

The Lowdown



He Panui o Kaituna

South Dunedin Community Newsletter

Issue 7 Whiringa-ā-Nuku/Whiringa-ā-Rangi October/November 2017

MMP delivers new government, change ahead

Hands up all those who saw that coming? Our Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP) system of vote counting has delivered the country a change of government, with a Labour-New Zealand First coalition with support from the Greens forming a majority bloc in parliament, with 63 seats compared to National and ACT's 58.

While this was always a possibility, it surprised many who expected NZF to side with the National Party, who had the largest party vote in the election.

But what has surprised many even more is the dawning realisation that this is a government that is committed to making some big changes.



Minister of Health and Dunedin North MP, David Clark
(Image <http://www.labour.org.nz/davidclark>)

Dunedin is well represented, with its two electorate MPs, David Clark and Clare Curran, both in cabinet with ministerial positions.

David Clark, MP for Dunedin North, is the new Minister of Health. South Dunedin's own Clare Curran is the new Minister of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media.

Congratulations to both of these MPs on their new appointments.

So, what might the change in government mean for the people of South Dunedin?

Well, for one thing, the hospital rebuild just started to look a bit more like a reality. Labour were quite



New Minister for Broadcasting and Dunedin South MP Clare Curran
(Image <http://www.labour.org.nz/clarecurran>)

clear about committing to the rebuild. So watch this space.

The new government has also signalled wage rises and we will see the minimum wage lifted to \$20 by 2020. This will make a big difference to those who constantly struggle to make ends meet.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has signalled that the Labour-led coalition wants to tackle some of the big social issues head-on. This includes action on poverty, housing affordability, and unemployment.

It is an ambitious undertaking. Nearly every negative social statistic has risen in the last decade and there will be many people for whom help can not come soon enough.

The new government has clearly stated that they want to be a government of change, and improve the lives of all New Zealanders. It is a big call, and they are to be commended for having such a vision.

The public will have to keep their expectations in check. Changes will occur in the longer term, not overnight. But, for many people, they are feeling something that they haven't felt for what seems like a very long time.

It is called hope.

Read the responses of locals to the election result on page 2.

Locals get ready to party

Party party party!

Organisers are keeping their fingers crossed for good weather for the forthcoming South Dunedin Street Festival on 4 November.



After taking a break last year, the festival is back, better than ever.

Music organiser Paul Allen says that there will be a great variety of solo artists and bands on two stages at either end of King Edward Street. Among them are Robyn Baldwin-Johnston, Aroha Ngatai, James Dignan, Kelvin Cummings, Jayden TJ, Darell Baser, Valley Bluegrass and Bronwyn Halley.



Bronwyn Halley is just one of the many performers who will be entertaining at the street festival.

There will also be Kapa Haka, as well as Chinese, Irish and rock and roll dancers.

There will be a huge variety of food available from the many premises that operate along King Edward Street.

Organisers are very happy with the support from local businesses and groups. "Most things are in place and we are looking forward to a really good day", said Eleanor Doig, one of the organising team. "All the performers will add colour, energy and life. What we really want most of all is for the locals to come out now and support it, rain or shine. But we hope for shine!"

Some local responses to the change of government

So what are people thinking about the election result? We took some time to ask six people on King Edward Street last week what their opinions were. They were a mixture of business owners, paid and unpaid workers and beneficiaries. Nobody wanted a photo, but they ARE real people. We asked them:

1. **Are you pleased with the change of government?**
2. **What is the most important issue for the new government?**
3. **What advice can you give to Dunedin South MP Clare Curran now that she is part of the government?**

Here is what they said:

Debbie:

1. Yes
2. Housing and education
3. Do the best you can.

Peter:

1. Yes
2. Clean up the environment
3. Get a plan to have a better public broadcasting service

Sarah:

1. Yes
2. Climate Change
3. Keep doing what she's doing

Trevor:

1. Yes
2. Housing and incomes
3. Support people with disabilities and assist with housing needs

Fulin:

1. Yes
2. Support new businesses
3. Listen to people

Lorraine:

1. Absolutely
2. People having better lifestyles, welfare, everything
3. Keep on doing what she's doing

What's on in South D? Your community calendar

Regular happenings....

Every Rahina/Monday:

Mama and pepe Pacific playgroup,
9.30am - 12.30pm, @ the Early Years Hub, 158
Oxford St. Ph Sellina 0212657762

Dunedin Korean Playgroup
9.30am - 2.30pm @ the Early Years Hub

English for Immigrants

1.30pm - 3.30pm, run by English language
Partners, @ the Early Years Hub, ph 477 7261

Steady As You Go gentle exercise falls prevention
classes 1.30 -2.30pm @ South Dunedin Baptist
Church, \$2-\$3

Rock Solid High School Boys' Club, 7 - 9pm @
Bayfield High School gym, free. Call James on
021 076 7929

Every Ratu/Tuesday:

Steady As You Go gentle exercise falls prevention
classes, 9.15 -10.15 am and again 10.30 – 11.30
am @ South Dunedin Baptist Church \$2-\$3 / class

The Breast Room in the House, 10:00 am –
12:00 pm, @ the Early Years Hub. The place for
mums to get breastfeeding information, help and
support. Just call in. For more information contact
Bushie on 0212604678

or email breastroom@gmail.com

Koru International Playgroup, 10:00 am – 12:00
pm @The Hub. A weekly play group for babies to 6
year-old and their families. For more information,
please email Zumi at koruplaygroup@hotmail.com
or just come and visit us.

Every Raapa/Wednesday:

Music and Movement, 10.45 - 11.15 @ the Hub
Creators @ Home Kowhai Playgroup. Resource
making, baking and crafts @ the Hub.

Ph 027 571 0322

Coffee and Chat, 1.30 - 2.30pm, South Dunedin
Baptist Church, \$1.00. Guest speakers and
activities.

Every Rapare/Thursday:

B4 School Check, 9am - 12pm @ the Hub,
ph 0800 247224 to make appointment

The Breast Room in the House, 10:00 am –
12:00 pm, @ the Hub

Sidey lunch, 11.30am @ Sidey Hall, Thorn St,
Caversham. Free

South Dunedin Seniors Club, 2pm - 3.30pm.
Entertainment and Afternoon Tea \$3.50.

South Dunedin Community Hall, 255 King Edward
Street.

Every Ramere/Friday:

Wild Things Kotuku Multi Ethnic Playgroup

9.30am - 12.30pm, @ the Hub

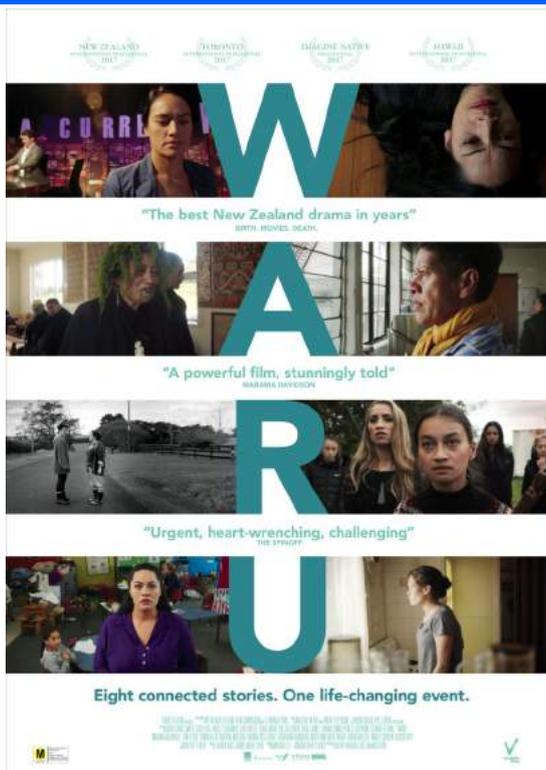
Ph 021 133 6903 or 477 2944

Craft group, @ Stepping Stones, 186 Macandrew
Rd, 10am—12pm. Free

Dunedin Korean Playgroup

9.30am - 2.30pm @ the Hub

Steady As You Go gentle exercise falls prevention
classes, 1 – 2 pm @ South Dunedin Baptist
Church, \$2-\$3



“Waru” set to disturb and inspire

A new film opened in cinemas last week that has been described as a film that “all New Zealanders should see” by the NZ Herald. **Waru** is a unique and bold way of tackling a subject that we hear about all too often, that of child abuse.

The film is a collaborative production from eight Maori women directors who confront this sad reality in a way that they hope will encourage people to respond.

The eight stories explore the impact of Waru’s death on his family and the extended community. The interwoven stories all take place across the same ten or so minutes and each story was directed by a different female Māori filmmaker who shares their insight into the complexity of child abuse. The filmmakers say about their work that “our hope is that WARU will inspire kōrero (conversation) and create meaningful dialogue. Our intention is that by engaging our community with the whakaaro (perspectives) represented in the film, we will create a space that allows for others to contribute their own.” GO SEE IT.

Pop-up hub available for community use

The South Dunedin pop-up hub is now open for all kinds of business.

Situated in the Cargill Enterprises building at 199 Hillside Road, the hub is a welcoming space which offers a fully functional branch of the Dunedin



Public Library, free gig wifi, free public access to the internet and Council service centre functions such as rates, register animals, buy rubbish bags cheaper than at the supermarket, read council plans, lodge submissions, and you can even pay your parking tickets!

The Pop Up will be open a total of 25 hours each week as follows:

- Tuesday 11.00am – 4.00pm
- Wednesday 11.00am – 5.30pm
- Thursday 11.00am – 4.00pm
- Friday 11.00am – 5.30pm
- Saturday 10.00am – 12.00pm

There are also meeting rooms available for community groups to use, but you need to book.

You can book your activity for a day, a week, or every week - talk to the Pop Up staff or Nick Orbell, ph 4744000, or email nick.orbell@dcc.govt.nz.



Update on June 2015 flood research

Two presentations on the June 2015 floods in South Dunedin will be made on 21 November 2017 at 10.40am.

1 Flooding the Footpaths: making sense of the (im) mobilities of water and people in South Dunedin neighbourhoods, presented by Martha Bell
2 Dunedin Flood Abatement Pilot, presented by Jesse Teat

Event: "Pavements and Paradigms: Bringing Community back into Mobilities"

Venue: University of Otago, School of

Physiotherapy, Room 1.02

Date: Monday 20 November - Tuesday 21 November 2017

More Information: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/physio/research/otago652366.html>

No charge.

PLUS Free Public Talks and Discussion at 5.30pm at St David Lecture Theatre, Monday 20 November 2017

Title: "Walkers, wheelers and beyond: What will future shared footpaths look like?"

More Information: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/physio/research/otago665771.html>

All welcome.

The Lowdown is produced and distributed by volunteers and relies on contributions from the public. If you have anything to include, be it a contribution, or items for the calendar, please email us at newsletter@southdunedin.org.nz, or contact Nick Orbell at the Dunedin City Council. Special thanks to ConnectSouth for printing The Lowdown.

Remember to check out the Proud to be South D facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/proudtobesouthd/> as well as the <http://southdunedin.org.nz/> website, for more news about developments in our community.

Material for inclusion in the last edition for this year should reach us by 24 November

If you can help deliver this newsletter to homes and businesses, please contact us at the email address above.