



# TARRAS PLAY GROUP

Welcome to our play group, we proudly offer a warm, fun, and well-set-up space for you and your children to enjoy.

There's plenty to explore outdoors, a big trampoline, sandpit, ride-on bikes and trikes, swings, slides, a great climbing tree, and a playhouse for lots of imaginative play. Inside, we've got a cosy area filled with toys, crafts, and activities to keep little hands busy. Our play group is supported by a small group of lovely mums who volunteer their time, and together we work hard to keep this a relaxed, friendly, and welcoming place for everyone. Tarras Play Group has enjoyed a fun and busy Term 4, full of community connection and happy moments.



A favourite highlight was our Halloween outing, where the children loved giving the Tarras Village a friendly scare before enjoying a well-earned fluffy. We're now getting excited for our end-of-year Christmas celebration, with festive crafts and preparations already underway.

A huge thank-you goes to Robin for his wonderful planting and grounds keeping, which has made our outdoor space look beautiful and inviting. The children have loved exploring the refreshed area during their sessions. We appreciate our supportive community and look forward to celebrating the end of the year together.

Ngā mihi  
Tarras Play Group



# TARRAS TALK

Proudly sponsored by TARRAS RURAL WOMEN

DECEMBER 2025



**RURAL WOMEN NEW ZEALAND**  
Ngā Wāhine Taiwhenua o Aotearoa

Tarras farming at its best - supplied courtesy of Dr Sharp.

**Central Otago**  
RURAL WOMEN DINNER GROUP

As the year winds down, I'm delighted to invite you to our festive RWNZ Central Otago December Dinner Group.

Let's wrap up a busy year with great company, good food, and plenty of Christmas cheer.

We're also thrilled to welcome Penny Clark of Earnsclough Castle as our guest speaker.

*Please note the change of venue due to another function at the District Club.*

**DECEMBER DINNER EVENT**

6pm - Wednesday 10 December  
Orchard Garden, 576 Dunstan Road, Alexandra

You can find details about the evening, including the guest speaker and menu, on our page:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/central-otago-rwnz-dinner-group-november-2025>

We'd absolutely love to see you (and your friends!) join us for this final celebration of 2025. Please register via Humanitix as soon as you can to secure your seats.

Registrations close Friday 4th December at 4:00pm for catering purposes.

Let's end the year together on a cheerful note. *Nicola Rae*

**TARRAS CHURCH**  
*All welcome...*

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
24 DECEMBER, 7PM

The service will include Christmas carols and CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

The children are welcome to dress up as shepherds or angels (*some costumes will be available on the night*).

Refreshments afterwards a plate to share would be greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all a safe and happy festive season. May your holidays be filled with good company, good food, and plenty of Central Otago sunshine! From all of us at Tarras Rural Women.

**DIARY DATE**

End of year lunch. Edgewater Hotel, Wanaka. 12.30pm - Wed 3 Dec. Email: [tarrasruralwomen@gmail.com](mailto:tarrasruralwomen@gmail.com)

**TARRAS BOOK CLUB**  
*Keen to meet new people?*

Come along to the Tarras Book Club, hosted by Felicity Hayman. 10 Dec - 6.30PM. For more information contact Claire: [clairekearsley59@gmail.com](mailto:clairekearsley59@gmail.com) or phone 445 2770.

**SPREAD THE WORD**

Located by the school gate, the Lilliput Library sparks a love of reading in our community. It's always in need of restocking - donate any surplus books to help!

- take a book - return a book
- pass it on
- add a book

## SHAPE OUR FUTURE!

We're helping Otago Community Trust shape their new strategy, and at the moment we really need more voices from Central Otago in the mix.

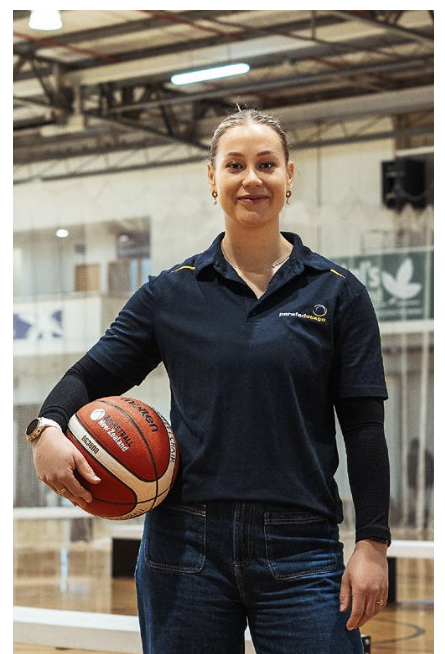
Otago Community Trust (OCT) is inviting locals to share what truly matters to you. By taking just a couple of minutes to complete the survey below, you'll help ensure our region's priorities, challenges, and opportunities are clearly heard when OCT makes future funding decisions.

Your voice really does make a difference.

The survey is completely anonymous - your individual responses cannot be identified, and only overall findings will be shared publicly. If you choose to leave your email address, you'll go in the draw to win one of two \$250 Prezzy Cards. Your email will be stored securely and used only for communication about this strategy review project and for notifying prize winners.

The survey includes four simple questions, with optional demographic information at the end. If you're using a desktop, use the arrow at the bottom right to navigate back. On mobile, tap the arrow at the bottom of the page. The survey link can be found on [www.oct.org.nz](http://www.oct.org.nz)

If you have any questions/pātai, feel free to contact the OCT team at [info@oct.org.nz](mailto:info@oct.org.nz)



Let's make sure Central Otago voices are part of shaping our shared future - every response counts.

## WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Whether you'd like to advertise, share your news, or receive Tarras Talk by email, just get in touch with Chris at [tarrastalk@gmail.com](mailto:tarrastalk@gmail.com)



**MĀORI POINT**

Join us for **HAPPY HOUR**, every Friday evening from 5-7pm!

Enjoy discounted wines by the glass, free nibbles, and excellent company.

**ALL WELCOME!**

413 Māori Point Road, Tarras



# TARRAS GOLF CLUB

Shortly after Labour Weekend, the Golf Club Mystery Tour visited courses in Waimate, Lower Waitaki, and North Otago. Twelve players enjoyed three days of golf, with Michelle Moynihan taking the win. Jan Gibson was runner-up, Avril Templeton third, Holger fourth, and John Templeton fifth.

A big thank you to Holger for organising the trip and driving the group by bus, making it a memorable and enjoyable adventure!

The Tarras Women's team has claimed the 2025 Central Otago Inter-club Golf Competition, which ran monthly from February to November. The team secured the title by finishing three strokes ahead of Wanaka, with Millbrook taking third place.



A photo taken after the prizegiving shows the winning team receiving their Goltique voucher for the 2025 title.

Pictured from left: Avril Templeton, Margo Johnston, Jacqui Henderson, Jan Gibson, Alison Caughey, and Margaret Sell.

Also contributing to the 10-player squad were Annabel Spiers, Barb Annan, Win Priergaard-Peterson, and Meg Page. The Tarras Golf Club also acknowledged John and Avril Templeton for their greenkeeping work throughout the year, along with the Greens Committee and volunteers who support the course.

## RURAL MENTAL WELLNESS

**Are you feeling anxious about Christmas or the busy summer ahead?** Check out the handy rural mental health resource on our Facebook page.

Angus NZ often talks about "better balanced beef," and the same goes for mental wellbeing. Rural life can be a real juggle, farm, work, home, family, finances.

At a recent Angus NZ event, supported by the Tarras Community Fund, Kate Steadman from Second Nature Psychology shared practical tips for keeping life in better balance.

## CELEBRATING GILL NAYLOR

Clyde's Orchard Gardens hosted a special lunch to honour Gill Naylor, recently named an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her work with Rural Women. Friends and community members celebrated her dedication to empowering rural communities both locally and nationally.



Central Otago Rural Women collected biscuits for Southland families affected by last month's storms. The treats were delivered to Rural Women Southland, bringing a small but sweet gesture of support to those impacted by the severe weather.



Just remember, balance is not about perfection when it comes to mental wellness! Tips included recognising burnout vs depression and using grounding techniques to cope with moments of high stress or anxiety. **You're not alone - help and support are always available.**

# TARRAS SCHOOL NEWS

## The best little school in Central Otago



ALICE CASEY, PRINCIPAL

Kia ora,

We've had another great month at school and are counting down to when Santa arrives - 31 sleeps at present! We have a sneaking suspicion the naughty Elves will arrive back at school soon...

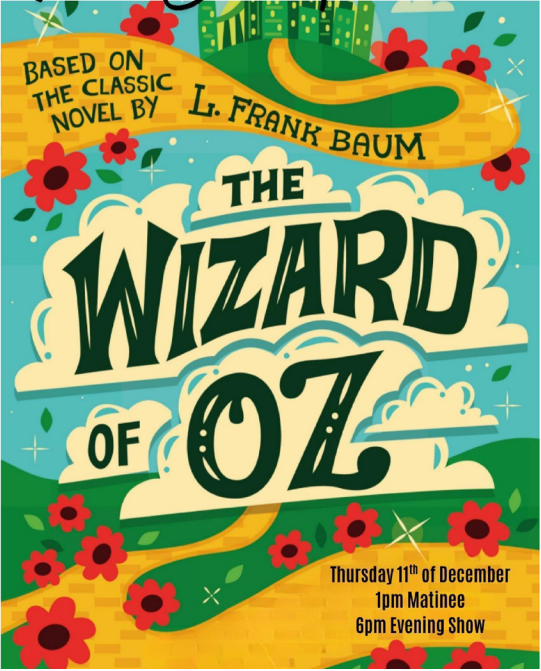
Pet Day was another great success, the tamariki had worked hard to produce some great indoor creations and it was nice to see them all with their pets - cute! We had Craig Smith, author of the Wonky Donkey visit for a show and the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra performed a concert for us. The tamariki were so engaged and intrigued by all the musical instruments and the sounds they could make.

We can't wait to perform our production **'THE WIZARD OF OZ'** on Thursday the 11th of December. We have a 1pm and 6pm show - we'd love to see you there!

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and Summer break with friends and family and we look forward to catching up with you all in 2026 - where has the time gone!

Ngā mihi,  
Alice

Tarras School presents...



## THANK YOU

### NOVEMBER THANKS GOES TO:

- Sandra, Gae, Antonia and Wanda for helping to judge our recent pet day! We loved having you visit and appreciate your time, effort and positivity.
- Skip and Margo for their kind donation of golf balls to the school.
- The Wānaka Community Workshop group for their handy skills to upgrade our stall, ready for all our summer produce. We love the doors to keep the produce free from dust!
- Special mention to Wanda, Antonia, Will, Robbie, Scott, Jackie, Lisa and Dan for coming down to battle the tamariki in the 'Handball-a-thon'.  
*With everyone's contributions, we managed to raise a whopping \$1145 for KidsCan - providing 45 tamariki in New Zealand with a warm jacket, shoes and socks.*  
**THANKS EVERYONE!**

- Our fabulous Cattle Grazers who generously donated to help fund the salary of our second teacher - we really, REALLY couldn't have done it without your efforts!

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| - Bendigo Terrace Farming Ltd (Dan Feary) | - Brent O'Sullivan     |
| - Sam MacDonald                           | - Malvern Downs        |
| - Matt Walker                             | - Cluden Station       |
| - Devon Dairies                           | - Bendigo Station      |
| - Morven Hills                            | - Lindis Peaks Station |
| - Long Gully Station                      | - Longace              |
| - The Point                               | - Jonny Trevathan      |
| - Cloudy Peak                             |                        |

Special mention to the sub-committee of the Board for all their work with this.

- |                  |               |              |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| - Dan Feary      | - Will Stuart | - Ben Purvis |
| - Chrissy Gibson | - George Reed |              |

## SWIMMING POOL

The Swimming Pool is now open! It's currently sitting at 26 degrees and will continue to warm up over the coming weeks.

This year, we're trialing a slightly different access, there is no key but a 'code'. This code will be emailed to you once you have completed the 'Swimming Pool Agreement' and paid the \$60 fee. We're hoping the 'code' will reduce our key cutting costs and the chance of the key snapping off in the padlock (like last year).

We are continuing to work on an 'honesty policy' - we'd appreciate it if you didn't share the code to anyone, other than your household. The more use the pool gets, the more treatment it needs and the upkeep costs continue to rise. We'd like to keep the cost of using our pool as low as possible.

If you have any questions, or wish to obtain a 'code', contact office@tarras.school.nz or come in and see us!



## TARRAS CHURCH

Service is the first Sunday of every month at 11am, led by Damon Plimmer.

All welcome...

2025

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER

Duty: Helen Pledger and Donna Goddard

2026

SUNDAY 1 FEBRUARY

## TAPPED IN YET? TARRAS.ORG.NZ

HOME LIVING LOCAL TARRAS BUSINESSES COME & VISIT SUPPORT US

That is a bloody good photo  
BT  
Impressive web site.  
CM

The updates and modern website  
look amazing and is so easy to  
navigate - thank you!!  
RC

It looks great! Well done.  
Mayor Tamah Alley CODC

It looks fantastic - congratulations  
to all involved.  
Rebecca Williams  
Community Development Lead  
CODC

# TARRAS

THE GATEWAY TO CENTRAL OTAGO

LIVING LOCAL

Connect to the community

GET TO KNOW US

Screenshot ras past and present

COME & VISIT

For an hour, a day, or longer...