

## Celebration marks opening of Winton School Community Pump Track

On Friday 8 May, the highly anticipated Winton School Community Pump Track officially opened, instantly transforming Lowe Field into a vibrant hub for the town's youth.

Located directly opposite the school's main entrance, the impressive new facility is already a massive hit with local riders.

The special celebration brought the community together, including all of Winton School and St Thomas School. The ceremony began with a blessing from Matua Sammy, followed by a waiata and haka from the Winton School Kapa Haka group. Trish Lowe, daughter of Gordon Lowe, then had the honour of cutting the ribbon to declare the track officially open.

This project was made possible in large part by a profoundly generous donation from Gordon Lowe, an ex-pupil (in the 1940s) and school benefactor. Lowe Field was named in his honour, and this new asset ensures his legacy will continue to support and inspire Winton's younger generations for decades to come. His foundational gift, along with financial support from a Lotteries grant, Active Southland, Winton Rotary and Winton Motorcycles, brought the vision to life.



Photos by Nicole McLiskey



The opening day was packed with community support and excitement. Brent Scammell Honda generously gave away a bike, while Numnuts Audio provided the soundtrack for the day and Nana Rails Coffee kept the crowd caffeinated. The team from Ryal Bush, who built the track, were also on hand to keep everyone fed with a free sausage sizzle. Once the formalities were over, class representatives took to the track for the inaugural laps. The facility features distinct lanes catering to everyone from toddlers on balance bikes to expert riders.

During the opening, freestyle mountain bikers Charlie Frantz and Levi Goodall gave a thrilling demonstration, with Levi calling the facility a serious contender for the best track in the South Island.

The track is built for every young person in Winton. Thanks to Active Southland's Tū Manawa Fund and Stihl Shop Winton, the school now has 11 new bikes and helmets on hand, ensuring that children without their own wheels don't miss out during lunch breaks.

As a permanent community asset, the Winton School Community Pump Track is open to the public offering Winton's youth a safe, healthy, and exciting place to get outdoors, active, and connected.

**Steve Wadsworth**  
Winton School Principal

## Local student and young biologist heads to World Biology competition



Local Year 13 student Alex Brinkworth has achieved something extraordinary — becoming the first student from both Central Southland College and Southland to be selected to represent New Zealand at the International Biology Olympiad (IBO). Alex is one of only four students nationwide

chosen for the New Zealand team, which will travel to Lithuania in July 2026 to compete against students from around 80 countries in one of the world's premier secondary school science competitions.

Over the past year he has worked really hard to develop his knowledge and skills through university-level study, online tutorials, examinations and a national training selection camp at the University of Otago. His achievement reflects not only exceptional academic ability, but also dedication, perseverance and a genuine passion for science.

Earlier this year, Alex also attended the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum, an experience that helped further inspire his interest in science, maths, engineering and technology, and which he would highly encourage senior students to apply for. He has been able to take up these opportunities with the generous support of Winton Rotary, Winton Lions and Central Southland College.

Now Alex is fundraising again, as the opportunity to represent New Zealand internationally comes with significant costs. Each student needs to raise around \$9,000 to cover travel, registration and team expenses. Alex and his family are running a quiz at the Winton Bridge Club on Friday 12th June, have set up a Givealittle page and are contacting local organisations and businesses to see if they would be keen to help Alex with this once in a lifetime opportunity. If you are keen to support Alex, you can come along to the quiz night, drop off a raffle prize to the CSC office, or head to the Givealittle page - [The Road to the International Biology Olympiad 2026 - Alex Brinkworth - Givealittle](#).

Any support would be greatly appreciated.

**QUIZ Night**  
Fundraiser

To help Alex represent New Zealand at the International Biology Olympiad in Lithuania

**FRIDAY 12 JUNE**  
7:00pm – 9:30pm  
(doors open at 6.30 pm)

**Winton Bridge Club - 145 Park Street**

\$10 per person - Teams of four  
Raffles - Cash bar - Supper

Limit of 30 tables  
Register your team with Keith to guarantee a place - [keithb@csc.school.nz](mailto:keithb@csc.school.nz)

Can't come, but keen to help Alex - donate to his Givealittle page here

## Mystery handbags helping Southlanders in need

For 15 years, Caninspire Charitable Trust has been bringing comfort and connection through its CanBead Creative Therapy Workshops - providing free creative therapy to people experiencing illness, trauma and loss, one bead at a time. The workshops are delivered through organisations including the Cancer Society, Alzheimer's Society, Hospice, Mental Health Support and many more across Southland and five other regions.

The Trust's major Southland fundraiser, Handbags & Gladrags, will be held on June 20 at 2pm at Cafe at the Pod. The event features high tea, raffles and a mystery handbag auction, with bidders only discovering what's inside once they've won. Tickets are \$25, so gather your friends for a fun afternoon supporting a great cause. Contact Colleen Simpson for tickets 027 632 8217.

A huge thank you goes to the generous Winton businesses supporting the event with raffle prizes and handbag goodies: Evolve Hair Design, Mitre 10 Winton, New World Winton, Impress Winton, Blatch, With Grace, Winton Pharmacy and Country Jewel.

## Limehills Netball Club set to celebrate 100 years

A century of sport, friendship, community spirit and proud rural tradition will be celebrated this July as the Limehills Netball Club marks its 100th anniversary. Founded in 1926 as the Limehills Basketball Club, the club has grown from humble beginnings into one of Southland's long-standing sporting communities, with generations of local women and girls pulling on the navy and white colours.

The club's first meeting was held on 19 July 1926, where 14 ladies gathered to form the new club. Miss Mullay was elected President after explaining the rules of the game, and the annual subscription was fixed at two shillings and sixpence, a fee that remained unchanged until 1947. Practices began within the week, and friendly matches were soon played against Winton. Early uniforms reflected the era - navy blue gym dresses, white blouses and white belts.

In 1929, a full-sized court was laid at Limehills with assistance from the local tennis club. The game itself evolved over the decades. In 1959, rules changed from nine-a-side basketball to the modern seven-a-side netball format played today. In 1966, club netball became centralised to Winton's John Street Courts, where many Limehills teams have competed ever since. In 1984 the club relocated from the old Domain courts near the current war memorial to the school courts, continuing the strong connection between the club and the local community.

Current committee members have enjoyed revisiting the club's rich history while preparing for the centenary celebrations. "The work completed by the 80th Jubilee Committee, especially Shellee Madden, has been incredibly valuable in helping preserve our history." The club is now inviting past and present players, families and supporters to help add even more memories to the official centenary booklet. "We know there are still many special photos and stories tucked away in family albums. We'd love people to search through their collections and share anything they may have." Photos, memories and stories can be emailed to [limehillsnetball@gmail.com](mailto:limehillsnetball@gmail.com).

Centenary celebrations will take place over the weekend of 24–25 July 2026, including coaching sessions and photos for players at the John Street Courts on Friday, followed by a celebratory evening on Saturday featuring a meal, speaker, cake, live band and supper.

Registrations and further information can be found via the Limehills Netball Club website ([www.sporty.co.nz/limehillsnetball](http://www.sporty.co.nz/limehillsnetball)) or the club's Facebook page.



**1926-2026**

# LIMEHILLS NETBALL CLUB

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating 100 years of our club!

**Weekend Programme:**

- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July** - Players Coaching and Photos at John Street courts.
- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July** - Meal, Speaker, Cake, Band and Supper

Links to register can be found via the *Limehills Netball Club* Facebook page or online at: [www.sporty.co.nz/limehillsnetball](http://www.sporty.co.nz/limehillsnetball)  
Printable forms are also available online.

**ENQUIRIES TO:**  
[limehillsnetball@gmail.com](mailto:limehillsnetball@gmail.com)

**Our Winton office**

*has moved!*

You'll find us at  
**190 Great North Rd**

**PRLaw** <sup>PR</sup>



## Ōreti Community Board update: Projects and progress

There have been some wonderful highlights across the Ōreti Ward over the past month, showcasing the strength of our communities and the importance of local projects that bring people together.

The opening of the Winton Pump Track at Winton Primary School was a standout. It is a fantastic community asset that will be enjoyed by children, families, and riders of all ages for years to come. Projects like this do not happen without strong community support, collaboration, and a shared vision, and it was wonderful to see so many people involved in bringing it to life.

It is also exciting to see progress continuing on the Pump and BMX track project in Wallacetown. This was funded with Better off Funding there will be an opening in the July school holidays.

I had the pleasure of attending the opening of the Dipton Bridge. It was a wonderful community occasion and a reminder of how important local infrastructure is to our rural communities.

Another positive development for Winton is the progress of the township CCTV project, with significant work now completed. CCTV and monitoring/recording equipment has been installed at the Police Station, while electrical upgrades to the power supply at the base of the Meldrum Street clock have also been completed, allowing CCTV installation to progress there. Other cameras have also been installed. It is encouraging to see local businesses and organisations working collaboratively with Council and Police to support the wider project. New Zealand Police and the wider project team continue to work steadily through the installation programme. Once completed, the network will further strengthen community safety, support crime prevention, and assist Police.

The continued work taking place at Kōwhai Reach has been another highlight. Volunteers, QEII, catchment groups, local landowners, and Limehills School students have worked together, planting approximately 1500 eco-sourced native plants. Limehills School has cared for this area for over 30 years. Seeing young people actively involved in restoring and caring for such a special ecological area is incredible and highlights the power of community-led environmental projects. This planting was supported by a grant from Thriving Southland \$23,500, and SDC supported the plant protectors.

I recently attended Forest Kindy at Ivy Russell Reserve. It was wonderful to see our tamariki learning stewardship, connection to nature, and care for this special place.

The Ōreti Community Board is progressing discussions around our community halls; important social hubs within our smaller communities. We are having conversations with local community groups regarding the future direction and ongoing use of some halls. Community input into these discussions is vital.

The Board is looking forward to holding its June Board meeting in Wallacetown. We encourage residents to come along, meet Board members, and hear more about what is happening across the district. You are always welcome to attend and speak at a board meeting.

Our first community drop-in session is being held at the Winton Library, on Friday 12th June 10am-11am, providing an informal opportunity for residents to connect with Board members, discuss local issues, and share ideas for their communities. The board look forward to seeing you there.

As always, thank you to everyone who continues to volunteer, contribute, and support our communities.

**Margie Ruddenklau**  
**Chair – Ōreti Community Board**



*Planting at Kōwhai Reach*



*Forest Kindy at Ivy Russell Reserve*

## Winton Police urge vigilance amid rise in crime



Traditionally, the onset of winter marks one of the busiest periods for policing in Central Southland, and May has proven no exception this year. Police have observed a noticeable increase in offending in Winton and the surrounding areas, particularly in relation to fuel theft. In addition, there have been reports of vehicles stolen and burglaries targeting local homes.

Offenders are operating at all hours and are deliberately targeting locations where larger quantities of fuel are stored, including truck yards, commercial premises, and rural properties.

Police emphasise that effective security measures remain the most reliable deterrent. Simple steps such as installing sturdy locks, maintaining good lighting, and using surveillance cameras can make a significant difference. Offenders tend to target properties that present the least resistance; if a location appears too difficult or the risk of being detected is high, they are more likely to move on.

There is also an emerging trend of drug-related offending. Individuals with substance dependencies are often under financial pressure to repay debts to suppliers, some of whom have gang connections. This can lead to repeated, opportunistic offending as they seek quick financial gain, including the illicit sale of stolen fuel.

Police are also urging residents to take a more cautious approach to everyday security. Leaving keys or valuables in vehicles, or gates unsecured, creates easy opportunities for offenders. While many incidents involve local offenders, there has also been an increase in individuals from outside the area frequenting Winton, either visiting associates or residing temporarily.

Recent reports on social media indicate that electric fence reels are beginning to be targeted. These items typically become increasingly sought-after during winter months. Police strongly encourage members of the public to report all incidents directly, rather than relying solely on community posts.

Individual reports may form part of a broader pattern of offending and assist in building investigations.

At the end of last winter, Police recovered several stolen reels and standards but were unable to identify their rightful owners. To reduce the risk of theft, farmers are advised to avoid leaving equipment near roadside fences, as offenders are less likely to enter paddocks to access property.

Historically, it is estimated that only around 40 percent of rural crime is reported. This leaves a significant proportion of offending unaddressed, allowing offenders to continue targeting others in the community.

Reporting an incident takes only a few minutes - dial 111 for emergencies or 105 for non-urgent matters or submit a report online. Prompt reporting significantly increases the likelihood of successful outcomes.

Despite the recent increase in offending, there have also been positive results. Police have made several arrests in recent weeks, with offenders being held accountable through the court process.

The community also came through the recent Roar and duck shooting seasons without major incident. However, a small number of firearms have been seized due to poor storage and transport practices, highlighting the ongoing importance of responsible firearm ownership.

Drivers are also reminded that winter conditions are approaching. While severe black ice incidents have not yet occurred, they are expected soon. Motorists are urged to adjust their speed and drive to the conditions.

With winter sports now underway, Police have received complaints from residents near sporting venues regarding illegal and inconsiderate parking, including blocked driveways. Officers will be monitoring these areas over the coming weeks and offering guidance where needed.

Police encourage everyone to remain alert and report anything suspicious. If something does not seem right, trust your instincts and contact Police.

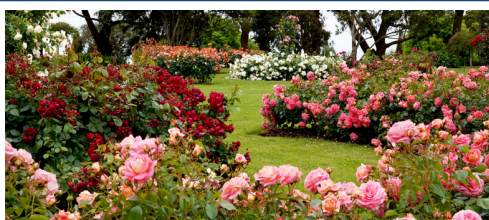
**Senior Sergeant Peter Graham**  
**Response Manager, Western Southland**

# What's on in Winton



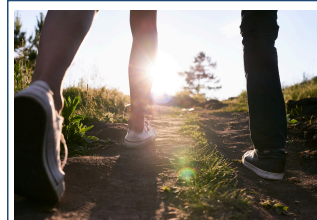
## Community Pool Quiz Nights

Three quiz nights are being held to raise money for the Central Southland Community Pool. They will be held at the Middle Pub, on 17 June, 24 June and 1 July, each with a 7pm start.



## Winton Garden Club

The next Winton Garden Club meeting is on Tuesday 9 June at 7.30pm in the Anglican Church Hall on Meldrum St. As we approach our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will be sharing memories of the last 60 years of Winton Garden Club. All welcome. Enquiries to Colleen Simpson 027 632 8217.



## Winton walk group

We walk every second Thursday. The bus leaves at 9.30am from the John Street Recreation Area. The walks for June are on

- 11 June
- 25 June

For more information

please ring:

Diane Andrews  
0211248895 or  
Jenene Irwin  
0211855212



## Ōreti Community Board

The Ōreti Community Board will meet in the Wallacetown Community Centre, 57 Dunlop Street, Wallacetown on Monday 15 June, at 5.30pm. All welcome.



## Indoor bowls

- Tuesdays 7.30 – 9pm
- Winton Memorial Hall
- An ideal winter sport for all ages!

Come along, meet new people and have a go. For more info: ph/text Kelvin 0274 341 714 or Mary 027 669 1431 or just turn up on the night! All welcome.

*Mid Oreti Catchment Group*

### Mini Forest Movement Nursery Open Evenings

First Tuesday of every month  
4-6pm - AB Lime Nursery  
at the end of Bend Road, Winton

All welcome - Come and help grow native plants for your catchment & community

Any questions call Cam Nelson 027 823 5672  
or Sarah Thorne 027 588 5200

Stay for as little or long as you like!

## Winton Community Monthly Market

10.00am - 1.00pm  
Saturday  
20 June 2026  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Meldrum Street, Winton

Come along and get your fresh supplies of vegetables, baking and liquorice. Enjoy morning tea or lunch at the café.

Enquiries: Mary 236 8821  
Follow us on our Facebook page  
WINTON COMMUNITY MONTHLY MARKET

## Central Southland Senior Citizens

The Senior Citizens invite members and non-members to the following activities held at 5 John Street, Winton:

- **Euchre:** every Tuesday starting at 1.30pm
- **Housie:** every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month starting at 1.30pm
- **Concerts/Guest Speakers** – every second month on the 1st Wednesday of the month

Enquiries to Val Skinner on 03 236 7643 or 027 920 3259 or Noelene Lightfoot on 027 603 0595

Central Southland  
Vintage Machinery Club

## Central Southland Vintage Machinery Club

Open Sundays 2pm to 4pm or by appointment.

Contact  
027 254 3346

# Winton Outlook

## Essential contact numbers

**Winton Community Support worker**  
Louise 236 9934 or wcsv@xtra.co.nz

**Health Shuttle**  
For MEDICAL appointments in Winton and Invercargill. Phone 0800 103 046 (operates by donation). A shuttle to Dunedin is also available, leaving and returning daily from Invercargill.

**Let's Link Transport Service**  
Ken Galt 027 454 9119  
or Louise 236 9934

**Let's Link Odd Job Service**  
Phone Ken Galt 027 454 9119

**Free Smoke Alarm Checks**  
Checks/updates/batteries changed by a volunteer fireman. Phone Louise to book 236 9934.

**Helping Hands**  
Lawn, garden and pet care for those suffering short term medical issues. Phone Robyn Bye 027 4182 053.

**Winton Library**  
0800 732 542

**Winton Medical Centre**  
236 7444. After-hours service available in Invercargill, 6-9pm weekdays, 12-4pm weekends and public holidays. Phone 0800 456 138 to arrange an appointment.

**Winton Pharmacy**  
236 7729

**Winton Transfer Station**  
Florence Road.  
Mondays and Wednesdays 2pm-5.30pm  
Fridays 12-5.30pm  
Saturdays 1-5pm  
Sundays 2-5pm

**Let's Link Food Bank**  
Ken Galt 027 4549 119  
Louise 236 9934  
Salvation Army 022 011 7084

**Loss & Grief Service**  
Appointments available on request. Southern REAP, 224 Great North Road. Phone 027 443 8788 or email lossandgriefcentre@gmail.com to book.

## Church Services

**New Horizon Church**  
Meeting at the Winton Salvation Army, 7 Dejoux Road, Winton, Sundays 4.30pm in Winter, 6.30pm in Summer

**Catholic Church**  
Mass Sundays 10.30am  
Priest Rev Hamesh Wyatt  
84 Great North Road, Winton  
Contact 236 8084

**Salvation Army**  
Sundays 11am  
**Shared Lunch**  
Every Wed at 12noon. All welcome.  
7 Dejoux Road, Winton

**Presbyterian Church Winton**  
**Sunday Services**  
Winton 10am

**Live Alone Lunch**  
2nd Thurs of each month. Fellowship and food for those living alone.  
RSVP to Kathleen on 236 0250.

**Choirs, Prayer, and Bible Study Groups**  
Queries please phone office 236 9792  
Mon to Fri 9am to Noon

**Winton Church**  
11 Meldrum Street  
Postal Address P.O. Box 5, Winton  
Baby change facilities available.

**Anglican Church Services**  
Weekly 10am Sundays. All welcome.  
Cnr Meldrum St & Great North Road.

**The next edition of the Winton Outlook Newsletter will be out on the 1st of July, 2026.**

The closing deadline for articles and advertising is 20 June. Business advertising is available: for \$35 for a 45x90mm or \$50 for a 90x90mm space. Queries or info can be emailed to winton.nz@outlook.com

## Seniors' Gentle Exercises

Gentle exercises to improve balance and help keep moving.

Wednesdays & Thursdays  
10am-11am

Anglican Church Hall,  
Meldrum St - beside the Anglican Church

\$7 per class

Contact:

Glenda - 027 429 6703



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11 MELDRUM STREET, WINTON

## Live Alone Lunch



Everyone who lives alone, is most welcome to join us for lunch and fellowship on

**Thursday, 11 June at 12.00 noon**

RSVP to Kathleen 022 375 3304 or Jenny 027 536 0084

*With Lions Club Winton*

**Let's do it together**



**contact us:**

**winton.secretary@lionsclubs.org.nz**