Blueskin News www.blueskin.co.nz editors@blueskin.co.nz

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1 November 2010

10.10.10 climate change hikoi and launch of BLOC

by Lucy Sheppard

The morning of Sunday 10 October dawned clear and bright with not a breath of wind, perfect for a quick cycle over the hill to Dunedin and back ... YEAH RIGHT!

Motivated, enthusiastic, rugged-up cyclists which included Paul (unicyclist), Virginia, Julia, Scott and myself (unicyclists with a training wheel) meet in the pouring rain at the Waitati Hall to embark on a journey to Dunedin and back without the use of fossil fuels, as part of the climate change hikoi 10.10.10.

Arrogantly believing that two wheels would be faster than one we sent Paul off an hour before the bicyclists in order that we would all arrive into Dunedin at the same time. So, at 10.30 the four bicyclists set off (to thunderous applause from the Waitati walkers) in hot pursuit of the long legged, one wheeled wonder.

Deciding it was not a day for the grunt of Shortcut Road, we meandered past Waitati School warming up our legs for the climb ahead. Amazingly oblivious to the weather and the gradient (due I am sure to the fine conversation being had) we quickly made it to the warm, welcoming VOLCO farm house where we were fed hot tea, biscuits and waffles! Hearing from these lovely ladies that Paul was already more than half an hour ahead of us we set off in hot pursuit once again, pinning our hopes on the weight of the waffles in our tummies aiding our descent into Dunedin. Alas, we rounded the corner on the downward approach to be met with a malicious head wind and our dreams of land speed records were dashed as we found ourselves pedalling downhill!!

Shortly before the scheduled arrival time of 1pm we finally caught up with the long legged, one wheeled wonder relaxing at Dunedin North Intermeditate where he had been waiting for us for an hour already. We believe Paul may be the first person crazy enough to unicycle from Waitati to Dunedin; a huge achievement especially if you consider you cannot free wheel on a unicycle so it involves not only pedalling up the hill, but pedalling down the hill, too.

We rested in the warmth of the DNI hall, eating our lunches made from locally sourced ingredients, listening to speeches on climate change and being entertained by a wonderful story teller.

As three o'clock approached we realised we would need to head back over the hill pretty soon to get back to the Waitati Hall to join in with the festivities. The long legged, one wheeled wonder was bundled into a car with his ginormous wheel for a well deserved ride home and the remaining hardy bicyclists pointed our noses northwards. Aided by the now friendly tail wind, we whipped back over the hill in record-breaking time for the party.

At the party Virginnia launched Blueskin Low Oil Commuters (BLOC) which aims to bring together people interested in making their daily commute to Dunedin less reliant on fossil fuels. If this sounds like you and you have not signed up, email Virginia (bloc@geology.co.nz). The first 10 people to subscribe to BLOC will receive a \$20 Bicycle Workshop Voucher, courtesy of Browns Avanti Plus. Only a few left, get in quick and sign

· continued on page 2

from page 1

up to the BLOC.

So, a wonderful experience and a wonderful day, slightly hampered by the weather but perhaps more affected by the Dunedin City Council who advised us it was unsafe to bike on the Mt Cargill Road into Dunedin even though ironically it is the official cycle route into the city.



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BLUESKIN NEWS

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Electronic copy should be formatted as simply as possible with two returns between each paragraph or item in a list, and after each heading.

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WARRINGTON PLAYCENTRE

by Mary-Jane Mirfin

Tena koutou katoa, konichiwa, hello to everyone in the Blueskin community. Spring has arrived and it's great to see our daffodils and blossom out in our centre's garden. We celebrated the arrival of spring with a visit to Seacliff's village playground and a walk around Truby King Reserve. Our tamariki are very lucky to have such a wonderful place to visit, just up the road from Warrington Playcentre. Spring also means it's time for making masks and flower sand saucer creations for the annual Waitati Flower Show.

This term, we were visited by the Education Review Office and it was a successful visit with a very positive report. Our high adult-to-child ratio was highlighted, which they saw resulted in high quality interactions between parents and children.

Thank you to Christine, our supervisor, and the parents and children who attended on the day of the visit and showed what a dynamic and multicultural centre we have. Thank you to all the families at Playcentre for making our centre such a great and worthwhile part of our community.

We recently had an exciting visit from the Waitati Volunteer Fire Brigade with the community fire engine. It was especially exciting for Arlo and Ben Hay, who love dressing up as fire fighters regularly at playcentre. Thank you to the firefighters for visiting and bringing the fire engine.

Happy Birthday to Louis who turns five this month. Have a great time at school. We will miss you. Also farewell to Ben Colbaz who is moving to Auckland with his family. He has only been here for a short time but fitted in so well with the kids.

We welcome all young families to our Playcentre. We also have a fabulous new breastfeeding chair funded by HEHA. New mums should come and check it out!

We are open on Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.15am to 12.15pm. Warrington Playcentre, 027 227 7329; Mary-Jane Mirfin 482 1962

Woodcut Printing for Beginners

by Liz Abbott and Rudie Verhoef

Spend a day learning how to design, carve and print a simple woodcut with Liz Abbott (MFA) and Rudie Verhoef in the inspiring surroundings of Coast Road Retreat and the Art Shed at Seacliff.

We'll start the day designing and carving a simple woodblock in the Retreat. When you're ready, you'll be able to print your design on the printing press in the Art Shed. We'll provide you with a woodblock, a selection of printing papers and your own set of tools and bench-block to take

home at the end of the day. The workshop includes a delicious lunch and morning and afternoon tea!

When? Sunday November 28, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Where? Coast Road Retreat and Art Shed, 728 Coast Road Seacliff

Cost? \$150 per person, maximum 6 people. To register phone 027 781 1799 or email info@coastroadretreat.co.nz



BLUESKIN PLAYCENTRE

by Mikaela Wilson

The children at Blueskin Playcentre went to a Capital E play "On the Road to the Farm" recently. We enjoyed the puppets, songs, live music and drama. Some of the children from Waitati School joined us. Thank-you to the staff at Waitati for making this possible.

The play has become a topic of conversation at playcentre. The children are talking and playing with toy animals and making woolly sheep. They have chosen their favourite farm animals and made collages. We plan to take the children to a farm to see some animals soon.

Children have been finding bugs in the leaf litter and looking at crabs from the beach at their nature table.

As always there is messy play and sand pit fun and much negotiation to be had. The little people are often found in costume engaging in role play with each other or racing around the bike track filling up the bikes with some petrol. We mustn't forget the fire truck (upside down bath), hose and ladder found outside, as a fire had to be put out when one of our mothers set fire to her kitchen. Luckily we have so many heroes at playcentre who are firewise.

Selected
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19 North Road, Gardens.
Mon- Fri: 10 - 6.30 Sat: 10 - 5

This term we hope to have a visit from a real firetruck and look forward to a puppet show by Kaitrin McMullen.

We are also learning some new songs and are looking forward to our Playcentre production in December.

As we have a large group of four year olds this year we are focussing on getting them confident and happy before they start school. The children at playcentre benefit from getting to know each other before they start at Waitati School. Every day the children get to know each other better and look forward to having time to play with their friends during sessions. If you have a child starting school soon please feel free to pop in and get to know some of the children they may be at school with, you are very welcome.

We have just had our AGM and organised our budget for the coming year. We are looking forward to a busy time at Blueskin Playcentre as we begin fundraising for our move to Waitati School.

Our education team this term includes Ishtar (Course 3), Belynda (Course 2), Frances (Course 2), Mikaela (Course 1), Mette (Course 1), Alice (Course 1). Playcentre fosters both adult and child education and we are grateful to Ishtar who is volunteering her hours at a Course 3 level next year to help the playcentre with funding to move.

Thank you to all the families at Playcentre for all of their time and energy. You make the playcentre a lovely warm caring place to be. Congratulations to Sarah, Neill, Ben and Tat Carr on the birth of a beautiful baby boy called Angus (Gus Gus); love from all of us at Playcentre.



Salsa dancing

by Jan Littleton

We are learning to dance but our main objective is to have fun, and that's exactly what we do every week. Sometimes when the hall is double booked we get together somewhere else for a shared meal, a bit of wine and a bit of dancing.

We have just taken on a new teacher, Steve Paddock, who comes out from town. Steve is teaching us a new style of salsa, so if you were considering joining us, now would be a great time as we're all at the beginning again. Some of us started over a year ago with two left feet, but now miraculously have a right and a left.

Come along and try it out, it really is fun. Salsa dancing: Thursday nights, 7pm, Waitati Hall.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

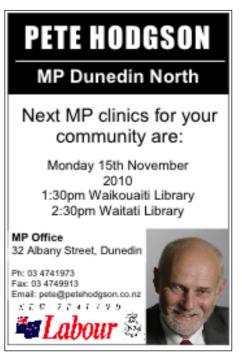
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OROKONUI ECOSANCTUARY

by Sue Hensley



The exciting news this month is that of the planned release of around six Haast tokoeka kiwi into the sanctuary. They are juveniles raised on an island situated in Lake Te Anau and over the next few years will hopefully form breeding pairs. Their young, once big enough to defend themselves from stoat attack, will be returned to their natural territory in the Haast area. It is a big responsibility and privilege to look after some of these highly endangered kiwi. There are only 300 birds left in the wild and although we may not get to see them, I for one am looking forward to listening for a kiwi call on a still, warm evening.

Equally exciting news is that after a blitz on rats, they are now at undetectable levels - let's hope it stays that way. It has been an enormous task for field staff over the last two months, fortunately this year helped by kind weather.

Some trees, particularly the pittosporums

kohuhu and lemonwood have flowered prolifically this year. The fragrance of the latter in the forest has been very noticeable. The flowers may be small but their nectar must taste really good to kaka. I watched one spend 20 minutes in the canopy using its sensitive brush tongue to gather nectar from the tiny yellow flowers while ignoring the nearby sugar water.

The Visitor Centre and Cafe are open every day from 9.30am to 4.30pm. A range of guided and self-guided walks is available. Our Facebook page and www.orokonui.org.nz will keep you up to date with events.

Jim James

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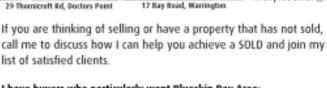


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Waitati School After-School Bus or Care Consultation by Antony Deaker

We've been thinking about how to ensure that everyone in the community has access to the local school and the barriers that exist for some families. We have come up with a couple of possibilities and would like some feedback before we explore either (or both) possibility further.

Would you use either of the services listed below?

Option 1:

A 'bus' into town at 3pm This bus would travel to a central point from which you can collect your children at a given time. There would be a cost, yet to be decided, perhaps around the \$3 mark. You would need to book a ride in advance but would not need to commit to five days a weeks, or even necessarily a regular day. The logistics of this will need to be fine tuned but at this stage we are looking at whether this service would be of assistance to you.

Name:

We currently have children at Waitati School: Y / N

We live in the area and are considering sending [] children to Waitati School.

Our children currently attend another school: Y / N

We would not use this service: [] (tick if appropriate)

We would use this service: weekly / fortnightly / daily / a couple of times a week (please circle)

How many children does this apply to?

Option 2:

An After-School Care Programme Based at Waitati School, this service would operate from 3-5pm. There would be a cost involved as per other after-school care programmes.

Name:

We currently have children at Waitati School: Y / N

We live in the area and are considering sending [] children to Waitati School.

Our children currently attend another school: Y / N

We would not use this service: [] (tick if appropriate)

We would use this service: weekly / fortnightly / daily / a couple of times a week (please circle)

How many children does this apply to?

We are also open to extending these possibilities to pupils at Warrington School if there is enough interest.

• Please complete and return this form to Waitati School to ensure that we get the best possible information to inform our decision.

BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

by Lyn Hastie

A record number of entries was received for September's highly successful spring flower show, organised by the Blueskin Garden Club. There were nearly 950 entries – 259 from children from Waitati, Warrington and Karitane Schools, and Blueskin and Warrington Playcentres.

Daffodils were the most popular flower with 262 entered in the various classes. Despite unseasonably cold weather in the lead-up to the show, there were 89 bulb entries, 111 cut flowers, 91 shrubs and 59 floral art entries. There was also a record 13 entries received in the men's section.

Trophy winners were:

- Child Andrea van Turnhout (most points)
- Child best exhibit Seth Hudson

- Family most points Rainbow Family
- Shrub Daphne Henderson
- Individual most points Daphne Henderson
- Best bloom Deborah Cracknell
- Best exhibit Ann Fitzgerald
- Floral Art Eunice Hoogsteden.

The Club thanks the community for taking part and attending the show in such good numbers.

Our next meeting is a garden visit to the Secret Garden on Porteous Road, Warrington on Thursday 11 November at 6.30pm. Please meet at the bus stop on Coast Road (bottom of Porteous Road). Afterwards there will be a short meeting and a shared supper at the home of one of our members (tba). All welcome.

WARRINGTON PLAYCENTRE

by Lisa Hall

Hard to believe another month has flown by and spring has well and truly settled in. We love frolicking outside on sunny mornings and have been planting sweet peas, carrots, nasturtiums and sunflowers. We have a bit of a competition on to see just how tall our sunflowers will grow!

The gardening bug has also caught up with parents, too, and we are making plans to develop the unused space behind our building. If you, or anyone you know is having a spring clean in the garden and have extra grasses, natives, plants, rocks (all shapes and sizes), willow branches (for weaving into huts and hides) or topsoil, we would love to take them off your hands! We plan to create a bit of a 'Wild Thing Zone' where our little Wild Things can have a few adventures and learn to search for mini-beasts. Please ring Lisa on 482 2511 or drop off at the Playcentre if you can help.

Continuing on our spring-ee theme, we had lots of fun creating items for the Flower Show and Rosa had super-success winning a certificate each for her sand saucer and bird mask. You should have seen her big grin! Well done!

Flynn and Jamie became two terrific 2-year olds at the very end of September, Happy birthday, boys!

We have been enjoying a farm theme recently

Situation Vacant Warrington Playcentre Supervisor for 2011 (with possible casual

work if needed this term) Course 4,
Tertiary ECE qualification, Course 3 with
appropriate experience may be considered.
Currrent work place First Aid certificate.
2 mornings per week. Session
times 9.15am to 12.15pm.
The session days are negotiable/flexible.
Please contact Mary-Jane Mirfin to have
a chat if you are interested by November
30th. 482 1962 or 027 5111120,mirferon@
xtra.co.nz or come into Warrington
Playcentre during session time.

and have been learning to use sign language to "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" – it's so much easier than you think! Jamie's friend Ella is helping us to learn.

A group of us set off for the King's and Queen's Performing Arts Centre recently where we thoroughly enjoyed the Capitol E performance of 'Down on the Farm'. This was a great blend of puppets, performers and music and was thoroughly enjoyed by both parents and children alike. We are busy planning our next event ... watch this space!

We have some fabulous new furniture at Playcentre. Come along and see/use our very flash breastfeeding chair and very chic red couch, beautifully styled with an awesome 'Ka Pai' cushion.

Our recent AGM was well attended, and we have an enthusiastic group of parents keen to get stuck into their new and existing roles. We would love to share our fun times with you. We are open Wednesday and Friday 9:15am – 12:15pm.

 Contact Warrington Playcentre on 021 227 7329, or Mary-Jane Mirfin on 482 1962.

Waitati School annual QUIZ NIGHT Friday 19 November, 7pm. Waitati Hall \$5 pp / \$20 team BYO, FUN, MYSTERY BOTTLE AUCTION

To register your team leave a message at the school 482 2888

A Bit Of A Do is not forgotten! However we are running out of time to have it this year. Watch this space for a date for our local knees-up early next year.

BLUESKIN BAYLEAF

Spring Secrets

by Rowan Holt

Spring is a time when nature reveals some of its secrets that have been kept quiet all winter. I love the sudden glamour of flowers adorning the garden and the fragrances revealed on still evenings.

Many spring flowers are edible and are useful plants to have around. Borage especially is a wonderful herb. It has a pretty blue flower which bees love and so therefore is great to encourage pollination of other things.

I grow my borage haphazardly around the property and close to all my fruit trees. I don't spray anywhere so therefore I'm not worried about chemical residue. If you do spray, you should be cautious about what you use. Always pick undamaged flowers for cooking.

Sugared Borage Flowers

Gently whisk one egg white in a dish. In a separate dish, have some white sugar.

Paint (with a small paint brush) the egg white onto the flower and then gently roll it in the sugar.

Leave to dry on plate covered with a clean paper towel. This will take at least an hour. Use to decorate all kinds of baking and desserts.

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If you felt like going a step further you could infuse your sugar first. Fill a container with sugar and pop in any of the following to release flavour: a vanilla pod, sprigs of lavender or thyme in a muslin bag, a cinnamon quill or pink rose petals.

Tempura Flowers

Try this as an alternative to croutons in salads.

Whisk one egg (or just the yolk left over from the sugared borage flowers), 1 cup flour and 1 cup ice cold water in a bowl. Be careful not to over mix.

Heat 1 cup vegetable oil in a wok or a small frying pan until very hot.

Dip the flowers in the batter and place directly into the hot pan. Cook until lightly golden and place on a plate lined with a clean paper towel.



BLUESKIN RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TRUST

by Scott Willis

Exciting news! Jeanette Fitzsimons, a great friend of Blueskin Bay and many time visitor, has accepted a new role as our BRCT patron. Jeanette's support gives profile to our ambition to run a resilient local energy system - and pioneer this nationally for New Zealand.

What is just as exciting in Jeanette's support is the link BRCT will establish with other nationally significant issues while maintaining our real Blueskin focus. BRCT has grown further with emeritus professor Gerry Carrington joining the trust and providing a 'bridge' with our close partner, the Otago Energy Research Centre and the University of Otago. Simon Sheppard has also joined as BRCT treasurer, with the trust now consisting of Lynnaire Johnston (chair), Antony Deaker (secretary), Simon Sheppard (treasurer), Ross Johnston, Tony Wilson and Gerry Carrington. Trustees and officers provide excellent governance for BRCT and are good people to talk to if you want to find out more about BRCT or just what it is that BRCT does and can do.

The word out is that the inaugural Blueskin Bay Working Breakfast meeting on the 15th of October was a huge success. Jenny Haydon is the co-ordinator and would be thrilled to hear of others working locally who would like to attend the next breakfast. Contact Jenny on 4821409 (or see advertisement).

I was blown away by the Blueskin 101010 event (the 10th of October). BRCT can support crucial actions like this but without the passion and ability of people like Carl Scott and Virginia

Steiner Carnival

Sunday 7 November 1 Fern Rd Maia 11-3pm.

Cafe lunches, crafts, stalls, childrens' activities, capoeira workshops, music, puppet, plays, parade. Toy and all the others who co-ordinated walkers, the community get-together, provided great music, or created great local food, computer revamps, gardened and planted, etc, nothing could be achieved. That so much was happening on one of the most atrocious spring days we've had is testament to the power and adaptability to our greater Blueskin community and certainly something to be celebrated! The launch of Blueskin Low Oil Commuting and renewed interest in the W3 Rideshare scheme are just two outcomes from the day.

Meanwhile, our Angel Volunteer programme is being developed by Laurence Hay for BRCT. It is also exciting to keep hearing and seeing the Weggie initiatives producing results both in building greater links between each community around Blueskin Bay and their respective youth at the three enviroschools, and in enriching our neighbourhoods and streets through the Waitati Open Orchard initiative.

More information on the Trust's vision, mission, objectives and activities is available on the Transition Waitati webpage:

 www.transitiontowns.org.nz/waitati or by contacting me on 03 482 2048.

CHILDCARE

Home-based childcare services for under 5 year olds Provided by an experienced care giver and mother Quality childcare part-time or full time Permanent or casual Monday-Friday Reasonable rates Government funding of 20 hours free WINZ subsidies are also available Two minutes in from SH 1 south of Waitati Phone Carol and have a chat on 482-2307

Waitati Hall Society Inc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 30th November 2010
7.30 pm at Waitati Hall
All Welcome

(This is the committee responsible for the operation of Waitati Hall and we are always on the lookout for committed talented people)

WAITATI TOY LIBRARY

by Frances Baeumer

Waitati Toy Library is open to everyone. There are six-month (\$15) and 12-month (\$30) memberships available that allow you to borrow toys at a cost of 50c to \$2 per toy.

We are continually working to provide the most up-to-date and high quality toys at our library.

Toy Library sessions are fortnightly at the Waitati Hall on Saturdays at 10:30–11:30am and the following Monday nights at 6:30–7:30pm. The sessions in November are 13th, 15th, 27th and 28th.

 Waitati Toy Library, Frances Baeumer, 482 1991



@ Moana Gow Pool Hawkesbury Village



Under 5 Swim Lessons

Hello from East Otago Plunket. We are happy to announce our ability to offer subsidised Swimsation swim lessons. The lessons are run in Term 4 (2010) and Term 1 (2011) of the school year. The dates for term 4 are: Friday mornings starting October 22 and end December 3. This gives a total of 7 swim lessons. These are the same lessons/instructors as at Moana Pool, Dunedin. Due to limited places available, preference will be given to East Otago Plunket area residents. Spaces are reserved when lessons are paid in full if there is a need for a wait list. The fees will be the following, 1-2yrs \$32 and 3-4yrs \$39. For further information & to register please contact Frances Baeumer at Ph 03 482 1991, bbaeumer@gmail.com.

Waikouaiti/Karitane Plunket volunteers

November 2010

For information on events refer to articles and advertisements in this issue

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	2	3 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	4 Salsa dancing 7 ₁
8 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	9 Waitati Film Society 8pm	10 Warrington School Junior Athletics Tae Kwon Do 6pm	11 Blueskin Garden Club 6.30pm Salsa dancing 7p
15 Waitati Toy Library 6.30pm Pete Hodgson MP clinic 2.30pm	16	17 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	18 Salsa dancing 7 ₁
22 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	23 Waitati Film Society 8pm	24 Tae Kwon Do 6pm	25 Salsa dancing 7 _I
29 Waitati Toy Library 6.30pm Tae Kwon Do 6pm	30 Waitati Hall Society AGM 7.30pm		

The community events diary is brought to you by the Village Potager, open daily corner Doctors Pt Rd & Foyle St, for local plants and preserves.



	Fri	Sat	Sun
эm	5 Warrington Surf Lifesaving Beach Bonfire & BBQ night 7.30pm	6	7 Seacliff Market 11am – 2pm Steiner Carnival 11am – 3pm
ı əm	12	13 Waitati Toy Library 10.30am	14
эт	19 Blueskin Bay Working Breakfast 8.30am. Waitati School Quiz Night	20 Friends of Warrington School Dance	21
эт	26	27 Waitati Toy Library 10.30am	28 Woodcut Printing for Beginners 10.30am

Waterway restorers post a plea to stakeholders

by Laura Blake and Peter Dowden

Donations of fencing materials such as wooden fence posts and iron stakes are being sought to protect a replanted Warrington stream bed.

The replanting on Church Creek near the Esplanade on '101010' Day was a great success with about 100 trees, shrubs and flaxes planted. The weather cooperated by giving the plants a heavy dumping of rain just as we finished.

The Warrington Wellbeing Waterways group ran a raffle last month. This will help to fund the cost of the fence needed to prevent stock entering the creek and eating the vegetation.

The upper part of the creek that surfaces in the farmland will need to be fenced and planted too.

Gardeners with native seedlings can bring them along to Warrington School (there are pots behind the office if any one needs them for their plants). Fence posts and stakes can be dropped off here too. The replanting team will let plants grow big and strong before planting them alongside the stream.

WANTED

An Auditor

for the annual inspection of the accounts of the Waitati Hall Society Inc.

If you have the qualifications, the time (not much required) and the inclination then please call Clare Brown on 482 2833



WAITATI ENERGY PROJECT

by Scott Willis

Big Wind

Our local community turbine project is a nationally significant project. How so? Well, we all understand, I hope, the benefits of securing greater control over our energy needs and use locally. Nationally, if we're successful and there were more communities like us, we'd eventually reach a critical mass transforming our centralised, thinkbig, top-down grid system into a decentralised, responsive network with much greater resilience. This would also limit the need for any large scale generation projects, reduce pressure on existing infrastructure (and thus make things work more effectively), and give us greater control over how we use our energy.

I've received messages of support from around the country thanks to the profile our project has been given by WEP partner, the Hikurangi Foundation (http://www.hikurangi.org.nz/), and I'm beginning to build up a network of national

advocates, who are already helping with bits of technical and commercial advice. The Hikurangi facilitation is already helping to sharpen the work we're doing on the financial case for our community turbine. Meanwhile, I'm working with Ros Day (planner)

and Janet Stephenson (Otago Energy Research Centre) on research that will facilitate community consultation, if the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority agrees on its merit. We should know before Christmas about consultation.

Small Wind

You can't have missed PowerHouse Wind's 'Thinair' single blade prototype being tested at Sabina and Hagen's place on Blueskin Road near the Eco-sanctuary. The exciting thing is that by mid November PHW expects to replace the prototype with a pre-production model essentially replacing a single construction model with a factory-ready model) and have running continuously, allowing

Sabina and Hagen to export and import electricity.

Trials using a Christchurch manufactured (and world leading!) inverter have already been successful in allowing power to be fed back to the grid. Bill Currie (PHW) explains the complex process: "The turbine has to start, be held by the controller at idle speed while the inverter wakes up, checks the grid is suitable to be connected to, (e.g. no lines people out there working) and synchronises with the AC voltage. The turbine controller then has to start feeding power to the inverter and telling it how much power to take to load the turbine correctly." There's some perfectioning still going on, and investment needed before Thinair turbines are rolling out the factory door, so please do contact PHW if you want to know more about investing in local innovative green tech for a sustainable future (http://www. powerhousewind.co.nz/).

Blueskin Power is more than just big wind.

The community turbine is the keystone at present, as success here will allow so much more to happen. But there is a further generation opportunity that may be complementary, parallel, or alternative, depending on how we manage the challenges about This is

a h e a d . This is integrating smaller household generation into our local grid, via (for example) more Thinair turbines and household Photovoltaic 1-2 kW arrays. Both these generation options can use the same Enasolar inverters and will ensure progressively greater local grid resilience with returns to individual households. And the whole system can then be made so much more 'intelligent' with Smart 'real-time' meters and intelligent home devices, giving power back to the people!

More regular updates are sent out via the WEP update email or you can contact me directly either at 03 4822048 / 0274888314 or waitatienergy@gmail.com



BLUESKIN 101010

Hikoi faces changeable weather and changing climate

by Carl Scott and Virginia Toy

On October 10, 2010 Blueskin Bay folk were one of 7,347 groups of people from 188 countries who took action on climate change in the 101010 Global Climate Work Party organised by 350.org.

'350' refers to the recommendation that atmospheric CO_2 concentration should be maintained at or below 350ppm. Before the Industrial Revolution, global CO_2 levels were around 275ppm. They have risen considerably since then, due to burning of fossil fuels, agricultural methane and deforestation.

Concentrations are currently at 392ppm and rising fast. Clearly, this is a very serious problem. Many are calling it the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced. It demands a serious response now, not 'sometime soon'.

So what did Blueskin Bay do about climate change on the 10th of October? Well, plenty of people got stuck in despite some pretty unpleasant weather. Climate change is after all, largely about changing weather patterns. Taking action on it doesn't wait for a sunny day!

What really stood out was that Blueskin people are adaptable and resilient when faced with adverse conditions. We also showed that we are ready, willing, and able to rise to the challenge of reducing our carbon footprints.

In Waitati the major feature of the day was "journeys without fossil fuels". Some hardy people met early to walk to Dunedin. The weather was pretty foul at that point, so they decided to adjourn for coffee, muffins, and political satire, and then join the later journey to the beach. A sensible plan!

Four cyclists travelled to town, with a stopover for tea, cookies and waffles in front of the fire at Volco Park on Mt Cargill Rd. Unicycling legend Paul Cardno had already left to get a head start. He was met at the top of Shortcut Road and accompanied to Dunedin by Paul Young of Sustainable Dunedin City, who had ridden out to meet the Waitati travellers.

In Dunedin, the cyclists joined Transition Valley 473 and Cycling Otago for a bike-repair workshop at Dunedin North Intermediate School. After an indoor local food picnic they cycled back to Waitati. Another keen cyclist made the journey



Scott Willis, Mandy Mayhem, Lucy Sheppard and Virginia Toy on the bike hikoi to Woodhaugh from Dunedin to Waitati later in the day.

Meanwhile sixteen walkers, a cyclist, and four dogs travelled to Doctors Point beach. They were to have been met by contingents from Warrington and Purakaunui for a picnic, but that didn't eventuate due to the weather. It was too cold for picnicking, so some '350' logos were drawn in the sand, and then they headed home again. The travellers were met by three other cyclists part way back. When they were nearly home, their petrol powered safety/support van ran out of fuel. The walkers and cyclists carried on unperturbed. A powerful symbolic situation if there ever was one.

Many travellers commented that the trips were easier than they thought they'd be. We can all make some of our journeys, surprisingly easily, without fossil fuels - even as far as Dunedin.

Meanwhile in Warrington, an Open Source computer software demsonstartion was held at Warrington School. Instead of the cancelled beach walk, lots of people turned up to plant approx 100 trees, shrubs and flaxes along the Church creek.

In Purakaunui 10 people met to do some gardening, but because of the rain, ended up in a shed building a portable chook house. Meanwhile other Purakaunui folk held a discussion about car-pooling.

A new Blueskin group was launched on the 10th. It is known as BLOC - the Blueskin Low Oil Commuting group. They aim to form a network of people who want to make some of their journeys to Dunedin without using fossil fuels.

Finally, everyone came together in the evening

for an awesome party with prizes and awards, local food, local beer, climate-change themed art, and photos from the day. Local musician Brad Martin performed a solo acoustic set, and then joined the ukulele ensemble Martha Hill and the Mineshafts, featuring Green Party co-leader Metiria Turei.

The day was supported very generously with help, financial assistance, and/or prizes from (in no particular order) Waitati, Warrington, and Purakanui Schools, Blueskin Bay Library, Blueskin General Store, Gallery on Blueskin, The Village Potager, Sutherland Nursery, Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Coast Road Market and Coast Road Retreat (both of Seacliff), Kelvin and Beverly Lyon Milk Vendors, Yoga Blueskin Bay, Blueskin Media, Taste Nature organic shop, Selected Works bookshop, Browns Avanti Plus Cycle Specialists, Mazagran Espresso Bar, McDuffs Brewery, Citibus, Blueskin Resilient Communities Trust, Sustainable Dunedin City, Event Traffic Management Otago, Environmental Education Trust Otago, and DCC Small Grants Scheme.

Thanks also to all of the individuals who participated on the day. We proved we can feed ourselves superbly - even at a comparatively lean time of the year - without needing food that's been transported thousands of kilometres. We proved

we can entertain ourselves in fine style, without spending a fortune or travelling. We proved we have lots of great local businesses and just generally good people living out here in the Bay, who are all taking climate change seriously.

Now the important thing is to keep getting to work on lowering our CO₂ emissions in the months and years to come. If we get serious about climate change now, it might not be too late to save our beautiful little planet.

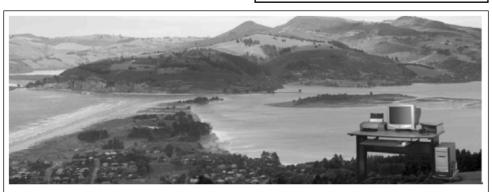
- BLOC Blueskin Low Oil Commuting: email Virginia at bloc@geology.co.nz.
- More on the science of '350': www.350.org/ en/about/science
- More photos: http://www.transitiontowns.org. nz/node/2728.



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WAITATI OPEN ORCHARDS

by Jason Ross

Waitati Open Orchards is a group of keen folk on a mission to plant fruit trees in public spaces around Waitati for all to enjoy. Email waitatiopenorchard@gmail to join our mailing list.

November is a good time for fruit tree planters to enjoy watching their trees grow, and get on with other things like vegetable planting for winter crops!

But there are a few things to be doing in your orchard. Now is a good time to thin the clusters of fruit that have set on your trees down to one or two fruits each. How many to leave depends on a few factors. For young trees (until they have a good strong trunk and branches) pinch off all their fruit so they concentrate on growing vigorously. On established trees thinning fruit improves the size, colour and quality of your fruit. It can help reduce pest and diseases such as caterpillar damage and black spot. Thin the fruit to an extent that when mature the branch can handle the weight and each fruit has enough space to grow to prize-winning proportions.

Summer pruning to encourage fruiting and discourage vigorous growth on established trees and shrubs is done in January, but we can preempt this and lessen our work by pinching off with fingernails or pruning shoots we can see are of no use. These are shoots going inwards or crossing and ruining the form of the tree, or vigorous shoots coming from branches where there is no room for more branches and where we want fruit spurs. In both cases pinch or prune back leaving a 2cm stub to form a fruit spur (if there is room), otherwise

take it right out. On gooseberries, pinching or pruning now will save a bush becoming a tangle and branches drooping to the ground, taking root and forming an impenetrable thicket (to humans, birds will still get the fruit!).

Mulch under growing strawberry fruits to keep them off the ground with old pine needles or straw (not hay).

In October we planted a few more trees and checked over our winter plantings: mulch, ties, pinched-off flowers, and we had a cracker picnic at our favourite patch. In November we are working on our logo, tree labels and design and construction of an improved juice extractor for use at the WEGgie autumn harvest festivals. Has anyone ideas / experience for either a hydraulic press or a centrifuge?

Jason Ross, 4822625. Waitatiopenorchard@gmail.com

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WAITATI SCHOOL

by Antony Deaker

In this column, the school has a new roof and new classroom furniture, BoT to get intensive training, community consulted after dinner, families checking out school welcomed, sporting success, bonfire proceeds go to class resources, Quiz Night coming soon, art exhibition and film project.

Making the decision about which school best meets the needs of your child is a really important one. It needs to feel right. Our principal, Heidi, is open to people coming and getting a feel for the place. This might take one visit or it might take a few. The more comfortable your child and family are with the school, the smoother the transition will be. Contact Heidi by phone (482 2888) or email (principal@waitati.school.nz) to make a time to visit.

By the time this is published we will have had another community pot-luck dinner, this time followed by a discussion on values and vision for the school. If you weren't able to make that event please use the school website or get in touch with any of the BoT or staff to share your ideas. We also hope you will take time to respond to our survey about after-school care or bus service, in this publication or on our website.

We now have a new roof over the main block at school, funky new classroom furniture, painters booked for the summer break to repaint the exterior and we expect to have completed many alterations to the interior of our classrooms by the time term one, 2011 starts.

The BoT has been glad to book a weekend of intensive governance and strategic planning workshops for later this month. We see this as an invaluable opportunity to strengthening the school's performance. The BoT is excited about entering a potential relationship with Ngai Tahu to run a school banking programme for the pupils. We are also in talks with the Blueskin Playcentre and Blueskin Resilient Communities Trust about the relocation of both of those organisations into the school.

The PTA are using proceeds from the Bonfire Night to leverage further funding to purchase new resources, toys and equipment for the classrooms. The pupils have made their wishes clear and can look forward to a few early Christmas presents.



Further funding for the BMX track has been confirmed and work is likely to start soon on its installation. The PTA have announced 19 November as the date for the next Quiz Night, this was lots of fun last year when Waitati generously let a team from Warrington win.

Our pupils have been busy on numerous fronts. The seniors are well into their film-making project having met with a producer and started devising stories. The whole school has held an exhibition of pupils' work at Gallery on Blueskin which looked fantastic. Many thanks to the Gallery for its support with this! The Futsal, Rippa and cricket teams all opened their seasons with wins. And, finally, a special note of thanks to Tuihana and Jacob who played very well for North East Valley School in the first week of cricket.





by school staff and parents Warrington School has featured in the Enviro Schools short movie along with other schools in Dunedin.

Warrington has become an international case study for The Free Technology Academy (FTA) which is funded by the European Commission. They are documenting our educational use of Free Software and Open Standards.

Blueskin Bay FM continues to beam live 24/7 out across the bay. There is some emerging talent evident in the shows that are being broadcast and senior pupils are beginning to take a more active involvement in the managing of the station, creation of jingles and sound engineering.

There has been a keen interest by senior pupils in creating trolleys/go-carts. They are looking for donations of bolts, nuts, springs, cushions, washers, axles, pipes, wood, pedals, bike handle bars. tools, small motors, wheels, leather straps, prams.

- Thursday 4 November: BOT Meeting
- Mon 8 Wed 10 November: ERO visit
- Wednesday 10 November: Junior Athletics
- Friday 12 November: Junior Athletics Postponement
- Saturday 20 November: Friends of Warrington School dance
- Thursday 2 December: BOT Meeting
- · Wednesday 15 December: End of year assembly 1.30pm
- Thursday 16 December: End of Term 4

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WAITATI EDIBLE **GARDENERS**

Blueskin bay schools edible garden project

by Jenny Haydon

Spring plantings?

Life between south-westerly fronts - some wet wild days amongst the weeds. Out with them and plant our seeds!

Warrington School

At Warrington School, the whole senior room, Mr Parker and I blitzed their group garden beds. Various seedlings and seeds of beans, peas, carrots, beetroots, parsnips and radishes were planted. The middle room made paper pots and planted lots of runner beans to go into their skinny bed on the end of the school. Vertical gardening, it will be a challenge! The junior room have lots happening in their plot, and more planned for next week.

Waitati School

Thanks to those wonderful folks that turned up to tame the Waitati School gardens. Significant areas were reclaimed, and the children in Room 1 planted seeds of peas, carrots, beetroot, parsnips and radishes in the beds we cleared.

Friday school lunch was prepared with food from the gardens and Sue is keen to continue with this through the year.

Room 3 children planted runner beans, radishes, carrots and parsnips. The children are learning about soils, plants and germination, so the garden is an important part of their science curriculum.

We need some more help please so that we can plant our potatoes, yams, zucchinis and pumpkins. We're holding a working bee on 30 October from 1.30-3pm at the school. Rain day: Sunday 31st.

If you have a wheelbarrow or favourite hand tools or a weed-eater, they would be very handy.

Anyone is welcome: past parents, past pupils, new residents, old residents.



WILD BLUESKIN

Welcome back Godwits

by Rosemary Penwarden and Derek Onley The godwits are back. They will have flown eight days non-stop for 11,000 km at an average speed of 56km/h to get back to their summer home at Blueskin Bay. Only 40% of the youngest, this year's chicks, will have made it across the Pacific.

In Europe, the oldest recorded bar-tailed godwit is 34 years old. We don't know if ours live that long, but there will be some who have been doing the 29,000 km round trip to Blueskin Bay for up to 20 years – that is, 522,000 km so far.

Last winter 140 birds stayed in the Bay; mainly those that were born in Alaska last year. They take the first year off to get better at feeding and growing for the following year. A few older birds also stay over; if their weight is too low when it comes time to leave they do not attempt the journey – perhaps these are older birds, or ones that have had a hard summer.

A big problem godwits face is disturbance – by dogs, humans, vehicles – or in some places kite surfers. If their eating and sleeping patterns get disturbed they will not put on the weight and gain the stamina needed for the colossal journey back to their Alaskan breeding grounds.

We counted the 140 wintering godwits on the end of Warrington Spit on 14 September. Ten days later 120 were counted in Otago harbour – the same number that had been there all winter. But on 26 September we saw 350 feeding at the end of Rabbit Island. Some had returned. And then back at Warrington Spit on 5 October we counted 630 – a surprisingly high number so early in the season. The next day they were down to 557 – perhaps a few had continued their journey to Southland or over to Aramoana or Hoopers Inlet. Amongst them there were two juveniles, unusually early, as

juveniles tend to be the last to leave Alaska.

Over those two days we were able to identify a few individuals from their colour bands. Four were godwits that were banded here at Warrington Spit on 28 Feb 2006; still returning four years later. They were adults in 2006 so that makes them at least 6 years old. We also saw a bird that was banded as a juvenile at Awarua Bay in Southland on 26 October 2004, making it just over 6 years old. We don't know if this was just a visitor, but will be watching out to see if it is still here next time we count them - perhaps Blueskin Bay is just a stop off point. Another of the godwits has an orange flag; it was banded in southeast Australia, maybe on a detour on its way back from Alaska. This bird is likely to be the same one we have seen here for the past six or seven years. We have not yet seen BWRY - the godwit that we reported seeing last autumn in Karitane before nipping across to the Yellow Sea nine days later. He may be back at his favourite spot at Aramoana.

It would be great to think our Blueskin Bay godwits get the best possible opportunity to succeed. Their schedule is tight and they need to be strong, well fed and rested before their return journey to the far north. For a few hours over high tide they roost, sleep and rest at the end of Warrington Spit. We really need to ensure that they are not disturbed. Watch where you walk near the spit, so as not to scare them off. And for heaven's sake, keep dogs on a lead and under control. The godwits have come so far, surely the least we can do is let them have a decent rest.

If anyone is interested in coming to see the godwits at high tide through a telescope, give Derek a ring on 482 2831.

DUNEDIN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

by Ngaire Duke

Dunedin Citizens Advice Bureau answers nearly 11,000 calls each year from members of the public in the greater Dunedin area, including Waitati, Waikouaiti and Middlemarch, as well as South Otago.

We also have a consumer clinic on Tuesdays and Thursdays, an advocacy service on Monday

afternoon and a Justice of the Peace clinic on Saturday morning. Our JP is also usually available on weekdays.

 Dunedin Citizens Advice Bureau: www.cab.org. nz T: 471 6166 or 0800 367 222; 301 Moray Place. Dunedin

WARRINGTON SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

by Dawn Hope

It's that time of year again and we are pleased to advise that Warrington Beach will have life guards patrolling each weekend commencing Sunday 31 October. We have got a busy and exciting time ahead of us and we look forward to seeing you all on the beach over the coming weeks.

Open Day - Sunday 31 October from 12 noon

Come along and sign up for this season. Meet up with old friends, enjoy a BBQ, have fun participating in beach activities and sandcastle competitions – even take a ride on an IRB (weather dependent of course!) Tell all your friends – we look forward to seeing you there. If you miss Open Day come along any Sunday from 11.30am – alternatively contact Mark Familton on 482 2712 or Dawn Hope on 482 2787.

Following the Open Day, you can watch the annual Firefighters versus Surf Life Guards sporting match; this year they are playing softball, starting at 2pm.

Beach Bonfire & BBQ Night – Friday 5 November 7.30pm til late

Come along to our community Beach Bonfire and BBQ fundraiser. You are welcome to bring your own fireworks and let them off in a controlled environment (we will have first aid in attendance). There will be a sausage sizzle, hot drinks and supper items for sale. Everyone is welcome.

U19 Patrol Teams Competition – Sunday November 7 – 9am at Warrington Beach

Warrington SLSC will be hosting the Patrol Teams competition this season. Teams of six life guards will pit their skills against other clubs to compete for a trophy and a chance to travel to compete against other regions.

Venue available for hire

Our club rooms are available to hire for functions. Please contact Hannah Randall on 482-1141 for more details and to check availability.

Congratulations to WSLSC members Immi and Eilis Doyle and Jack Turner who travelled to Wellington to compete in the 2010 State New Zealand Pool champs. Immi and partner Carla Laughton (St Clair SLSC) won gold in the Open Womens Line Throw while sister Eilis won gold in the Under 13 Mixed 4x50m Obstacle Race. Jack came 3rd in the 200m LC Freestyle course with

obstacles, 4th in the 4×50m relay event and 4th in the 4x50m obstacle relay event.







Top, Immy & Carla getting gold medal, centre and bottom, Eilis & team getting gold medal

TAE KWON DO

At Warrington Hall Monday and Wednesday 6 – 7.30pm. Contact Paul Foley Home 478 1113

WAITATI FILM SOCIETY

by Leonie Rousselot

Waitati Film Society half-year memberships are now available at \$35. See drama, comedy, history or just plain entertainment in a warm, pleasant environment with convivial company. Membership allows you free entry to Film Society screenings as well as discounts at Film Festivals and some Dunedin cinemas. For



more information, ring Leonie 482 2508 or look at our website: www.nzfilmsociety.org.nz/waitati.htm

Tuesday Nov 9

Asta Nielsen: The Abyss & The Ballet Dancer Denmark 1910-11

Actress Asta Nielsen is arguably the earliest (silent) movie star and was very famous in Europe, but not USA, from 1910 through into the early 20's

- ABYSS: Camille is an actress and ballerina with a hopelessly complicated love life. She loves a playwright but it is a painter who really loves her.
- THE BALLET DANCER: Full of the comings and goings of occasional lovers, meetings and mix-ups. Within such a tangle of loving and fussing, there is a tragic final ending for one of the characters and an illuminating and even happy outcome for another

Tuesday Nov 23 SEX AND LUCIA Spain 2001

Poor Lorenzo has writers' block and waitress/ girlfriend Lucia cannot break his despair. But his depression, subsequent revelation of a child from a previous liaison as well as other more recent interwoven relationships, provide him with subject matter for his latest novel. 128 min

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Wednesday: 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Thursday: 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
Friday: 10.00 am - 12.00 pm
2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Saturday:

FREE* CLASSIFIEDS

YOUR AD HERE editors@blueskin.co.nz for classified ads in this column.

*Classified ads are "free" but we would appreciate a koha/donation of \$0.50-\$1.00 per line of text: at Blueskin Bay Library, by cheque to Blueskin Media, PO Box 154 Warrington, or to account Blueskin News 03 1726 0010157 00. Blueskin Media is a not-for-profit, 100% volunteer-run community publisher.

NOTE TO ADVERTISERS: Ads run here for three months. We are happy to repeat them if requested by advertisers. Some ads are marked with the last month of publication in [square brackets].

WAITATI HALL Large modern kitchen facility. Meeting room, an attractive facility for a variety of functions. For more information or to hire this venue phone Blueskin Bay Library 482 2444

WARRINGTON HALL: For all bookings: please phone Rowena Park 482 2667

MILK VENDOR: Kelvin Lyon for all your milk, cream, flavoured milk, custard and fruit juice. Phone 482 2698

LOCAL SHOP: Blueskin General Store, State Hwy 1, Waitati: 7.30am-8.30pm Mon-Sat; 9am-8pm Sun. Tel 482 2741

PHOTOCOPYING for only 8 cents: St Barnabas Church now has a photocopier and we are offering a photocopy service for 8 cents a page. Contact Louise at the Blueskin Bay Library on 482 2444 if would like to take advantage of this service.

ZHINENG QIGONG classes: Learn how your mind affects Qi and in turn how your Qi affects your health. Weekly class, Waitati Hall 6pm, \$5 donation (Jay). Also classes in town, Gardens health centre, Mon 6.30 (Jay), Wed 5.30 (Ans). For a full list of teachers and classes go to: Dunedingigong.webs.com [11]

ART SHED Local landscapes freshly drawn and painted by Liz Abbott. Also last minute original gifts including cards, prints, patches and other unique handprinted souvenirs. Ideal for posting. Gift vouchers available. Liz's Art Shed is open on the first Sunday of the month from 11am-2pm (during the Coast Road Market) or by appointment ph 027 6995390. 728 Coast road, Seacliff

COAST ROAD MARKET is held on the first Sunday of every month from 11am-2pm, rain or shine, in the grounds of Coast Road Retreat, alongside the Art Shed, at 728 Coast Road, Seacliff. Experience a unique blend of food, coffee, art, craft, clothes, local produce, plants, preserves, bric a brac, books, toys and more!! It's a free market so if you would like to have a stall, come along before 11am to set up. Or you can phone first on 465 7990 with any queries. **BUILDER:** Mark Horsefield available for all building work - 4822515 or 021 053 7701. [12] **HOUSE MINDER** available February-April 2011.

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FREE GLASS: We have just installed some double glazing in our house and have window glass to give away, a variety of sizes. Contact: 482 1669 [02]



Ernest Shackleton's grave at Grytviken, South Georgia.