NEW EARLY LEARNING CENTRE UP AND RUNNING

Diamond Harbour’s long-awaited Kidsfirst Early Learning Centre in the DH School grounds opened its doors in February to twenty local children, who in the past would have had to travel to Lyttelton or into the city to attend an early learning centre or kindergarten.

Kidsfirst Kindergartens’ Chief Executive Sherryll Wilson says, Our region’s youngest learners deserve the very best start to their formal education, and kindergarten, the tradition that the Early Learning Centre is based on, has been the choice of families for many generations. Just like their sessional predecessors, our new early learning centres offer the highest quality of teaching and learning, delivered by 100% trained teachers, spacious outdoor environments for children to explore, and stimulating spaces and activities to spark a love of learning. The Early Learning Centre is on the same site as the Diamond Harbour Primary School, maintaining the sense of community that Diamond Harbour is so well known for, and helping children transition to their next learning environment as smoothly as possible.

The centre is carbon neutral, with solar panels on the roof. Any excess energy that the building produces is donated back to Diamond Harbour School.

The centre is licensed for 50 under-five year olds, though for the first few months, it will cater to a smaller number as Kidsfirst successfully transitions children into the centre.

Head Teacher, Becs Thomas, says that the first day on the job was all about the community coming together in a new way, for the first time. We’ve started with a smaller number of families in order to really get to know them. Our children are very active and the sun was shining all day, so there was a lot of water play, exploring the climbing equipment and getting hands dirty in the sand pit.

Parents were free to stay for as long as they were comfortable, and Ms Thomas says that many were surprised with how quickly their young ones settled in to their new environment.

Some of them thought they would be here with their children all day to settle them in. We encourage parents to stay as long as they like, but after seeing how much fun the children were having, many parents felt confident enough to slip away quietly and give us a call later in the day to check up on how their child was doing.

The teachers have been in the building, setting up the space for the last few weeks, but seeing it in action has been fantastic, Ms Thomas says, That’s when the design and practicality of the building has come to the fore. It’s bright and open because of all the windows, and the speciality spaces for art, music, imaginary play and outdoor games are perfect for fostering learning.

Kidsfirst’s Diamond Harbour Early Learning Centre is open from 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Friday throughout the year, in order to cater to the needs of working parents. It is the first of two new Kidsfirst Early Learning Centres to open this year. Others are under development for Christchurch’s Bays area and Franz Josef, and will join the other 63 Kidsfirst kindergartens and early learning centres across Canterbury and the West Coast.

Koordinates
Chances are Diamond Harbour kids who live to the east of our primary school would be the envy of many youngsters across the country for their unique school track. It’s safe — no traffic; healthy — the kids get exercise and breathe fresh country air. It’s also educational, interesting; environmentally friendly; shorter than going by road, and it’s a lot of fun...

**THE DIAMOND HARBOUR SCHOOL TRACK**

We went to check it out. The sign at the starting point near the junction of Waipapa Ave and Te Papau Crescent is enough to spark one’s curiosity as the track itself is almost invisible among the flax bushes and trees. But it is more obvious once we are on our way, weaving through the leafy undergrowth with the sunlight flickering down on us until we reach a large blue drum into which storm-water from the hillside above trickles through a plastic drainpipe. Why? A notice on the drum invites us to lend a hand to Mother Nature.

1. Heading up the other side we read about a prominent cabbage tree. As we near the top we meet two other walkers, so we catch our breath at the stile and look back to watch them climbing up towards Waipapa Ave.

2. So we grab a topless milk bottle, scoop some water into it, and we are off along the track to find seedlings to water. They are not hard to locate in their brown paper containers, but some of the children know exactly where they are — you see, they helped to plant them.

3. As instructed we leave our watering container at the other blue barrel at the top of the hill to be used by someone on the return journey. This barrel is supplied by a hose linked to the nearby home of a community-minded resident. Then we are off again, across on what once was part of the Diamond Harbour Golf Course. This is, of course, where pupils who live in Whero Ave come through the gate to join the track to school.

4. From there it’s down and up across the next valley and up to Ngatea Rd. We walk along the road about 100 metres to the corner where the track re-connects and more youngsters join the walk. Here also we find a map — similar to the one on page 3 — showing the entire track. In contrast to the other sections this last leg runs through a grassy farm paddock often occupied by sheep which naturally show a cautious interest in the passers-by — and vice-versa too! At the top of the final hill the track ends beside the school swimming pool. Continued on next page.
The Diamond Harbour School Track

So how did the Diamond Harbour School Track as it is now known come about? As is often the case in our area it is the result of community cooperation, but credit for innovation and much of the work involved belongs to Peter Ozich. Pete and partner Kirsten Mackay (right) wanted their two daughters to be able to enjoy all the benefits of walking to school, but as can be seen in the above photo, the distance from their home well up Waipapa Ave to the school via the twists and turns of Marine Drive is a bit much for little legs, and as we all know the many vehicles using the narrow roadway pose a real threat to walkers as they whizz by, too often travelling too fast, just centimetres from our precarious footpaths. So Pete decided to look for other options and soon realised that a shorter, safer route could be provided by linking existing tracks through the Council-owned properties above the main residential areas.

Off to the Council he went, where his idea was met with guarded approval and a promise that an investigation would be instigated to consider what changes to regulations would need to be made to allow it to happen. Pete reported back to Kirsten, Our girls will both be at high school before anything happens on the ground!

But Pete doesn’t give up easily. People are already walking along the existing tracks, he reasoned, so what would it matter if a few more people walked a bit further? He talked to school principal, Eddie Norgate, who was very enthusiastic, noting the many benefits of such a track. Next to be approached was farmer Tom Magill who holds the council lease for land on which much of the track lies. Tom was just great, Pete told us. His support was essential, and once we had checked the lease regulations and sorted out how to minimise the impact on his farm and stock he was right behind the idea too, and was very helpful.

Similarly the few home owners bordering the track didn’t take much convincing that this was a worthwhile project. Then the real work began. A couple of community working bees made a good impact with the Diamond Harbour Community Association and the School funding materials for steps etc. and a few individuals lent a hand at other times but it was Pete who did most of the scrub-clearing and track-forming. He also produced the notices and maps and within just seven weeks the track was useable.

Pete collects seeds from Orton Bradley and other places and has established a nursery to grow them in his back yard. School children and others help plant the ongoing supply of seedlings, and of course it was Pete who devised the very clever watering system for them.

One more major task is needed. Pete is looking for about 20 cubic metres of gravel and quite a few willing wheelbarrow owners to put a metal surface along the whole track to make it more secure and drier during the winter months in particular.

Of course there will also be regular maintenance work to do, but Pete and a few other volunteers feel they have that covered. Thus while we wait for the Council processes to happen, albeit slightly unofficial and sort of permanently temporary, the Diamond Harbour School Track is a great community asset helping keep our youngsters safer, fitter and playing a part in maintaining our environment.

Thanks Pete!

Elaine

We’re off to the Opera!

At the end of February, the whole of Diamond Harbour School took advantage of the shorter route of the track, to get to the village for the Opera.

Left: some of the more than 100 pupils and staff on the school end of the Track.

Right: This group of littlies had no problem making it to the Waipapa Ave end.
LOCAL YOUNG ARTIST ENJOYING SALES SUCCESS

14 year old Lucy Hill first discovered her artistic talent when she was attending the Rudolf Steiner School in Christchurch. The school puts great emphasis on colour and creativity. In 2011, on hearing of Christchurch’s devastating earthquake, an overseas Steiner-based group of people donated money for their Christchurch counterparts. The donation was subsequently used to fund anthroposophical therapies for the local Rudolf Steiner pupils including Art with Art therapist, Margaret Snowdon. Under Margaret’s guidance the standard of work 10 year old Lucy produced was such that her mum, Teena, had some of her paintings printed as cards for distribution to family and friends.

Last year Lucy had further classes with Margaret and then used her pocket money savings to have 200 cards printed.

With Teena’s help she negotiated to have these on sale at Godley Café, the Tannery in Woolston and a Cashmere florist. They sold very well and Lucy reinvested the funds in printing another 1000 cards, which are currently available at the same three outlets.

Now in Year 9 at Cashmere High School, Lucy is studying Art and plans to keep up her watercolour painting although she is undecided as to whether this will play a part in her future career.

Elaine

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Godley Café is still open 6 Days a week until further notice. Start your week off with a delicious coffee on a Tuesday and come and say hi to Nicki or Lillie.

NEW!! Friday Drop-In Time Bank Breakfast SPECIAL

Time Bank Special Breakfast – just $7 + 1 time credit (usually $12) – Fridays 9.30 – 11.30 am available only to Time Bankers. Come and hang out with Sarah and enjoy your Special Time Bank Breakfast!

New Members Welcome!

Bacon, Eggs (poached, scrambled or fried), mushrooms, sausage, ciabatta – gluten free and vegetarian options also available.

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LEFT AND ABOVE: TWO OF LUCY’S MANY PRINTS.
BETWEEN: LUCY WITH ONE OF HER CARDS.

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952 Page 4 No 187 March 2015
Mountain Bike Track Opening
The wait is over!
We are opening our new 2.5km Mountain Biking Track on Sunday March 8 at 10am.
The loop track begins at the top of the Picnic grounds and heads up to true left of the river to just about Big Rock, it crosses the stream and heads back down a stunning ride on the true right. For those wanting a longer ride – go around 2 or 3 times!
It is a Grade 2 track combining single track and farm 4WD sections with a couple of steep sections on the way up, but the climb is worth the trip back down.
After the opening we will be having a short working bee on the Pump Track to prepare it for the autumn rains – if you are available to help out your help would be greatly appreciated.
Be there on the 8th and be one of the first riders on the new track! 

Ian

Rhododendron Garden
The garden and collections are of world wide note. Just recently an article in the International American Species Foundation Journal praised the garden, noting the skill with which the natural look is maintained.
Many of those who help maintain it live out of the Harbour Basin area so now is the time to cordially invite those living nearer to become part of the team.
Garden chair, Kathryn, lives on a farm adjacent to the Rakaia River (real long distance gardening for her). Others who were involved in the first plantings over 30 years ago live in Christchurch and North Canterbury. Distance gardening has required specific management protocols - these can be explained on 21 March (invitation page 14).
Working bees are social occasions - members work hard but we first have coffee and plan the day and later adjourn for lunch, sometimes with a wine. Many enduring friendships have ensued.
Those of us who love and cherish the garden for its peace and beauty are often surprised to find others coming from the far ends of the world to view the diverse collections.
The Rhododendron Society is planning to place their reference library at the Chateau, so that visitors and volunteers can look up and identify blooms.
A big project for late winter is the placing of additional name plinths; more modern than the originals the Society considers the design compatible with park signage. Walkers may have noticed bandages on a rare Clethra tree and some rhododendrons - these are part of our war on the dreaded thrip which so enjoys damp shaded spots.
All acquisitions are recorded on a database with provenance; these are available for viewing at working bees. Currently the society is extending planting high on the hills at the entry - mostly young plants for ease of establishment, and red to give impact; all red you might say! Yes all red is the current plan but of differing flowering times. Your ideas are welcome.
We are also offering a family membership of the Rhododendron Society at a reduced subscription with a view to encouraging younger people. Maybe a Children’s Day at Toadstool Time? Garden Associates and helpers are warmly welcomed to events from the Society’s programme of activities such as a mid winter lunch and speaker, spring and Christmas garden visits. A highlight during the Combined show with the Alpine Garden Society, is a creative presentation of the jewel in the Crown - the rhododendron garden at the Park.

Kathryn Millar

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VETERINARY SERVICES
Vetlife
BANKS PENINSULA

NOW IN DIAMOND HARBOUR
Vetlife will be holding weekly clinics in the Community Center from 2pm on Wednesday afternoons.
We look forward to seeing you and your pet!
Large animal calls and house calls can also be arranged.

Please phone 3251006 to book an appointment.
Kaitiakitangi
Diamond Harbour School recently decided on the core values it would like the children to take on board. One of these is Kaitiakitanga, which loosely translates as being caretakers or guardians of our environment. This is a value that Lyttelton Harbour Timebank will also pursue this year by encouraging timebankers to think of ways in which they can help nurture this incredible environment we live in.

One of the positive aspects of the storm damage from last year is that the felled pines have left spaces for native plants to regenerate. Ngaio and Poroporo are popping up, and these fast growing natives will provide a good nursery for other natives to self-seed or be planted.

Unfortunately, some pesky common weeds such as wilding pines and boneseed are also self-seeding around Stoddart Point, down by the bowling club and further towards Purau.

If you are a regular walker around Stoddart Point and notice young boneseed or pines that can be pulled out by hand please give it a go. Or you may like to organize an outing with friends to purposely do some weeding. If you are a timebanker let me know when you do some weeding and I can pay you some timecredits.

Another troublesome weed is banana passionfruit so if you notice it in your garden or in public reserves please have a go at getting rid of it. Banana passionfruit can be surprisingly easy to uproot and generally doesn’t resprout from smaller root fragments like other problem weeds. Extensive efforts have been made to control banana passionfruit in the reserves around Purau Harbour. Eliminating the seed sources around this area will make it easier to keep this terrible weed at bay.

If planting natives is something you’ve been meaning to do, it’s a good idea to go for locally eco-sourced natives because, despite popular belief, native species are not all equal. Eco-sourced plants are those that are grown from seeds collected from naturally-occurring local vegetation. Using eco-sourced plants mean they suit the local conditions and therefore are probably more likely to survive. In addition, it helps maintain the unique local ecosystem (including providing habitat for local insects).

On this side of the harbour Ngaio (myoporum laetum) grows well but beware, what we think may be New Zealand Ngaio is often Tasmanian Ngaio which is very similar to New Zealand Ngaio but has green, sticky leaf buds whereas the New Zealand Ngaio usually has black buds and leaves dotted with glands. The Tasmanian Ngaio also has smaller flowers (7-8 mm) than the New Zealand Ngaio (10-15 mm). To make matters more confusing these plants often cross-pollinate and produce hybrids. If you are planting Ngaio make sure they are New Zealand Ngaio before you do. The timebank has some experts who can help.

There are other plants that are not native to Banks Peninsula, but are unfortunately sometimes planted in local reserves. These include Karo, Taupata, Ribbonwood (Hoheria sexstylosa) and Karaka. These North Island plants are common here, but are not part of our native flora. If you are making the effort to plant natives in this area, please don’t include these species, or they may end up being weeds.

Some of you will be thinking – why should people be paid timecredits for being a kaitiaki (guardian)? Timebanking is a way of honouring people’s time and because timebanking is based on reciprocity it means that hopefully those people who spend hours and hours being kaitiaki can spend some credits on a treat for themselves provided by another timebanker. In addition, on funding applications (say, for example, to develop a new walking track) there is often a requirement to state volunteer hours. Timebank tracks volunteer hours and volunteer numbers easily.

Come along to Friday morning drop-ins at Godley Café to sign up, or to meet other timebankers. A Timebankers Breakfast Special is now available during the drop-ins (from 9:30-11:30am). Instead of paying $12 you pay $7 plus one time credit! See you there.

NB: There will be no drop-in on March 20th and March 27th.

Sarah
PLAYCENTRE NEWS

Welcome back to Playcentre everyone. We have said goodbye to some families but we also have some new families attending. We welcome especially Kirsten and Rhys’s youngest boy Toby. They have been attending Diamond Harbour Playcentre for 5 years with their other two boys Max and Reuben.

We wish to say a big thank you to Derek Henson of NZ Vinyl Repair and Trim on Wordsworth Street. They mainly fix upholstery on cars and furniture but very kindly fixed our shade sail for free.

Diamond Harbour Playcentre will have a stall up at the Twilight Fair at Diamond Harbour school on March 13 from 4:30pm; come by to find out all about us! Or just turn up to any session to see what we are up to.

Playcentre is a parent run early childhood education centre with a paid early childhood teacher. One of the many great aspects of our playcentre is that the parents can choose how we structure our sessions whilst following the NZ curriculum Te Whāriki and always following our children’s interests whilst they learn through play. ERO assess us and write a report on the quality of our playcentre every three years and shall be visiting us this year.

Here are what some of our parents say:

- It’s a great way to meet local families and their children, says Kate.
- I didn’t know many people when I came from the UK, it was great to meet local people from the community, says Sandra.
- It’s very welcoming. Personally, I see our playcentre as an extended family, a support network, we meet outside of playcentre and our older children all go to school together. For my family it is especially important as I have no other family in NZ.

Session times are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-12 pm; now accepting your 20 ECE hours.

Phone 329 4515 or email diamondharbourpc@gmail.com.

Annya (Co-ordinator)

RECIPE

Black Rice

with coconut curry sauce and smoked salmon

My daughter asked me to share this dish which the family liked so much. I found this black rice on a shelf in the supermarket and it reminded me of the famous red rice from the Camargue in the South of France. Black rice was eaten by the emperors of China.

I have changed the recipe on the package to suit the season and my larder. It was a hit with the whole family and looks appetizing and different.

Ingredients (dinner for 4 without extras)

- 2 cups black rice
- 2 tbsp red curry paste
- Palm or brown sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1 can of coconut cream
- Basil leaves
- 1 capsicum, chopped
- 1 zucchini, chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- Smoked salmon (vegetarians, just add more vegetables)

Method

Cook rice in double the water, add a bit of stock if you like – takes around 35 mins. Leave for 5 mins.

Add oil to frying pan, sear onions, add chopped vegetables. Turn down heat and add curry paste, stir gently for a minute. Add coconut milk and basil (optional kaffir lime leaves for an authentic Thai taste).

Season with sugar and little salt, let simmer until consistency of a thick gravy (around 10 mins).

Serve the rice in a large bowl, arrange sauce around and top with cold salmon pieces.

Decorate with a sprig of basil.

Bon appétit

Franziska

Kirsten and baby Toby, Reuben, Sam, Ben and Emily creating a river in the sandpit
LIVE AT THE POINT & SCULPTURE ON THE POINT

Well the summer series of Live at the Point and the exhibition of Sculpture on the Point are over for another year. We were treated to some fantastic music; we were generally very lucky with the weather and we received some awesome feedback from people as they came upon all the wonderful sculptures around Stoddart Point. Thanks so much to everyone who came along and supported these events and made them such a fun place to be on Sunday afternoons in DH!

Big ups to Brian for being man on the spot each Sunday; Al Park for booking all the bands for us; Gill Hay for securing such amazing sculptors; Wayne for his awesome eye-catching promotional material; Jack for his supply of umbrellas and chairs; DH Fire Brigade for a tt ending every event to o ff fi rst aid if necessary; the stallholders who came along from time to time with their fantastic local products; Godley Café for providing the bands with tasty lunches and coffees; the volunteers for collecting donations; Deccan Construction for putting up the main signs.

Of course none of this could have happened without the very generous support of our Platinum sponsors: Christchurch City Creative Communities, Canterbury Community Trust, Christchurch City Council, Lyttelton The Purau Valley Produce Group began in 2005 with a small group of keen growers from Purau, all sparked by Annie Baxter, formerly of Purau Valley.

PURAU VALLEY PRODUCE FARMERS MARKET CLOSING

The Purau Valley Produce Group began in 2005 with a small group of keen growers from Purau, all sparked by Annie Baxter, formerly of Purau Valley.

Because of the long history of providing food for our neighbours, it is with sincere regret that the Purau Valley Produce Group has decided to close our Farmers Market in Diamond Harbour. The growers, who have numbered only 6 in recent months, have struggled to keep open the stall in Diamond Harbour as a viable option for customers to find quality produce.

Our customer base was adversely affected by the earthquakes when we lost many visitors and regular customers who moved away. The storm damage a year ago created losses for several of our producers. The much larger and festive Lyttelton Market has attracted many who used to stop by our stall. Change is inevitable in the market, and it appears our time has come to close up shop. There are those of us who may sell from the gate from time to time, so do stop over.

We are glad to have provided good food for our neighbours. The experience for us has been rich in friendship and rewarding in sharing the bounty. It’s been a fine 10 years, for which we say a hearty thanks to the community.

Donna Tartaglia

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Ask Great Questions

I recently heard a story about a woman whose husband died suddenly of a heart attack. During his life he had built up a business from scratch and over the years turned it into a very successful organisation which turned over a couple of million dollars each year, and after his death, there was a lot of speculation about what would happen with the business. Naturally, the man left everything, including his business, to his wife, but the wife had never taken an active role in the business and knew nothing about how to run one.

To everyone’s surprise though, the wife decided to take over her husband’s position in running the business, and started her new role by calling a meeting. She asked three questions in that meeting, and with the answers to those three questions, within two years, she was able to turn that $2 million per year business into a $25 million per year business.

Before I tell you what the three questions she asked were, let’s consider this: the power of a question differs according to its structure. Some questions get a simple yes/no answer, some get an explanation and some get basic information which helps us fill in gaps in knowledge. Some questions though, can go well beyond that, giving us rich information, inspiring and empowering others and setting off a chain of events that can lead great places.

Examples of questions I find to be really useful in working with people and helping them make changes in their lives include: “If there was one thing you would want to change, what would it be?” “What would need to happen so that you could start making that change?” and “If you were going to do that, what do you think the first small step towards that would be?” You can hear that those questions take people’s minds in a particular direction and get them thinking in a way they may not have been previously. This can be incredibly useful for helping them start along a journey of change, and get the kind of results they really desire.

The questions this new business director asked did the same. They inspired, directed and focused the minds of all present, so that the board members felt empowered to go out and make changes, and were all on the same page in doing so. And so what were the three questions that started this chain of events? They were as follows: “What’s working well?”, “What’s not working well?”, and “What haven’t we tried yet?” This gave guidance on what to keep doing and enhance, what to stop doing, and what to add into the mix, giving direction for the future of the business, contributing towards its success.

It’s worthwhile considering the kinds of questions you ask people in life. A question like “Why did you do that?” when your child does something wrong is not nearly as useful as “What is it you think you can learn from this?” or “What would you like to do differently in the future if this kind of situation came up again?” When someone shares their dreams with you, it’s far more encouraging to ask “How can you go out there and make that happen?” or “What do you need to do now so that that can happen in the future?” rather than “Do you really think that’s a good idea?” or “What if it doesn’t work out?” which is often what we ask ourselves in that kind of situation.

I encourage you to really consider the questions you are asking people, and to consider what kinds of questions you could ask people and yourselves that will really encourage, support and lead people in a great direction.

Robyn
COMPUTER HELPDESK

Beware of Bogus Internet Service Providers

Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) is the company that provides your internet (and most likely phone) connection (Spark, Vodafone, Slingshot, Orcon, Snap, etc). Recently, an elderly Invercargill lady was defrauded of $25,000 by scammers pretending to be from her ISP. A second elderly Invercargill woman had $5000 taken from her bank account by the same criminals, however her bank was able to cancel the transaction before the money was transferred overseas.

Both women, aged in their 80s, were tricked into divulging their bank account details by callers claiming to be from Spark and Chorus. (Chorus are not an ISP, but they own and maintain much of the fixed line network which carry internet and phone services.)

The elderly ladies were told there was a fault in their computers that needed fixing. They were directed to download and run software which prompted them to enter their bank account details, from which money was transferred to an overseas bank account.

If you know vulnerable elderly people who use the internet, please alert them to this scam. Anyone who has been scammed should contact their bank immediately.

Beware of cold callers from any organisation (Microsoft and Windows are commonly used) claiming knowledge of what is happening on your computer. It is illegal to monitor another person’s computer – only criminals and spy agencies engage in such activities. Consider how difficult it is to actually get hold of someone from one of these companies who can actually help you when you do have problems – how likely is it that they are going to be checking, unasked, that all is well with your computer?

The Good the Bad and the Awful

On the subject of ISP performance, in a recent Consumer NZ survey, Vodafone and Spark were singled out for poor service, rating below average in nearly every category. Their performance has also declined since the previous survey in 2013.

Overall satisfaction with all ISPs is 68%, down from 74% in the earlier survey. ISP performance is the reliability of the connection and speed. Disconnections/dropouts were a major problem (occasionally for 57% and regularly for 15% of survey respondents). Most also had problems with speed which was at times slower-than-expected for 80%.

While they are the top 2 in market share, Spark (nee Telecom) and Vodafone are at the bottom on the customer satisfaction scales. If you are thinking about changing your ISP, you may be interested to know the top-rated performers: Actrix, Inspire Net and Snap gained 90% satisfaction and have been among the top five performers for the past three years. While Spark and Vodafone went down, Slingshot and Orcon improved in overall satisfaction since the previous survey.

In the Mobile Service Provider category both Vodafone and Spark did better, scoring around 70% overall satisfaction. However, for the 3rd year running they were trumped by 2degrees with an 87% satisfaction rating. Those on pre-pay plans felt they were getting better value for money than those on fixed-term contracts.

Ron

Our Website

The Place to Find Local Events

On our home page you’ll find details of all the big events in and around Diamond Harbour — along with a list of what’s coming up soon.

Click the Events button at top left for a complete list of everything happening here — around 100 events listed every month! Click any event for full details.

Don’t just Google Diamond Harbour events — to get to the only website with full DH event info always type the link below into your address bar:

www.diamondharbour.info

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952 Page 10 No 187 March 2015
THE ECO GARDENER'S PATCH

Elderberry Time

The elderberry tree (Sambucus nigra) is a common wild tree around Banks Peninsula, growing from seeds spread by birds – which are snacking on its tiny berries right now. It flowers between October and December, and fruits in February and March.

The flowers can be made into a sweet-scented cordial, a champagne (a lightly-fermented fizzy drink) and dessert fritters. The berries can also be made into cordial, and elderberry wine is a traditional fruit wine. Both the flowers and the berries are rich in bioflavonoids, which have health-giving and also medicinal qualities.

So although my partner thinks it is going a bit far, I have planted an elderberry tree at the south end of our vegetable garden in order to have easy access to both flowers and fruit. I made about 10 litres of elderflower cordial last year, giving away some and freezing the rest. I like to have some up until February, as it is a refreshing drink for hot summer days.

Right now I am picking the berries and freezing them in 100g packs as they make a very soothing and effective tonic for colds and flu when simmered for 30 minutes with sliced fresh ginger root (300g) and cinnamon sticks (3–4 tbsp of broken up sticks) and 1.7 litres of water. With a bit of honey and lemon juice this makes a very pleasant drink, definitely helps to relieve symptoms, and may even reduce the length and severity of the illness itself.

Do try this at home – but be sure to identify the tree correctly first (more pictures and information on elderberries and flowers and their uses can be found at www.christinedann.org/eco-gardener-blog) and to cook the berries well before use.

Christine Dann
The Big Move – Six Months On

It is now six months since we moved the Little River Veterinary Services from the cottage above our home in Little River down to the main Christchurch-Akaroa road near the Birdlings Flat turnoff, and I’ve had some time to breathe and reflect on all the changes since then.

Firstly, it’s been good news for folk from Birdlings Flat, Prices Valley, Kaituna, Gebbies Pass, Teddington and Diamond Harbour. We are 9km closer than we were, and if you do ever need to pay mileage these charges will have come down.

I now have a 10 minute commute to work, but at the new building we have a lot more space for retail and patient treatment. We have also started a small boarding cattery and have had many repeat boarders in the time it’s been open.

Heather especially finds it very relaxing, and if she gets a chance, escapes out to the cattery where she can usually be found sitting on an armchair with a cat on her lap.

The road access is much easier now and our viability is very good, mainly thanks to our big roadside sign. We can no longer claim to have the best view of any vet clinic in the world, but it’s still pretty good. The climate is very different, much drier and windier, but a lot warmer and sunnier in winter than Little River. The incredible variation in climate on the Peninsula over just a short distance never ceases to amaze me.

From having one consulting room that also doubled as an operating theatre, and one kennel room in the old vet building, we now have a separate consulting room, a prep room for pre-operative preparation as well as dirty procedures like ultrasonic dental scaling and draining abscesses, as well as a sterile operating theatre.

We also have separate dog and cat wards. I even have my own office, where I occasionally get the chance to hide away! We’ve also been able to take on more part time staff, so the core team of myself, Heather Williams and Jo Stuart remains, but with additional help from Fiona Waghorn and Marie Backhouse, both from Birdlings Flat. Tara Sutherland, who was been doing some part time vet nursing for us, has now left for a full time teaching position in Christchurch but will still occasionally help out on Saturday mornings or with the cattery if Heather and I are away.

Paul
YOU CAN COME TOO — LOCAL EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Our Library
Did you know?
That we have some new magazine titles in the library... BBC History, Frankie, Horse & Pony, Mollie Makes, NZ Today, Runner’s World, Taste and Wanderlust. This now gives us 30 titles on our shelves. Remember that you can access Zinio on the library website www.christchurchcitylibraries.com to choose from over 200 magazine titles to read on-line. Library Membership is free.
We have a Pre-School Storytime on the third Thursday of each month at 10am. All welcome.
The next Storytime is on Thursday March 19.
You are welcome to come down any time the library is open. Library Hours:
Tuesday: 2-7pm
Thursday: 10am-2pm
Friday: 2-4pm
Saturday: 10am-12noon
Christine Turner, Librarian
Diamond Harbour Library 329 4152

ANZAC Day
Remember the date: Anzac Day is on April 25
All forces personnel, past and present, along with their families, are welcome to join us at 8.30am for breakfast in the Church Hall (numbers are required for catering so please advise).
The service at the Memorial Hall begins at 11am
Any questions? Call Don Cameron 329 4868
John Barry 329 4545 or Jean Burford 329 4830.

Free Community Walk
Join Dave and Lou Heath for a weekly walk in Diamond Harbour.
Meet outside Godley Café Thursday at 10am (come rain or shine) during term time.
Walks will be around 45 mins long and will finish back at the café. Everyone welcome... dogs and buggies too. Catch up with friends and meet new faces. No charge, no need to book, just turn up!
Dave Heath

Diamond Harbour Camera Club
Next meeting: Tuesday March 17
at 7.30pm in the Stage Room.
Guest speaker will be the well-known photo-journalist Gilbert Wealleans who will talk about his interesting life working in many facets of photography. Many will know him through his photos of people at social functions in the Bay Harbour News and other publications.
The Camera Club invites local residents to attend and welcome Gilbert to Diamond Harbour and hear about his fascinating career in photography.
($3 donation, supper provided)
For further information phone Dale on 329 4041. Dale

DH Historical Association
Next meeting: Tuesday February 10
at 8pm in the Stage Room.
Professor Richard Holdaway’s talk is entitled Extinction: The effects of introduced predatory mammals on New Zealand terrestrial ecosystems and the legacies of extinction.
All welcome. Jan Studholme

Woolfun Day
Saturday, March 14
Anytime from 10am to 4pm at Bergli Farm, Teddington
Map at www.bergli.co.nz
Enjoy a relaxing day working with wool with like-minded people in a small group. Koha appreciated for the morning and afternoon tea provided. Bring your lunch, your woolcraft gear, and if felting, a table if possible. For information ring Rowena on 329 9118.
The following Woolfun day on April 11 will be hosted by Philippa Drayton at Charteris Bay, 397 Marine drive next to the yacht club - where the stone wall is.
Ph 027 224 2421
Rowena

Free Running Group
Sundays at 8am. 329 4647 or mikecatton@mac.com

Road Cycling Group
Meets weekly in Diamond Harbour
To join a ride contact Mike 329 4647 mikecatton@mac.com

Diamond Harbour Singers
We welcome new members.
Practices with Rachel Bayliss
Wednesdays at 7.30 in the Stage Room.
World music taught in a supportive and friendly atmosphere.
Ph. Margie Dickinson 329 3331 or Joy McLeod 329 4119.
Joy McLeod

Free Community Walk
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Meet outside Godley Café Thursday at 10am (come rain or shine) during term time.
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Charteris Bay Tennis Club Inc
QUIZ NIGHT
Friday March 27th
Diamond Harbour Community Hall
7pm arrival for prompt 7:30pm Start
Complimentary
Cheese & Crackers & Supper
FUN, FUN, FUN
$25 per table: Maximum 5
Organize your team or we’ll help organize one for you.
Call Cheryl on 329 4232
AMAZING PRIZES, RAFFLES & AUCTION
Contributions from over 30 Businesses
Including a new 55” LG Full HD 100HZ WEBOS SMART TELEVISION (generously donated by CDI-Communication) to be won !!
FIREWOOD & SPECIALITY HAMPER
Funds will go toward resurfacing the Charteris Bay Public Tennis Courts
DH School Twilight Fair
Friday March 13 – 4.30pm until late
Roll up! Roll up!
We are looking for local groups/families/businesses that would like to have a stall at our fair. Food, non-alcoholic drinks, handicrafts, toys, carnival games... let your imagination run wild!
Pitch prices are as follows:
$30 for charities, $50 for businesses
$10 extra for electricity, $25 for car boots.
To be part of this fun community oriented event, contact louise.dennis@diamondharbour.school.nz or the school office on 329 4842.

DH Community Association AGM
Monday April 20 at 7pm
in the Stage Room
To be followed by a community consultation meeting with Ecan to answer questions on the proposed Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan as well as any general questions. Bring your questions!
Assistance in writing submissions will also be given.
Refreshments will be provided.
Christine Turner, Secretary DHCA

Line Dancing
We are a group of local girls who meet on
Wednesdays 1.30-3pm in the Community Hall
for low impact dancing.
We would like a few more to join us, so put on those comfy shoes and get on down there and have some fun!
Bev 329 4868

Diamond Harbour Toy Library
Every Saturday 10-11am at the Community Hall
New Members Most Welcome!
Come down and see our amazing range of good quality toys – why buy when you can hire!
Brand new toys added regularly.
Baby, Toddler, Preschool & School age toys.
Huge range of indoor/outdoor toys – slides, bikes/trikes, cars, puzzles, prams, water tables, playsets, construction, games, dress ups, sports, baby toys, musical instruments and more!
Drop in any Saturday morning for more information or to pick up an enrolment pack.
Email: dhtoylibrary@gmail.com

An Invitation from Canterbury Rhododendron Society to be part of the care group for the
Rhododendron Garden at Orton Bradley Park
Saturday March 21 10.30-11.30 am
Meeting place: Entry to the garden
Rhododendron Society members will cordially welcome local folk who may wish to be part of caring and planning, 4 working bees per year and an occasional extra pre-fete.
All welcome. Contact Geoff & Kathryn Millar on 324 2511.

Singing Workshop
Calling all singers - that includes those who are shy and need some encouragement to come to our regular Wednesday night sessions. Or maybe you have recently moved to Diamond Harbour and didn't realise we had a regular singing group?
Singing workshop with the wonderful Nikki Berry
Date: Saturday 18 April
Time: 9.30am to 4pm
Venue: Diamond Harbour Community Hall
A workshop is a great way to begin a relationship with our singing group. For those of you who don't know her, Nikky is a very talented and enthusiastic teacher and a great workshop is assured.
More details in the April Herald
COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Diamond Harbour Business Hub**

Need some business or office space? Keen to network with other business owners in Southern Harbour Bays (Charteris Bay/Church Bay/Diamond Harbour/Purau)?

*We are looking for like-minded people who are interested in exploring options for a local business hub.*

The aim is to provide better services to our community, and provide those working from home a place to run a business and network. The hub could attract interest from Christchurch businesses and community groups, providing a break-away destination for work and leisure activities.

**Please contact:**
Pete Simpson: pete.simpson@tallpoppyconsulting.co.nz or Mike Catton: mike@mikecatton.co.nz to register your interest and be notified of the business hub meeting.

**Native Plants Need Homes**

Trees for Canterbury is to give away another 5000 native plants in their March giveaway of young plants. They are also donating 3000 plants for Children’s Day.

The community giveaway program is open to community organisations so they can obtain NZ native plants for their school and/or community project. This is for schools, preschools, community groups, church groups, or projects on land with public access, etc.

Applicants should write a letter following these simple guidelines:

- Details of the group
- A contact person
- Phone number
- Type of plants – eg large or low growing shrubs or trees or perhaps ground-cover.
- Number of plants
- Situation – eg full sun/shade, wet or dry conditions
- A plant list if you have one

Applications must be received before March 31 at:

Trees For Canterbury
PO Box 19 883, Christchurch 8241
Any inquiries should be directed to Steve or Tracey on 982 1028 or at the above address.

**Have you considered using The Shopping Van?**

On alternate Wednesdays we can pick you up from your gate at about 9am and return you home around 1pm after taking you to the South City Mall for shopping.

Some of our regulars have recently moved out of Diamond Harbour so there are now some spare seats available either regularly or occasionally.

If you are interested, or would like further information, contact Nicky Palmer 329 4341 or Wendy Coles 329 4483.

**Caught the Bus but Missed the Ferry?**

After a few recent instances of the 28 Bus running late and passengers thus missing the ferry or the ferry being delayed and passengers missing the bus connection, it is now official policy for the two drivers (bus and ferry) to communicate with each other whenever there is a delay so that the two services can be coordinated. Passengers are also reminded to proceed directly between bus and ferry and vice-versa to be sure of making the connection.

**Lyttelton Creative Community Public Meeting**

**Date:** Wednesday 11 March starting 7.30pm

**Venue:** Union Church, Winchester St, Lyttelton

Lyttelton artist Trent Hiles is organising an event for creative organisations and enterprises from Lyttelton and the harbour basin to present information on what they do and how people can get involved.

I want to give everyone in Lyttelton and the harbour basin who is interested or involved in the arts, in creative initiatives, in whatever capacity, the opportunity to share with the community what they do, so we can put names to faces and, more importantly, collectively discover the breadth of amazing creative opportunities that are currently available in the area,” says Hiles. “Once I started talking to people about the meeting they kept on making suggestions as to who to invite to speak – the list is still growing.

Speakers will be given 2-3 minutes to share their project with the audience then Hiles plans to facilitate a brainstorm/idea generation process aimed at finding out what else the local community wants to take place creatively in Lyttelton and the harbour basin. From the ideas generated it is hoped that there will be two or three that can be developed further by a steering group that is made up from meeting attendees.

I was very fortunate to recently take part in a two-day workshop run by renowned ‘community builder’ and artist Milenko Matanovic. Milenko established the Pomegranate Center 29 years ago with the aim of involving communities in creative activity, working alongside communities to help make their creative dreams real. The greatest insights came not from the ideas that the communities developed but the idea-generation process itself that was inclusive and considered, focussed on involvement by all and concentrated on future possibilities rather than things that hadn’t worked in the past.

From a creative perspective I am enthusiastic about the development of a permanent creative space somewhere in the township that serves as a drop-in space, a hub for creative activity and events, where local artists get to share their skills and knowledge, where anyone can sign up to a range of creative workshops, whether that be life drawing or web design, pottery to music lessons… But that’s just my idea – there will be a whole lot more out there and, as we learned when we developed the vacant site on London Street into the Lyttelton Petanque Club, for the community to engage with and ‘own’ what is on offer then they need to be involved as equal contributors from the outset.

I certainly don’t have all the answers, nor do I speak for all artists, but I am keen to help others voice their ideas and see if collectively we can combine our skills and knowledge to make things happen, and help continue to build more creative opportunities here in Lyttelton and the harbour basin.

There is a wide range of creative initiatives represented. These include film, visual arts, arts organisations, event management, quilters, and knitters. The list grows by the day and is, in itself, an example of the breadth of creative talent and interest in the Harbour Basin community. The meeting is open to everyone and the community is being encouraged to share the event details with their own networks so that as many people as possible are able to join in this conversation.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Cat shot and seriously wounded in Marine Drive

My cat, Howie, a tabby cat with a white bib, white feet and no collar was shot in the neck on Thursday 19 February and then hit by a car near the corner of Whero Ave and Marine Drive. He is a street wise cat and may have run into the road blindly as a result of being shot with a large pellet. Howie has suffered major injuries as a result of this cruel behaviour and his pain and suffering have been unbearable to watch at times.

I would like to make a direct appeal to whoever shot him with a pellet gun/air rifle to think twice before hurting any animal again. Was Howie just a fun target for you or were you disgruntled that he was on your property? Either way it is not OK to shoot animals. It is cruel and heartless. He has suffered intense pain and fear and is now starting the slow process of rehabilitation.

Secondary consequences are vet bills, so far over $1000, and I have had to take a week's annual leave to look after Howie. It has been a sad and difficult time.

I would urge anyone who is unhappy about unwanted cats visiting their property to use a water pistol or bucket of water to deter the cat. This is safe, harmless and legal. And if you should run over a cat, please report it to the SPCA or to Elaine at DH Neighbourhood Support on 329 4512 so that the owner may be contacted. If you have any information about what happened to Howie on 19 February it would be greatly appreciated if you could contact Elaine at DH Neighbourhood Support on 329 4512. Heidi Gaymne

Herald Subscriptions for 2015 received to date — Thank you


Subscribers may place free non-commercial classifieds in the Herald. Thank you for your support. The Herald Team

Farewell to Hedgehog

Tim Dunningham who has recently sold his business writes:

Dear Harbour residents,

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to my many loyal Hedgehog customers. Over the past 15 years Hedgehog has been mowing and doing general garden maintenance in the area and overall I have been involved in this type of business for 34 years. Due to my age and other business interests I have decided to reluctantly sell Hedgehog. My customers have been fantastic, loyal and supportive and for that I am very grateful. I have kept my Purau lawns to keep my hand in and to maintain some fitness!

The new owner is Chris Booker of Booker Property Maintenance.

Chris will divide his time between the Harbour and town but is eventually hoping to move here fulltime. So for any mowing or gardening enquiries please ring Chris on 027 695 6213.

Thank you again

Tim Dunningham

Tree and Garden Services

Tree Surgery

Hedge Cutting Garden Clearance

Dave Hammond

ND in Amenity Horticulture

Phone 329 4270

Geo Brewer Systems

Diamond Harbour’s Technology Specialist

Got Computer Problems?

Call 0272807859 or (03) 3294083

I am a qualified electronics technician and Microsoft certified systems engineer working in the computer industry for 36 years, 20 of which on PC’s and networking.

One of my specialities is building custom PC’s and media servers.

But if you have ANY computer related problems or need free unbiased advice on what to buy give me a call.

Note I can also help with Apple technology ie Macs, Iphones, Ipads and ipods.

Herald Subscriptions for 2015 received to date — Thank you
DHCA Meeting February 9, 2015

Public Forum
Rachel, Bianca and Monique from Ecan attended the meeting to talk about community concerns with the Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan. A preliminary draft recovery plan will be ready for 13th April and will then be open for public consultation. In mid August there will be recommendation to the Minister.

There will be 20 working days for comments and submissions in writing. Under the CERA Act we can only appeal on points of law. Detailed assessments of commercial and recreational use of the port have been done. The Lyttelton Port Chapter will be inserted into the District Plan with comment and input from CCC.

Information is available at www.portlytteltonplan.co.nz.

Our main concerns are the relocation of the ferry terminal to Dampier Bay and the heavy vehicle traffic on Norwich Quay. We plan to hold a community consultation meeting in March.

It was moved that Margie Dickinson and Jim Nieman be co-opted onto the DHCA committee.

Treasurer’s Report
$1,900 was paid for the new Service Directory printing. We thank all the people who worked he Directory which is a real asset to our community.

Money from SPRIG has been paid to sculptors and musicians and a small profit has been made

Hall Report
CCC are not prepared to spend any more money on the Community Hall. Paula asked for a breakdown of costs needed for the upgrade for the rugby club building consent, plus assurance that they would agree to improvement work being done if funds were provided. The estimated cost is $250,000. We will wait to hear from the rugby club and may consider a joint approach for fund raising using a professional fund raiser.

It is suggested that the old committee room be used for storage with new shelving and cupboards fitted.

Community Board Report
The Godley House site fences will come down soon when the new grass is established. The water storage tank discovered on the Godley site is now buried and covered over with a lid. This will be looked at in the future.

Paula has filled Jane Broughton’s position on the Orton Bradley Park Board.

General Business
The licensing extension application for Chalfont has been withdrawn due to negative response from the community. The new owner will apply for the license to be transferred to his name. It was moved that we will not be heard at the hearing as we now have nothing to say.

The Diamond Harbour Community Board website needs updating. David Rice and Felicia Forbes will be invited to the next meeting to discuss options. DHCA will provide funds for their services. Our current server costs $200 a month. We would like feedback for ideas for the new website.

Initial conversation with CCC is taking place for the Long Term Plan. They are putting together a Draft Plan and will then be open for consultation.

Morgan’s Gully will be fenced off after it is signed off.

We discussed jet skis and power craft being banned from popular swimming beaches. Gary Manch will be invited to our next meeting to talk about this issue and the process for applying for a motor craft ban. There is soon to be a review of the by-law.

Next meeting Monday March 9 at 7.30pm, Stage Room AGM—Monday April 20 at 7pm, Stage Room

LMH Community Board Briefs
Welcome Aboard Denis!
Denis Aldridge of Allandale won the recent by-election triggered by the resignation of Jane Broughton. Congratulations Denis! This means Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board is now back up to full strength with five elected members (Ann Joliffe, Christine Wilson, Adrian Te Patu, Denis and me) together with Councillor Andrew Turner who is appointed by the Council. Participation in the postal vote was higher than usual for a by-election at 34%. This is normal. Banks Peninsula communities are pretty keen on democracy.

Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan
All the environmental impact assessment information prepared by LPC to support their recovery and redevelopment proposals is now available on both the ECan and LPC websites and there is a hard copy at the Lyttelton Library and also one at the Lyttelton Information Centre. The package of information contains reports on all kinds of issues such as effects on marine mammals, transport and traffic effects, lighting effects, landscape effects and effects on harbour hydrodynamics and sediment. ECan is now preparing the preliminary draft of the official Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan which is expected to be publicly notified about 13 April and be open for submissions until 8 May. If you have an interest in any aspect of the port’s proposals you may wish to check out the detailed assessment information so you can make an informed and effective submission.

Representation Review Coming Up
The upcoming review of local governance arrangements includes such things as ward boundaries, the number of city councillors, the communities represented by community boards, and the number of people within each ward. Currently Banks Peninsula is treated as a separate ward even though we have far fewer voters than the city wards. We are represented by two community boards and a single city councillor (one of 13 at the council table) but all this could be about to change. More information can be found on the CCC website and there will be an opportunity to have your say about these matters in due course. Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board’s position is to maintain the status quo. One of our 21 strategic objectives for this triennium is Existing local government boundaries and arrangements are maintained, reflecting Banks Peninsula’s inherent integrity and particular interests.

Ka kīte ano
Paula Smith, Chairperson
Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board

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CIVIL DEFENCE UPDATE

Our Year Ahead

We live in an extinct volcano whose eastern flanks have been broached by the sea. An exciting place to live, but with a vulnerability when it comes to road access, telephone and power supply. There is a likelihood that the harbour basin would become isolated from the rest of Christchurch City during a Civil Defence Emergency.

In recognition of this risk your local CD team has fostered strong links with both the Governors Bay and Lyttelton Civil Defence teams which is expressed in the form of shared training, joint exercises and even the occasional bit of socialising! Our preparedness is also reflected in our training plan for the year ahead.

We have drafted our training programme for this year based on three key areas. The first is to ensure we are ready and competent to set up the sector post under any circumstances (including a powerless, night-time scenario). The second is continuing to upskill our members in the operation of the post. The third is the combined practical exercises (with other harbour basin units and with the City) where we implement our training and learn from the experience of others.

In addition to our own training programme our members attend more specialised training courses offered by the EMTC (Emergency Management Training Centre).

It will be a good year ahead. We will be prepared…… ARE YOU?

DH Civil Defence Team

Diamond Harbour Neighbourhood Support
Are You With It?

If you are a resident or property owner on the south shore of Lyttelton Harbour, contact Elaine - see below.

To stay informed about

Neighbourhood Security, Welfare and Emergency Information

ensure your inclusion on our secure database.

Membership is Free
for all residents and property owners on the southern side of Lyttelton Harbour

To ADD, UPDATE or REMOVE your details, to request a new group list, join the community emailing system or for information or concerns

CONTACT: Elaine Bryson (Area co-ordinator)
Email: dhnshq@gmail.com Phone: 329 4512
28 Koromiko Cres, Church Bay, RD1 Lyttelton 8971

DH Volunteer Fire Brigade

Brigade Briefing

Last month I wrote about the changes to the fleet at Diamond Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade. This month I have news of further changes, but this time to the personnel. It was with a degree of sadness that we received the resignations of Andrew Dower and Dave Hammond. After many years of dedication to our community, they have both decided to move on to other exciting challenges in the area.

Fortunately, the recruitment campaign we ran last year resulted in four new members. Even more fortunate is that the average age of the Brigade has fallen! The new members are:

Tom Bryant

Tom is yet another ex-pat Brit who, like the writer, has found that life in NZ offers some great opportunities. In particular, living in Diamond Harbour is a wonderful place to raise children. Tom and Jo have three children, all of whom attend Diamond Harbour school. In the past, Tom has instructed people in climbing and kayaking – both of which are skills an emergency service could find very useful.

Mark Burkwood

You can’t have too many Brits, I always say. Mark is from London, but has been in New Zealand since 2003. Prior to moving to Diamond Harbour in 2011 with wife Jo, Mark was involved with St Johns in Christchurch. Since an increasing number of our call-outs are to medical emergencies, Mark will fit right in. It should probably be noted that Tom’s Jo and Mark’s Jo are not the same person.

Nathan Graham

Nathan was born up the coast in Kaikoura, but has spent many years living overseas. Much of that time was spent helping the needy in Afghanistan. His Kiwi ingenuity was frequently required in areas not yet touched by the Dick Smith Empire. This ability to solve problems with limited resources is a valuable asset in our team. Although Nathan’s experience in dealing with medical emergencies might not yet be vast, he has the reassurance of knowing wife Bronwyn is just a phone call away.

Jeremy Palmer

Jeremy is most definitely a local lad. He was born and bred in Diamond Harbour and so knows the area well. Jeremy moved away for a while to check just how good life here really is. With qualifications, work experience in Fire Protection and partner Olivia’s heart all successfully won, Jeremy headed back home to Diamond Harbour. Jeremy joins the list of members that have served concurrently with their fathers.

2015 will see more personnel changes as one of our longest serving members has signalled that 50 years with the New Zealand Fire Service is probably about enough; but more of this later in the year.

Fire Fighter David Rice

Master Your Health

Acupuncture Clinic

Therapies provided:
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Also available for purchase:
100% Pure Essential Oils
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Michele Craw
Dip. Acupuncture NZCCM
Reg. Member NZRA
ACC Treatment Provider

Phone 329 4018
Mobile 027 339 0731

Contact Tui Scott: 0276574483

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CLASSIFIEDS

Pond Plants
$1-$5. Also fresh water snails 10c each. Ph 329 3363.

Treadmill for sale.
Proform CrossWalk Advanced 525S. Excellent condition $50. Ph. 021 469 737.

Phase2 yacht for sale
Old but sound, includes sails, centreboard etc. All offers considered. Ph 342 8291.

Furniture for sale
A set of child’s blue wooden drawers with red handles - $30. Two single wooden beds that can be assembled as bunks or separately. Pine with a rimu stain finish. Mattresses included if required - $200. Tallboy - $80. Old style wooden desk, ideal for student - $80. Ph Jenny or Chris Fowler 329 4966 or 021 807 661.

Sink for sale
New toilet and semi-recessed style sink purchased to renovate a bathroom but never used – offers. Ph Jenny or Chris Fowler 329 4966 or 021 807 661.

Housesitter Available
In the Diamond Harbour, Church Bay, Purau, Charteris Bay areas. I have housesat for most of the past year and am keen to continue this year while building in Church Bay. I enjoy looking after pets and gardens. I work as a midwife locally and in town and have been a Diamond Harbour resident for 24 years. Please phone 027 240 5004.

Copper Tun Starter Brewery Kit
Unopened gift, also have about 50 plastic beer bottles. $60. Phone 329 4040

Simpson 4G Clothes Dryer
As new, front or rear vent system, similar can be seen in Harvey Norman. $185. Phone 329 4040.

Fold Up Single Bed
Good condition. $30. Phone 329 4040.

Free Magazines
Last years copies of The New Scientist and Economist. Phone 329 4040.

Watch Found
At Purau Bay, on the beach, luckily before the tide came in. Call Gabby for more info 021 0821 4580.

Free Window and Door
Small, old window in fair condition. 1540 x 760 mm (incl frame). Interior panel door in good condition. Both free to pick up in Diamond Harbour. Ph 027 639 8882.

House for Rent

Furniture For Sale

Ride to Christchurch wanted
Is there anyone who could give two people a ride into Christchurch one afternoon of a week day? Please phone (03) 550 4225.

Flatmate wanted
Beautiful and warm 2 storey log house with wonderful harbour views on a sunny Teddington farm has one single ensuite room with veranda available at $200 pw. Power, firewood, water and internet $25 pw. Garden space and grazing available. Long term, working tenant preferred. Ph 329 9118 or 027 482 9410. See www.bergli.co.nz.

Ever wanted to be a writer?
Full set of journalism correspondence course books (2nd hand ) to give away. Ph 329 4512.

Kiwi Home Maintenance
All house dwelling, maintenance and landcare etc. Discounts for over 65. We are locals who are honest, reliable who give personal service with integrity. Contact Richard and Yvonne on 027 659 9419.

Psychedelic Rock Band Project
Interested in helping me with this project? This would involve artistic input, helping set up laser-lights, doing sound checks, and helping to transport band gear around (as I don’t have a car). I’m looking for someone who is (preferably) a rock music enthusiast interested in trying new concepts. Contact Neville 022 027 4911 or neozeelandes@yahoo.co.nz.

Small Car for sale
1996 Nissan March. 3 door automatic, 1000cc. 136,000 kms, WOF, in very tidy condition. $2200 neg. Ph 329 3032.

Windows Laptops and PCs

Smart Phone for sale
Huawei Ascend G300. 4 inch screen, factory reset to Android ICS (4.03). Works on all networks. Good condition. $40. Ph 329 3032.

Dressmaker
Specializing in dance costumes, wedding gowns and formal/prom dresses. Happy to work on any sewing project large or small! 329 3166 or livingdolls@thedollfactory.co.nz.

Traditional Masonry
STONE WORKS
Ph 329 3165
Tel (03) 981 3321
Mob 027 228 6494
Fax (03) 329 3167
Mob 021 406 514
www.stoneworks.co.nz

A1 Carriers
Driver: Colin Craig
Deliveries Tuesdays and Thursdays
City, Lyttelton to Port Levy, Akaroa
Ph.3669 386   Fax.3660 565   Email: a1carriers@xtra.co.nz
CLASSIFIEDS

Furniture and Rugs for sale
All in good condition at bargain prices. Art deco chrome lamp table $50. Large solid oval dining table, dark stain $40. 2 attractive thick wool tufted rugs: 160x230 maroon design $75. 110x160 red/white design $45.

Lawn Mowers for sale
Ozito electric mower with catcher, good condition $80. Ozito push mower, little used $40.

Orton Bradley Firewood for sale
Dry, split and ready to burn. 3m3 delivered. Pine $195. Macrocarpa $245. All proceeds to Park maintenance. Ph 329 4730.

Dog Walking
I am available for walking dogs, looking after cats, and caring for certain animals for a reasonable fee. Ph Sharlene on (03) 550 4225 or 022 027 4911.

Services offered
Handyman home services are offered on the sunny side of the harbour. Home maintenance, building repairs, painting, fencing and some plumbing as well as section tidying. Affordable rates. Ph Jim 328 8274 or 027 226 4548.

Outdoor Fitness
Outdoor Boot Camp Fitness with Mike at 6:30am Mon, Wed and Fri, all year round. Ph 329 4647 or mikecatton@mac.com.

Boxing Circuit Classes
Monday 6.30pm and Wed 7pm. Commercial gym open 7 days. 329 9525 or 027 773 0036 or baysidefit@gmail.com.

Doggie Bootcamps
We pick up your pet from home in the morning, take them out for the day and drop them back in the afternoon. We spend time walking on the lead individually and as part of a pack and have free time at a safe place such as a dog park, beach or forest. Ph 027 773 0036.

DIAMOND HARBOUR COUNTRY STORE
Sunday–Wednesday: 8:30am–5pm
Thursday–Saturday: 8:30am–8pm
(prescriptions will be delivered on an earlier boat for pickup before 5pm)

Takeaway Fish & Chips and Burgers
5–8pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights

CHALFONT MERCANTILE & THE DIAMOND HARBOUR POST OFFICE
Monday–Saturday 10am–2pm

Chalfont Cafe, Diamond Harbour Country Store
2i Waipapa Ave Phone: 329 4465
www.chalfontcafe.co.nz
**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Catholic Masses**

Every Sunday at 5.30 pm

First Sunday of month: Mass at DH Community Church
Second, Fourth, and Fifth Sunday: SCAP* service (which fulfills Sunday Obligation)
Third Sunday of month: Mass at Lyttelton (21 Exeter St)

*Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest

**Anglican – Methodist – Presbyterian Services**

Easter Services

*St Andrews Diamond Harbour*
Easter Maundy Thursday April 2nd 7pm
Good Friday 3rd April 10:30am
Easter Sunday 5th April 10:30am

*St Pauls Port Levy*
Easter Sunday *Triumph* Saturday 4th April 7pm

*St Peters Teddington*
Easter Good Friday 3rd April 9am
Easter Sunday 5th April 9am

**Weekly Services**

*St Andrews Diamond Harbour*
Sundays at 10.30am and Wednesdays at 9am

**Congregational AGM Diamond Harbour at St Andrews**
Sunday 8 March following the 10:30am church service.

**AGM of Parishioners of the Mount Herbert Parish**
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Church members of the Mt Herbert Parish will be held on Sunday 29th March 2015 at Governors Bay Fire Brigade Hall. Shared lunch at 1pm; AGM at 2pm.

Please phone the Parish Office on 329 4790 or email mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz with any enquiries.

The purpose of this meeting is

* To consider the spiritual life of the Parish
* To receive and adopt the audited accounts for 2014
* To elect a Peoples Warden and members of Vestry
* To appoint an auditor for 2015
* To discuss any matters of general business people wish to raise All members of the Church registered in this Parish for a period of not less than two months are entitled to speak and vote.

Reverend Russell Pickersgill-Brown

**Prayer for the Parish**

Weekdays at 8:15am in the Church Library. This is to specifically pray for God’s presence in all our lives and His Spirit to move in our Parish. All are welcome. If you are unable to join us, please pray wherever you are.

**Monday Night Study Group**

Meets Monday fortnightly in a warm and friendly Charteris Bay home. Call Bruce Beckett on 329 4422.

**Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study Group**

Based on reading Word for Today, is held in the Church Library every second Wednesday at 3:30pm. Please contact Merelyn Haxell on 329 3036.

**Gamma Home Group**

Meets Monday weekly in a warm and friendly Diamond Harbour home. Contact Ross Fountain on 329 4202.

**Baby & Toddlers Group**

Fortnightly on a Tuesday, a coffee and support group for parents and caregivers of babies and infants aged 0-36 months in the Church Hall from 10-12 noon.

Contact Wendy on 329 4483 or 021 154 1434 for further information. Upcoming dates are Mar 11 & 25; Apr 7 & 21.

**City Shopping Van**

The van runs on alternate Wednesdays. Upcoming dates are Mar 11 & 25; Apr 7 & 21. Pick ups are around 9am and returning around 1:30pm. Bookings are essential so please call Nicky on 329 4341 or Wendy on 329 4483. A $10 contribution towards fuel costs is invited.

Secondhand Items Donated to the Church

Generally these are passed on to the Christchurch City Mission but we are also preparing for an Op shop in the Little River end of the parish. Thank you for donations - especially clean clothing. Please note that electrical items cannot be accepted. Non-perishable food items also gratefully accepted.

**City Mission Basket**

The church has a basket for non-perishable food and grocery items for the City Mission. Many families are dependent on the support of agencies like the City Mission as jobs dwindle and money fails to stretch to meet basic outgoings. We also collect Small Change for the Small Room, with the coins being spent on toiletries and personal hygiene items which are distributed by the City Mission and St Vincent de Paul.

**Mount Herbert Parish Newsletter**

Please email contributions for the next issue to mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz. You can read the current issue of the newsletter and back copies at: www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx

**Mount Herbert Parish Website**

For further parish news and information visit www.mountherbertparish.wordpress.com

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**HERALD CALENDAR**

**ANZAC Day:** Sat April 25, Breakfast 8.30am. Register. p13

**Art Group:** Weds, 9.30am, Church Hall

**Baby & Toddlers:** Tues Mar 10 & 24; Apr 7 & 21. p21

**Ballet - Harbour Basin Dance:** Sats, 9.15am, Hall

**Bridge Club:** Weds, 7pm, Bowling Club. Ph 329 4094

**Camera Club:** Tue Mar 17, 7.30pm, Stage Room. p13

**Church AGM:** Sun Mar 29, 1pm, Gov Bay Fire Station. p21

**Church Notices:** See page 21

Croquet : Weds, 1.30pm; Sats, 10am.

**DH School Twilight Fair:** Fri Mar 13, 4.30pm, School. p14

**DHCA Meeting:** Mon Mar 9, 7.30pm, Stage Room

**DHCA AGM + Ecan:** Mon Apr 20, 7pm, Stage Room. p14

**Free Community Walk:** Thurs, 10am, Godley Café. p13

**Harbour Singers:** Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room. p13

**Historical Assn:** Tue Mar 10, 8pm, Stage Room. p13

**Insight Meditation:** Tues, 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave

**Jazz - Harbour Basin Dance:** Tues, 4pm, Hall.

**Ladies Probus:** Mon Mar 9, 10am, Church Hall

**Library Story Time:** Thu Mar 19, 10am. p13

**Line Dancing:** Weds, 1.30pm, Hall. p14

**Lyttonel Creative Comm Meet:** Wed Mar 11, 7.30. p15

**Mens Probus:** Thu Mar 5 & Apr 2, 10am, DH Rugby Club

**Native Plant Give-away Applications Close:** Mar 31. p15

**OBP Mountain Bike Track Opening:** Sun Mar 8, 10am. p5

**Playcentre:** Mons, Weds, Thus, 9.15am. p7

**Quiz Night:** Fri Mar 27, 7pm, Community Hall. p13

**Rhododendron Society:** Sat Mar 21, 10.30am, OBP. p5&14

**Running Group:** Suns, 8am. p13

**Sea Scouts:** Tues, 3.30pm

**Shopping Van:** Weds Mar 11 & 25; Apr 8 & 22. p15 & 21

**Singing Workshop:** Sat Apr 18, 9.30am, Hall. p14

**Tai Chi:** Thu Mar 12noon, Com Hall.

**Tennis Club:** Suns 9.30am, Weds 6.30pm, Waipapa Courts

**Timebank Drop-in:** Fri, 9am, Godley Café. p6

**Toy Library:** Sats 10am, Community Hall. p14

**Woolfun Day:** Sat Mar 14, Bergli Farm. p13
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