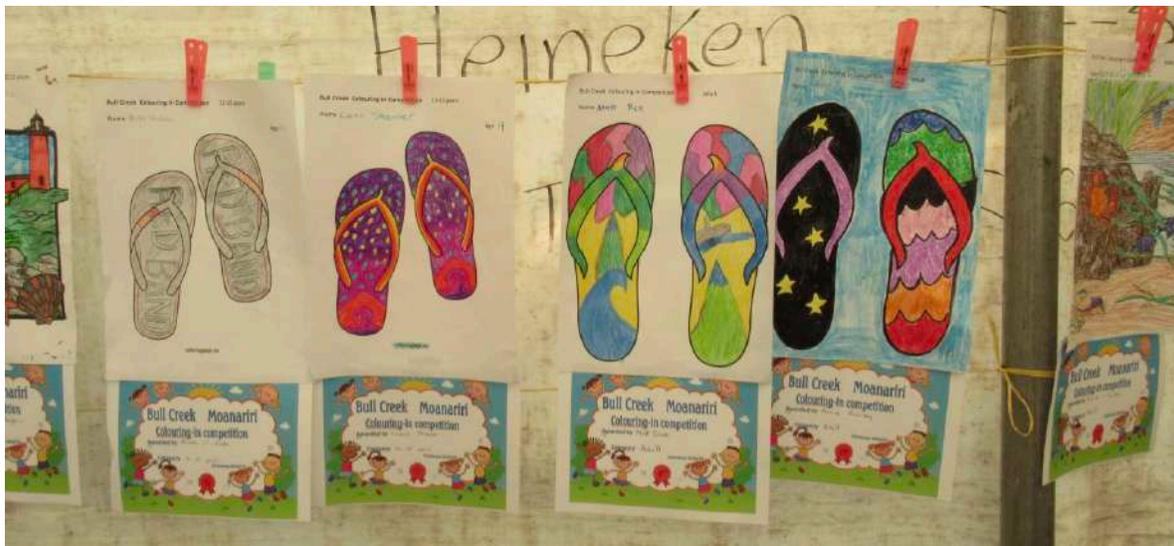
Thank you to the teams of people carrying out these activities.

We were all very glad to have the amazing burner .



Thank you very much Chris & John for organising the fireworks displays. Both the children's and the adults displays are very much appreciated. It is quite a responsibility, while the rest of us are having fun.

1st January has been such a stunningly beautiful day. A great variety of activities have been happening- tidying up after the New Year Events, swimming, kayaking, fishing, sand castle competition and judging, scavenger hunt and golf.



# Bull Creek Moanariri Newsletter 7 2 Jan 2019

## Remembering crib owners who passed away in 2018.

### Mervyn Adam

Mervyn always had a love of Bull Creek right from his early childhood. He first starting renting a crib for family holidays before he and Betty bought their crib in 1966. To Mervyn this was his second

home and many many fond memories and life long friends would eventuate. He loved his involvement with all the beach activities and working bees, some of his earlier ones included helping build the bathing sheds, widening the road corner below their crib and general maintenance around Bull Creek.

In his later years the cleaning of the public toilets and new bathing sheds was his way of still being to follow. In fact only a couple of hours ago his five year old great grandson was telling a car to slow down.- “a real chip of the old black!” (Colin Adam)



### Robin Gamble

Robin first visited Bull creek in the early 1960's fishing with good friend Graeme Philip.

They spent many hours cray bobbing off the rocks. For many years he and Virginia stayed with the Philip family and enjoyed their woolshed do's and they got to meet many of the 'cribbies'.

After looking for sometime he finally purchased his crib in 1988. Robin loved to have family gatherings at Bull Creek. He loved presenting family items in the talent quest. The crib was often bursting with family and friends and much laughter! Robin loved to dream and scheme- early on he dreamed of developing a track through the bush that would be accessible for all. This would need to include many bridges. This enormous undertaking began in 1993. Plans were made with his friends Ally Campbell and Brian Roughan and railway irons, timber, etc began to arrive at the scene.(more can be read about these escapades in the Bull creek book pg 22)

Robin participated in Bull Creek activities fully and with enormous enthusiasm. He gave up his time generously. If you needed a job done Robin was always willing to dream up a plan to help and get the task done!

There was always an enormous amount of laughter when Robin was near. He was a man of many misdemeanours, an extreme risk taker and a great friend.





## Cora And Elsie (nee Wells)

On July 24 2017. Elsie Fagg and Cora Wright celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Cora and Elsie both loved their many years of playing, exploring and fishing as children, then bringing up their own children at Bull Creek. They were both very keen on crayfishing. They both continued to visit Bull Creek until their 100<sup>th</sup> year. Elsie died in Jan 2018 and Cora died in Sept 2018. It is believed the chance of identical twins reaching the age of 100 was one in 750 million.





**The New Years Day golf** tournament for the trophy continued this year in great style.

15 point hits were scored by Billy Dickson, John Woods, Tiger Woods, Never Woods.

Resulting in Gambles clan retaining the trophy 109-97.

Nola (Robin's sister) was very happy to collect it for 2019!

## Home Brew

What a great Home brew this year. So much laughter along with the competition. 61 entries in 12 categories.

Thank you very much to all the brewers and to Billy, Ali, Anne and other helpers for their excellent organization.



## Bull Creek Calendars 2019

The last few of these are available from Coral- crib 649

## Home brew 2 Jan 2019

**2019** 39 entries in cocktails, whatever and wines.

22 entries in beer & spirits. Total of 61

*2018* 33 entries in Cocktails & whatever. 21 entries in beer & spirits. Total of 52. 11 more entries than 2017.

|                |   |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| Lager          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Ali Campbell<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> John Taal<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Billy Dickson                                |  |
| Shield         | Ali Campbell  |  |
| Draught Beer   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Brian Roughan<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Shearers<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ali Campbell                                 |  |
| Shield         | Brian Roughan   |  |
| Dark Beer      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Shearers<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Roughans<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ali Campbell                                      |  |
| Craft Beer     | 1 <sup>st</sup> = Shearers<br>1 <sup>st</sup> = Shearers<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Shearers<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> John Taal         |  |
| Shotz          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Justin Currie<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> = Pat Currie<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> = Roughans                               | Blue fever<br>Orange Blast<br>Raspberry Ripples            |
| spirits        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Graeme Philip<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Dale Wyber<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ken Wright                                 | Rum<br>Elder Flower Vodka<br>Rum                           |
| Punch          | 1 <sup>st</sup> John Butler<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Coral Butler   |  |
| wine           | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sue Taal<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Cheryl & Cath<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Cheryl & Cath                                | Elderflower Champagne<br>Merlot<br>Rhubarb                 |
| Whatever Cream | 1 <sup>st</sup> Cheryl & Cath<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Roughans<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> = Gaye Grant<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> = Ken Wright | Baileys<br>Morning Mist<br>Brown Bomber<br>Baileys         |
| Whatever fruit | 1 <sup>st</sup> Ann Roughan<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Graeme Philip<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Joy Murdoch                               | Mountain grass<br>Midori<br>Peachilicious                  |
| Whatever clear | 1 <sup>st</sup> Roughans<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Diane & Stan<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Roughans                                      | Normarita<br>Clockwork Orange<br>Turquoise Dream           |
| Liquors        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Butlers<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Cath & Cheryl<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> = Ken Wright<br>3 = Butlers                   | Blue Hawaii<br>Kahlua<br>Black Sambucca<br>Buttery Russian |

