

August 2024

From the Librarian

Kia ora koutou,

The library has been filled with people this month. We had two events here that brought in visitors from all over the country. It's exciting to share this space and speak about the importance of literary establishments with others.

Dunedin marked its 10th anniversary as a UNESCO City of Literature. This was celebrated at Dunedin Public Library on National Poetry Day. The event featured readings from poets living in Otago. This included some of our committee members, highlighting the city's rich literary community

- **Holly Fletcher**

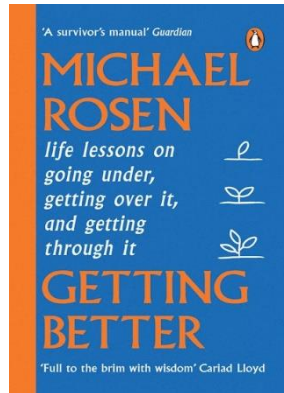
What's Happening

We have a quiet office space to rent on the mezzanine level.

The space is warm, light and unfurnished.

\$50.00 per week + GST includes internet and power.

Please feel free to spread the word or to get in touch for more information.



Book Review

Michael Rosen
Getting Better

Penguin Random House 2023

Michael Rosen is a British poet, author and performer who has written more than 200 books.

His well-known children's book *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* inspired the Covid lockdown teddy bear hunt- which saw bears appearing in windows, waiting to be spotted by children on their lockdown walks.

In this memoir Rosen explores the roles that trauma and grief have played in his life. In 2020 Rosen contracted Covid-19 and was hospitalised, spending 40 days and nights in a coma. When he awoke, he was unable to walk or speak and had poor vision. Rosen examines how one can move forward after such life altering events.

This moving memoir takes us through the moments in Rosen's life when he has struggled most. From job loss, chronic illness to coping with the loss of his son. Rosen investigates the road to recovery asking *how we can find it within ourselves to live well again after- or even during- the darkest times in our lives.*



In honour of Janet Frame's centenary on the 28th of August. Here is a segment from her poem:

Flowering Cherry

When next you pass the flowering
cherry now, in September,
look closely at the cool dark wine
house
where the blackbirds sing for their
supper
where the human senses sing for
their survival.