



FROM LEFT: Geraldine Lioness Lions Club Garden Expo organising committee Bev O'Connor, Robyn Carter, Margaret Chapman, Bev Gregan, and Elizabeth Wilson. PHOTO: Quynh Tr n

Lioness' Garden Expo to bloom for worthy causes

The Geraldine Lioness Lions Club is gearing up for their Garden Expo on 21 June at the Geraldine Primary School Hall. The event coincides with Matariki weekend, symbolically marking the beginning of the growing season.

"We're creating an event that brings together garden enthusiasts while supporting two incredibly important charities," says Elizabeth Wilson, event organiser for the Lioness Club.

The all-day event will feature stalls, workshops, demonstrations, and activities centered around garden and plant-themed products. All profits

will be donated to the Child Cancer Foundation and Kidney Kids.

"These organisations make a tremendous difference in the lives of children facing serious health challenges. Our community has always been generous in supporting causes that help vulnerable kids," says Lioness' publicity officer, Bev Gregan.

Committee member Robyn Carter emphasises the educational aspect of the event. "We're not just selling plants and garden products. Visitors will learn about sustainable gardening practices

and how to make the most of the growing season that begins with Matariki. It's about nurturing both gardens and our community."

The Garden Expo planning committee - Elizabeth (chair), Bev and Robyn along with Margaret Chapman and Bev O'Connor - is actively seeking additional stallholders and sponsors.

"We have some wonderful stallholders already confirmed, but we're hoping more local businesses and artisans will come forward. The more diverse our offerings, the more visitors

we'll attract, which means more funds raised for these worthy causes," says Bev O'Connor.

Margaret adds, "It's going to be a wonderful community day out. We're hoping for strong support from both participants and visitors to make this our most successful fundraiser yet."

Anyone interested in booking a stall or providing sponsorship can contact Elizabeth Wilson at 03 303 7241, 027 308 3538, or email elizabeth_wilson1149@hotmail.com.

QUYNH TR N



For *Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope*, George Lucas' Industrial Light & Magic created the spaceship effects by using detailed miniature models, computer-controlled motion photography, and animation, groundbreaking for its time. The movie was also the beginning of a relationship between Dolby and Lucasfilm that spans more than 40 years. Dolby's Stuart Bowling says, "Until *Star Wars*, we were working only in stereo, but with surround sound, from that first moment where you get the title crawl, and the Star Destroyer comes in from the top, audiences felt as if it was coming over them, and they were cheering. It became a game-changer from a technological as well as an audience-experience perspective." (Google) PHOTO: Screen Rant

'Going to the movies' is a phrase that many of us associate with some of our best childhood memories. Some of my early favourites were *The Railway Children* (my mother made me a dress just like Jenny Agutter's), *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (the one with Gene Wilder), and Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (that child snatcher totally creeped me out - nevertheless I saw it seven times).

A slightly older me couldn't wait to see *Logan's Run* (science fiction was already becoming one of my favourite genres). A friend and I excitedly caught the bus from Auckland's Milford to Devonport, about the same distance as Geraldine to Woodbury. Unfortunately, I misjudged where to get off. We had to run as fast as we could to get there, arriving puffed but just in time to catch the start.

However, in November 1977, nothing could have prepared 13-year-old me for what I was about to experience, as, for the very first time, "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away..." crawled across a dark starry sky just moments before a vast Imperial Star Destroyer rumbled across the screen, seeming for all the world to be in the cinema and right above our heads. Going to the movies had changed forever.

The *Star Wars* saga continues to be one of my all-time favourites (as does the Big Mac: McDonald's had just opened its first New Zealand outlet; we ate there for the first time that same night). Nowadays, with almost anything we want available to be streamed whenever we want, it can be easy to forget what a difference it makes to see a great movie on the big screen. Let's try to get along to the cinema more often to build some new memories while we support Isaac in his new venture. **xxxfi**

When people ask me if I went to film school I tell them, "No, I went to films"

QUENTIN TARANTINO

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Competitors line up for the mountain biking leg of the Geraldine Adventure Race 2023. PHOTO: Crazy Kea Events

Geraldine Adventure Race 2025 location under wraps

The Geraldine Adventure Race returns to Geraldine's foothills on 30 March. A Geraldine High School PTA fundraiser, "The race is designed for people of all abilities," says PTA treasurer and event co-organiser Karen Pace.

It's a regular occasion on the adventure racing calendar. "We have families and students and seasoned veterans who do a lot of these events around the country." She says, "It's navigational; you have a map and checkpoints." There are three-hour and six-hour options, both including mountain biking and jogging or walking.

While the race's location, within 15 minutes of central Geraldine, is under wraps until a

week prior, Karen is able to give away some general intel: "There's rolling farmland, and there are pockets of bush and rocky outcrops - and views."

Fundraising and making adventure racing accessible are hand-in-hand aims of the event. "It's the PTA's major fundraiser. It allows us to grant money to support different school projects and groups, for example, senior and junior prizegiving and catering at most school events and on open days. We support cultural and sporting groups on application; we like saying 'yes' as much as possible."

"It's a reasonable entry fee; most people own the gear or can borrow it easily. It's doable

for most people. It's a really nice event held in our own back garden that attracts a lot of locals and out-of-towners."

The PTA is running the event in collaboration with Crazy Kea Events, a non-profit organisation that runs adventure races and rogaines to support Canterbury orienteers competing abroad.

Entries for the Geraldine Adventure Race close Monday, 24 March. The event is on Sunday, 30 March. To register or for more information, go to crazykeaevents.nz/geraldine.

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Patrick Walsh (left), who has owned Geraldine Cinema for over a decade, is passing the baton to new owner Isaac Jones. PHOTO: Jan Finlayson

Farewell Pat: new era begins at Geraldine Cinema

There's a baton change this week at Geraldine Cinema. As former owner Patrick Walsh's last hurrah for the community, he's hosting a by-donation 16 March screening of his favourite film, *Raise the Titanic*.

"I'm putting it on as a 'thankyou' to the town," Pat says. "I've always had an interest in the *Titanic*. It's the first film, not about the sinking of the *Titanic*, but about the finding of the *Titanic*." Directed by Jerry Jameson and released in 1980, it is based on a 1976 Clive Cussler novel.

"Through Covid, the community stood behind the cinema to keep it open, and the cinema

trust [Geraldine Cinema Trust] contributed the wall behind the screen to make it more economical to heat, and assisted in obtaining another screen," says Pat.

The cinema's new owner, Isaac Jones, says that for local film-goers, "It'll be mostly business as it has been." He points to a few minor up-front changes. "I'll introduce all the payment methods people like, and I'll be trying different times and days."

He's also keen to host fundraising films, show documentaries, and investigate setting up a film club. On two of the hottest topics: "I'll continue showing classic films in association

with the Record Keeper," and, "I know people like the old couches; I'd like to upgrade them if people want to donate couches."

Farewell Pat, welcome Isaac, and see Raise the Titanic at Geraldine Cinema, 2pm Sunday 16 March. Free admittance; donations welcome - no reserves (first in, first served).

Find out what's on at Geraldine Cinema by checking out the session listing on page 7, visiting its Facebook page or going to geraldinecinema.co.nz. For more information, call 03 693 8118. JAN FINLAYSON

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A long-tailed bat captured locally for monitoring. PHOTO: Supplied



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Behind the scenes, Geraldine.nz works to build relationships with key individuals, groups, and committees to secure positive outcomes for the town. Through strong relationships, our voice as a village is more loudly heard and our success more defined. Key relationships present further opportunities to grow and thrive.

We support the local business community in promoting themselves through a variety of media avenues. The publication of the ever-popular Geraldine Visitors Guide, availability of radio promotions, recognition on our social media platforms and a listing on the go-to website, Geraldine.nz allows local businesses to showcase themselves to all those who visit.

An increase in visitors is an increase in revenue. An increased revenue strengthens the community, as more money goes back into the local businesses operating in and around the area. Whether you are a business working behind the scenes, such as a builder, plumber or electrician, or one on the main road, the circle of income and growth can continue as we come together and support local.

The extent of our involvement in Geraldine doesn't stop there as we lend our weight to advocacy, engage with local government with Geraldine's interest at heart, and promote local community groups and events open to the public within our district.

Geraldine is a vibrant place full of creativity, innovation and camaraderie. This vibrancy can be seen everywhere you go. Geraldine.nz is always open to hearing what ideas locals have for ways to promote our little town and surrounding district. Please feel free to get in touch at info@geraldine.nz to share your thoughts or projects on what else could be done to entice people to stay, shop and play a little longer in our vibrant boutique town.

Save the bats by keeping old trees says DOC

In an area circumscribed roughly by Peel Forest, Geraldine, Ōrari, Waipopo, Cave, and Albury, is the only long-tailed bat population between the Catlins and Marlborough on the South Island's east coast.

"It's a South Canterbury treasure," says Rob Carson-Iles, a biodiversity ranger at the Department of Conservation's (DOC) Geraldine office. The little insectivores, found only in New Zealand, are Nationally Critical in the threat rankings.

That status puts the species one step away from extinction. A raft of landowners, community groups, and agencies, including Land Information New Zealand and Environment Canterbury, have joined DOC in protecting them. Senior biodiversity ranger Ian Fraser says, "It's a real

group effort."

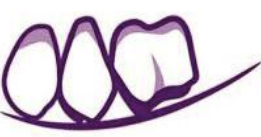
Five monitored colonies recently affirmed the collective work, showing either increased or stable numbers. Predator control and preservation of old trees with cavities for roosting set up the conditions for the positive results. "We have more confidence that we can sustain this bat population if everyone keeps working on it," Ian says.

DOC's main role, monitoring, has its challenges. Rob says, "They're a cryptic species, and hard to find." Rangers seek female bats, which, with their pups, roost communally (post-reproductive females and males roost singly); studying these colonies boosts understanding of populations. Ian says, "You catch a bat in a harp trap [designed to protect the animals' wings]. If it's a female,

you attach a transmitter to take you to a roost tree. Then you set up automatic bat monitors in and around the colony. We've attached 25 monitors; they've been in five colonies over five years."

What can the community do to help? Rob says, "Our big plea is that we keep as many big old trees as possible; trees that are big or old enough to have cavities for roosting. The bats need a stable temperature inside." The trees can be exotic or native, he says.

Learn more about long-tailed bats here: doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/bats-pekapeka/long-tailed-bat. JAN FINLAYSON



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GERALDINE DISTRICT GOLF CLUB 8.3.25 Kerr Quaic Par: B Mcsweeney 6, B Waller 6, M Macdonald 2, S Melville 2, C Dickens 1, C Phillips 1. **6.3.25 9H Stableford:** K Turner 19 PTS, K Tilley 18, B Bendsen 15. **PSRB Stableford:** S Dwyer 32 PTS, C Jopp 31, L Collins 31. **5.3.25 Mixed Stableford:** D Lapthorne 42 PTS, I Cooper 39, L Cook 38, J Worner 37, M Macdonald 37, G Coulter 37, T Putze 36, B Martin 36.

GRANDE VUE GOLF CLUB Stroke Round 1st T Kerr 79-14-65, J Bell 77-12-65, J Gyeiltshen 81-14-67, J Cox 80-12-68, J Jones 81-13-68, B Aitken 93-24-69, R Ramsay 88-18-70, J Bayley 98-28-70, B Millar 81-11-70, G Marshall 81-11-70, A Muff 85-13-72, C McNulty 90-17-73, C Seaton 93-20-73, S Scott 90-16-74, G Patrick 84-9-75, J Rate 93-18-75, D Bruce 93-16-77, M Lang 90-12-78, M O'Malley 93-15-78, G A Patrick 99-20-79, B Pearsall 96-16-80, L Pearsall 106-23-83. N.Pin #4 C McNulty, Twos J Bell #9, J Gyeiltshen #11, J Cox (2) #6 (Eagle) #13. Special mention - Brendon Aitken had a Nett Albatross on #14 A Birdie with two shots.

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THURSDAY 13 MARCH TIL WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH

NOW UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!



Cate Blanchett, Michael Fassbender and Pierce Brosnan star in this all-new mystery-thriller, a great big film only to be seen on the great big screen!

BLACK BAG

(M) VIOLENCE, OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE | NO COMPS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 7.30PM



A delightful piece of French cinema you don't want to miss!

THE LAST JOURNEY

(M) NO COMPS

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 5.15PM



Geraldine's cup of tea, or should we say glass of wine!
A beautifully shot historical drama about the Veuve Clicquot wine and champagne family and their business that began in the late 18th century.

WIDOW CLICQUOT

(M) DRUG USE, SEX SCENES

SATURDAY 5.30PM

Special sneak preview this weekend! The all new NZ film shot in Christchurch

TINÄ

(M) VIOLENCE, OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE, SUICIDE REFERENCES

THURSDAY 7.30PM | SUNDAY 6.30PM
WEDNESDAY(19) 7.30PM

The all new children's animated feature featuring the voice of Bill Nighy.

10 LIVES

(G) GENERAL EXHIBITION

SUNDAY 12PM

Rendé Zellweger returns in her most famous role in the new comedy!

BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY

(M) OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE, SEXUAL REFERENCES | NO COMPS

SATURDAY 3PM FINAL!



As a thank you to the community, former theatre owner Mr Patrick Walsh will present a special screening of his favourite film, the most exciting under-sea adventure of our time!

Jason Robards, Richard Jordan & Alec Guinness star in

RAISE THE TITANIC

(PG)

SUNDAY 2PM

This is a free session however a donation/koha on entry would be appreciated to offset the use of the theatre.

COMING SOON: BECOMING LED-ZEPPLIN (TBA)



OPEN DAY

Friday, 21 March 2025

1pm-3pm

16 Shaw Street, Geraldine

We look forward to welcoming you
to our award-winning community owned facility.
Meet the team, residents and board members.
A cottage will be open for viewing.

LIGHT AFTERNOON TEA WILL BE SERVED

Contact us on 03 693 8131 or email admin@waihilodge.co.nz