

Duntroon Digest March 2025

It was back to work for our volunteers on the 15th of February as they met at the Duntroon Wetlands for the first working bee of the year. The gang were joined by a new resident to Duntroon, Ian Clay, who, with Daniel Moffat cut a swath through the grass with their line trimmers. Freeing plants from the plastic protectors kept the other workers busy, thank you Mel and Trevor Jones, and Owen King. The work culminated in a coffee at the Flying Pig Cafe.

The first meeting of the year for Duntroon and District Development Association was very productive. Among the items on the agenda was finalizing a date for celebrating the 150th year of the founding of Duntroon township. That celebration will take place on the 27th of October this year. Mark it on your calendars.

Meanwhile, the DDDA are occupied with a number of issues and projects.

On the 24th of February some members of the committee, along with Steve Dalley, Deputy Chair of the Ahuriri Community Board, met with Miles Anderson MP for Waitaki to discuss the ongoing battle to get the speed limit reduced for traffic going through Duntroon.

In 2013 the community succeeded in having the speed reduced on the side roads to 50kms. Then in 2023/4 the speed limit of 30kms was put in place on the roads around the Duntroon School.

At present the speed limit through the town is 70kms, and the community has been trying to get the speed dropped to 50kms for almost two decades [Story O.D.T 18th June 2011](#). In this time the volume of traffic has increased, likewise, the number of pedestrians crossing the road within the town. It has become imperative that traffic flow is slowed to avoid an accident.

We are grateful for the support of the Ahuriri Community Board in working toward our objective. Karen Turner was instrumental in getting a VAS (Vehicle Activated System) installed near the Maerewhenua Bridge and this has helped to remind motorists to keep to the present speed limit. To be continued.....

It was good to see our local residents attending the Q&A session at the Duntroon Hall on the 20th of February. Hosted by the Waitaki District Council, this was an opportunity to get some more detail on some of the proposals within the Long-Term Plan. It was also an opportunity for members of Council to learn how our community felt about the issues too. Oh, the irony; meeting at the Hall to discuss, among other issues, whether the community wanted to retain its hall. Of course we do, we will need it for our 150th centenary.

