Every Christmas Steve and I try to explore a little bit more of New Zealand and this year combined a bit of paddle and pedal power to counteract all the Xmas goodies – especially Sally Alexander’s legendary Christmas puddings which have gone on every road trip with us. So off as usual on the InterIslander, and up to Ohakune just a bit below Taupo where we joined 9 others for a 4 day paddle down the amazing Whanganui River.

Into each Canadian canoe (OK... not a waka but nearly enough) went 2 of us, a plastic barrel each full of sleeping bag and mat, and basic clothes and toiletries – these also provided the flotation for any capsizes so had to be well strapped in. Then we shared out the tents, chilli bins, food stores and a gas bottle and 3 burner stove top! Most of the upper reaches of the river are not accessible by road so we put in at one of the few places possible, a tributary at Whakahoro and eventually pulled out at Pipiriki.

What an amazing river – and what a fabulous way to see it – paddling down calms and rapids, through steep green gorges towering on each side, ringing with bell birds and tuis and the odd wild goat bleating as they scuttled up the banks and away from us. (Goats are very thoroughly culled there as they are a real pest and multiply prodigiously.)

We passed a lot of the steep mud bank landings used in times gone by for transporting goods up and down the river – and even experienced a bit of the mud sweat and tears ourselves hauling all our kit up the steep paths to find a bit of flat grassy camp site every evening. We learnt to put up the little 2 man tents quite quickly, and relearned the skills of wriggling in and out of clothes while trying not to knock the tent down or let too much insect life in. Magic evenings off the river as well – sitting on driftwood by the river bank with surprise supplies of beer and Toblerone while our young dreadlocked guides cooked up a storm on their little burners. One memorable night – after being kept awake almost all night it seemed by hundreds of morporks – a male and female kiwi started calling to each other just yards away for what was left of the night – just magic.

The bush on the steep gorge banks is so dense and dramatic – it was hard to understand how the post-WW1 settlers, given land around the Mangapurua Gorge, managed to make any headway at all clearing it and trying to farm. We walked in from the river bank to the Bridge to Nowhere, built in 1935 for the settlers that had been there since 1917. It’s a bizarre but beautiful sight, this pretty arching concrete bridge completely surrounded by steep forested hillsides that never had the roads built and was never really used in anger. The last settler gave up and struggled out in 1942 from this area described in some reports as remote and unsuitable for farming – I’ll say!

It was a bit of a culture shock getting off the river, back into car and ferry, and back to the more accessible delights of Nelson and Golden Bay. We spent 2 nights on Best Island – I’d never heard of it but it was a great little community on a tiny island tucked under one corner of Rabbit Island. Xmas morning found us kayaking round the island before breakfast – watching the local white heron catching its own breakfast before we shared a packet of fruit mince pies for ours. It was 34 degrees that day so we waited till the evening to do some mountain biking around part of the Great Taste Trail – which goes from Nelson around Rabbit Island, Mapua and into the Moutere Hills – it is still being developed but a great facility. Biking along the beach on Rabbit Island was a real Kiwi experience with 4 wheel drives lined up and families watching the Christmas Day sunset while the barbies smoked gently and optimistic seagulls wheeled overhead.

The pedals got exercised a bit more radically next – staying just outside Takaka. We caught a mountain bike shuttle back up to the top of Takaka Hill, and rode out a bit to start a full day’s downhill mountain biking on the Remuka Track – OK a lot of people take a lot less than a day but I’m a little timid on some of the rocky and rooty twisty bits. But going slow didn’t matter with green and dripping atmospheric forest and streams to enjoy.

I did get even slower for a while when I accidentally let down my suspension but a nice man working on the trail just happened to have the right piece of kit in his rucksack so off we went again. Next time I’ll be quicker, maybe! There’s so much good mountain biking around the Tasman District now – we plan to get back and tackle a lot more when we get time – maybe next Christmas? We might need double portions of Christmas pudding!

Charlie and Steve Procter
Herald History — Part 3: Going Pro

Oh, the Diamond Harbour Herald, is the paper made for you, The pupils & the teachers & the secretary too Combine to get it printed & published every week And boys & girls deliver it with pink & rosy cheek

Produced entirely by the school & delivered to you free The Diamond Harbour Herald is the paper for you & me Of all the local goings on in this part of creation. If you really think it fills a need then offer a donation!

So sang the Ugly Sisters (aka David Coop and Derek Williams) in late 1962 in the Diamond Harbour MerryMakers inaugural production, Cinderellabed. More than a quarter of a century later it was coincidentally a MerryMaker who stepped up when the school's 31 years of The Herald reluctantly ended in 1986. Derek Laver was an editor of Suburban Newspapers, which was associated with the Christchurch Star. Like many Diamond Harbour residents, he immersed himself fully in the community. As well as the MerryMakers, he had a great passion for groups. This photo is of his wedding which took place on the eighteenth green! However, many will also remember his fundraising prowess, and in particular his role in the inaugural event of the Snow Relief Fund which was set up to provide emergency equipment after the big snowfall of 1992. This very successful fundraising event was based on the long-running radio and TV show It's in the Bag. In keeping with our rural environment, it was entitled It's in the Boot, featuring gumboots in place of bags. Derek stood in for TV host, Selwyn Toogood, and as in the real show, was aided by a glamorous assistant. His step-daughter Corina took this role, appropriately clad in black singlet, khaki shorts and — of course — gumboots.

But of the Herald in 1987 under Derek's leadership, details are sparse. It was produced weekly in quarto-size (roughly the same as today) and was, at might be expected, very professionally presented. Given Derek's skills and community interest, one could reasonably assume that he may have envisaged developing the Herald to the standard of Suburban Newspapers' community tabloids, perhaps encompassing the whole of Banks Peninsula, since he is known to have negotiated — unsuccessfully — to take over the Akaroa Mail.

We have been unable to establish whether it was the failure of this quest, the cost of production, the lack of sufficient community news or some other factor which caused him to cease his Herald publication after about a year. However in 1988, another resident, Euan Godfrey, was concerned enough about the lack of a local paper to continue beyond 1999 and so this part of the Herald History is yet to come…

Towards the end of 1991 the Diamond Harbour Community Association was very involved in decision-making on issues of importance and concern was raised among the committee on the need to inform the community and stimulate feedback. The Herald was the obvious choice but it seemed equally clear that Euan was not in a position to expand his publication to that extent. Accordingly, and with the best of intentions, but without involving the incumbent editor, they sought the services of another resident journalist. Diana Hosted was a busy mother of four young children but was motivated by the opportunity to have, as she put it, a pin-money earner for a stay-at-home mum. Understandably, Euan was somewhat taken aback to be asked to hand over the Herald with the seemingly implied suggestion that he was not doing a good enough job. As a compromise of sorts, Diana set about establishing a new community paper. She held a naming competition in which Veronika Gabel's suggestion The Link was declared the winner. The prize was a years' subscription to the new paper, and a chocolate fish. Veronika reports that she was delighted to receive the subscription — valued at $20 — at the prize-giving while her equally delighted young daughter unceremoniously gobbled up the chocolate fish. Thus the first Link appeared early in 1992 and fortnightly thereafter for six years. As time went on its production became a Hosted family affair. Diana conducted interviews, reported on matters of community interest and frequently spent most of the night typing material from sports clubs, groups and individual contributors — remember Nast Nett's column and Al Nesbitt's cartoons? Early in the morning her very supportive husband, Mike, would deal with inevitable layout problems and save to CD to go on to the printer. Once it was back home Diana and the older children would collate the pages and fold them on the kitchen table. Then it was into the family van for the delivery run. Sometimes it was onerous, but mostly we had fun and it was always good for pocket money — the children probably earned more from The Link than I did! reflects Diana. Thinking about it now I think we must have been MAD. It was a huge commitment. Nevertheless Diana continued to encourage others, particularly children, to use their writing skills. Her gift to Diamond Harbour School, The Link Trophy, is still presented every year for the best creative writing.

By the end of 1997, the workload and pressure began to feel like too much, and Diana announced she was considering giving up. The community was horrified at the prospect of not having a local newspaper and soon came up with a contingency plan of which we shall learn more in next month’s Part 4 of the Herald History.

Meanwhile after pondering through the summer break, and with her youngest child now at school, Diana decided to keep going, but in an even bigger and more professional manner. So the free tabloid Harbour Link was launched to cater for readers in Akaroa as well as here. For at least part of the next eighteen months she worked out of a little office in Fiona O'Neill's Harvester's Café in Lyttelton, assisted by Linda Driver. We'd go on positively charged jaunts to Akaroa for feature content and advertising hails! We often spent more on petrol and coffee than we earned on advertising — but it was fun.

The Harbour Link had not come about beyond 1999 and so ended this pro era, although Derek and Diana were not to be this newspaper's only professional editors — another was yet to come…

Elaine
IT MUST BE MARCH!

I was told many years ago that March was a good month for rural communities because the end of the financial year is looming so local councils rush around doing as many as they can of the small jobs they had shelved during the year while they concentrated on the big expensive ones, in order to use up all their allocated funds and thus be able to justify the inevitable rates rise they will inflict on rate-payers in April.

To test the theory I took my camera on a couple of quick tours around just part of our community between March 15 to 29... so you decide — is it true?

1. Resealing of a section of Purau Ave—and a lot more of the same in Charteris Bay.
2. Protective jacketing of worn piles below Diamond Harbour wharf.
3. Replacement of the decking and major repairs to the support structure of Diamond Harbour wharf.
4. Major upgrade to footpath in Ranui Cres.
5 & 6. Ten lamp posts replaced in Church Bay.
7. Street sweeper in action — although driver tells me he does this every 6 weeks and we should watch out for his brand new truck at the end of April.

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952
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We wish to invite reader feedback to find out which content (both articles and regular columns) interests you the most – and which does not.
You can either email us at dhherald@gmail.com or jot down a note to drop into a Herald box (at the DH Post Centre or the Church Bay store). All responses will be treated with complete confidentiality.

There is no need to rate everything...
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Authorised by Amy Adams, 829 Main South Road, Templeton, Christchurch.

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Crimestoppers has recently launched an awareness campaign for rural communities.

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Paul Rice
COMPUTER HELPDESK

EQC Dust Alert
If you remain in your house while earthquake damage is being repaired there may sometimes be plaster and other dust particles in the air. Computer cooling fans suck in this fine dust and it can cause serious damage. I recently replaced a hard drive damaged by dust particles and another from the home of a heavy smoker. Cigarette smoke is bad for the health of computers as well as people! So avoid smoking near computers and if you really need to use your computer during EQC repairs, switch it off when finished.

Spoilt for Choice
A few years back, buying a new computer was pretty simple – if it was going to stay at home you bought a PC and if you needed portability and could afford/justify the greater cost you got a laptop.

Advances in technology, particularly the continual miniaturisation of electronic componentry, have resulted in new smaller devices with the power to perform many of the tasks which previously required a PC or laptop: emailing, using the internet, managing contacts, photos, documents, playing games, etc.

These days we are spoilt for choice when buying a new device to perform these tasks and it can sometimes be confusing and difficult to know which type to go for.

First up – size matters! The effective area of a device can be roughly calculated by squaring the diagonal length of the screen (used to specify size). Compared to a 4” smartphone, a 7” tablet (e.g. Kindle reader) is 3 times larger; an 8” tablet (e.g. iPad Mini) 4 times; a 10” tablet (e.g. iPad, Samsung Galaxy Tab) 6 times; a laptop 15 times and a typical PC screen 30 times larger.

If you are a content consumer who only does the basics - email, surf the web, view/take photos read books, etc - a tablet (or even a smartphone) may do the job. But if you are a content creator who does complex tasks - create large documents/email messages or spreadsheets, manipulate pictures, use sophisticated software with menus and panels, need to print and prefer working with multiple windows open - then a laptop or PC will suit you better.

Although tablets and smartphones have clever predictive text software, if you do a lot of typing (and especially if you touch-type) they do not come close to the physical keyboard of a PC or laptop for speed and usability.

The main advantages of tablets and smartphones is portability, simplicity and ease of use. The main disadvantages are limited functionality and having to learn something completely different.

If portability is not a priority, there is little point in choosing a tablet over a laptop. An iPad or quality 10” Android or Windows tablet can cost as much as a laptop.

All 4 device types can connect to the internet via an access point (such as the broadband modem/router which plugs into your phone jack-point). Most PCs connect by a cable; laptops, tablets and smartphones use WiFi—which can also be used to connect at libraries, cafes, etc. Smartphones and 3G-capable tablets can also connect to the internet anywhere with cellular network coverage.

To make/receive calls or to send/receive text messages a smartphone is the best choice. There is software (such as Skype) which allows you to perform some of these functions on a tablet, laptop or PC, but there are limitations and complexities.

A good arrangement for content creators is a PC/laptop at home/work and a smartphone for email, tweeting, Facebook, maps, and finding stuff when on the move. Content consumers might find that a tablet and a cheap feature phone do everything they need.

Ron

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952
VET-SPOT

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

One of my professors liked to tell us that vets belong to a learned and honourable profession, and I agree. Nevertheless there are many times when I've ended up in some less than dignified situations.

Once we had clients moving house the day their cat was scheduled for an operation. Foolishly I offered to collect it from the old place, do the operation and then return it to the new one. I arrived in the evening, to find the cats all in one room and the patient extremely agitated due to all the packing activity, also no spare cat carrier was available. I hadn’t thought to bring one, but decided to make a plan. I had several plastic storage boxes in my vehicle that I keep medicines in, so I emptied one, and put the cat in. On the drive home it was doing laps around the box, and because there were no air holes I had to periodically open it to let fresh air in. Then it pooped and peed in the container and spread this about as it threw itself around. It was a relief to arrive home, put the cat in a proper kennel, and then clean out my storage box. At least the next day I was forewarned — the cat was dopey after its anaesthetic and contained in a proper carrier, so that trip was a breeze compared to the night before.

On another occasion I was bringing home a very enthusiastic Labrador to de-sex. I had him on the back seat, which worked well. Then on the way back I got a call to meet a collapsed dog along the way. He needed to be transferred into my car too, and I needed the back seat for him, so I made a place for the Labrador on the front seat beside me. This meant he could now pant (and drool) all over me. I had to drive with one arm pushing him off while he kept trying to climb onto my lap. Eventually I used the towel under him (which he wasn’t sitting on anyway!) as a drape over my left shoulder to keep me dry. Just before we reached home I heard liquid flowing from the back seat. Thinking the collapsed dog was urinating, I pulled over only to discover it had loosed very liquid diarrhoea all down my back door. It took several days and many washes to remove the stench.

The next day a client gave me a beautiful freshly caught salmon. When I arrived home I cleaned out the car for the umpteenth time, and forgot about the fish. I left my car in the garage all weekend, with the doors open to air it, and on Monday was amazed to find the stench not much better. That was when I discovered the flyblown salmon! I won’t even go into details about the time we’d emptied our outdoor medical waste freezer (where we also store deceased animals). I wasn’t there for the pick up, but later switched off the power to save electricity. This was just before Christmas, so the clinic was quiet and for a very hot two weeks we had no waste to refrigerate. In the New Year I started smelling something off, but didn’t think much of it for a few days, until eventually the thought hit, what if? With trepidation I opened the freezer and discovered the liquefied remains of a dead dog that had been overlooked. Surprisingly there were no volunteers to help me clean up!

Times like these just remind me not to take myself too seriously. There have been several occasions when I, or members of my family, have had patients sleep in our beds because they were anxious or needed extra TLC, and sometimes we just sit and hold them... even my tough teenage son. I still love my job, there are just some things they don’t tell you before you sign up!

Paul
THE ECO GARDENER'S PATCH

Gardening for Butterflies

The exceedingly long period of warm, dry weather we have been having lately has been troubling for gardeners watching their precious plants shrivel, but great for butterflies. If any butterflies are reading this column I know they will be delighted to find that some humans are even creating gardens especially for them, and that there is an on-line course on ‘How to Create a Butterfly Garden’ provided by the NZ Monarch Butterfly Trust at www.monarch.org.nz.

The Monarch Butterfly Trust is interested in all butterflies in New Zealand, and you can find out more about them on its site. Personally, I am always delighted to see New Zealand’s endemic Red Admiral butterfly and its cousin the Yellow Admiral, and I plant lots of plants that butterflies like. Some of them (such as the very nasty-to-humans ongaonga or native tree nettle) are allowed to grow in out-of-the-way-corners where they supply a banquet for the Red Admiral without harming any humans.

I have swan plants for the Monarch butterflies, but I have noticed that both they and the Admirals are fond of flowers which are made up of lots of tiny flowerets on one head. Buddleia flowers are a perfect example of this, but the most popular similar plants in my garden are the perennials, Joe Pye Weed (Eutrochium purpureum) and the Goose-necked Loosestrife (aka Lysimachia clethroides). These are great tall plants for a border, so plant them for both floral and fluttering beauty.

See more photos of butterflies on flowers in Christine’s garden at http://ecogardenernz.blogspot.co.nz/2013/02/gardening-for-butterflies.html. Christine Dann

RECIPE

Harvest Time – Tomatoes in Abundance

Just a quick lovely soup with all the spare tomatoes you now have hanging between the wilted leaves. The encroaching chill of the autumn suggests soups again.

If you don’t have your own crop, at the market they sell great tasty tomatoes at this time of year. For home made fresh tomato soup, you really need tasty tomatoes.

Serve it with home made chapatis or fresh oven-baked baguettes – a lovely lunch for sure.

**Ingredients**

- 800g ripe tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp butter
- 2 Tbsp shallots/onions, finely chopped
- 1 clove of garlic, finely chopped
- White (or black) pepper fresh from the pepper mill
- Salt
- Pinch of sugar
- Celery greens finely chopped
- Basil finely chopped (if available)
- Good stock (a little)
- 20g of cold butter

**Method**

Blanche the tomatoes for 10-15 seconds, cut a cross over tomato skin with a sharp knife and peel. Halve them, remove seeds and cut the flesh into small cubes.

Glaze finely chopped shallots in a little butter, add finely chopped garlic and celery, add tomatoes and cover. Simmer for 5 minutes.

Purée the soup (perfectionist French cooks strain it through a sieve) add a little stock to get the right consistency. Spice carefully and add cold butter, whisking it lightly into the soup. Serve with chopped basil leaves.

Bon Appétit

Franziska

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LIVING WELL

Every Behaviour has a Positive Intention

This month I am exploring the presupposition that behind every behaviour is a positive intention. It’s a presupposition that allows understanding of ourselves and others, and the suggestion of alternative behaviours when we don’t like the ones we are seeing.

The idea that every behaviour has a positive intention applies to both positive behaviours and those we may see as negative. I recently worked with someone who had smoked for most of his life and had decided it was time for that to change. He worked in a high pressure job where he had to make decisions quickly based on information presented to him. When faced with these situations, smoking a cigarette took the perfect amount of time for him to process the information and make the decision he needed to make. Smoking was serving a very important purpose.

Eating unhealthy foods, eating excessively, or eating when not hungry also have positive intentions behind them. People often eat to relieve boredom, for comfort or because it makes them feel good. Similarly, a child who suddenly finds themselves with a younger brother or sister taking up all of mum and dad’s time will often play up – a method used to try and make sure that they’re still loved.

Knowing that these behaviours have a positive intention behind them doesn’t necessarily condone them or make them OK. It does, however, allow you to understand what’s happening. What’s more, it allows you to start thinking of alternatives, as different behaviours which meet the positive intention as well as, or better than, the original behaviour are very likely to be accepted and taken on.

That means that once my client who smoked had other ways he could take time out to make those big decisions, smoking was no longer necessary. Similarly, a person who used to eat to relieve boredom no longer needs the food when spending their time doing things they enjoy, and a child who used to play up to get noticed no longer needs to do so when they know they’re loved because of the way their parents spend regular time with them and show them they love them. In each case, the old behaviours are no longer necessary as the positive intention has been met.

Robyn

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Vetlife will be holding weekly clinics in the Community Center from 2pm on Wednesday afternoons.

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YOU CAN COME TOO — LOCAL EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Diamond Harbour Health Day
in the Community Hall on April 27
from 9am-1pm.
This will include various checks by medical staff. Blood pressure and sugar checks etc. Flu immunisations (normal cost may apply).

Jean Burford

Woolfun Day at Bergli
Next Woolfun Day is Saturday April 20. Enjoy a relaxed day working with wool, with like-minded people in a small group, in a beautiful log house with wonderful views. Koha. Morning and afternoon tea provided. Bring your lunch, woolcraft gear, and if felting, a table if possible. Please note upcoming dates: May 4 and June 15.
Bergli B&B, 265 Charteris Bay Rd, Teddington. Ph 329 9118.
Rowena MacGill

Our Library
Did you know our Library has DVDs? They are $1 for singles and $2 for sets to borrow for a week. Children’s DVDs are free for a week and free to reserve. All you need is your library card.
Remember that it doesn’t cost anything to join the library. If there is a DVD that you would like to borrow that we don’t have we can reserve it from town for you for a charge of $2 — there may be a waiting list for the popular new ones.
Some of our current titles...
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen
The Green Mile
The Iron Lady
The Lovely Bones
Katy Perry – Part of Me

Library Hours:
Tuesdays 2-7pm
Thursdays 10am-2pm
Fridays 2-4pm
Saturdays 10am-12noon

Pre-School Storytime: Tuesday April 16 at 2pm
Come and join in the fun - all welcome.

Christine Turner

ANZAC Day Breakfast
Ex-service personnel are invited to join the ANZAC breakfast at the Diamond Harbour Church Hall on this very special day.
For details and catering purposes please contact John Barry on 329 4545.
Jean Burford

Flu Shots now available at DH Surgery
Please ring and book a time during surgery hours Monday to Friday or just come along to our open clinic on Saturday April 27 from 9-11am. Flu shots are free for those over 65, 18 and under or with some chronic medical conditions.

DH Surgery

Diamond Harbour Historical Assoc
Next meeting: Tuesday April 9 at 8pm in the Stage Room. Dr Geoff Rice’s talk is entitled Christchurch’s Temple of Truth: Religion and Fraud in the 1890s.
All welcome.
Jan Studholme

Diamond Harbour Camera Club
Regular meeting Tuesday April 16 at 7.30pm in the Stage Room. Presentation on Long Exposures by Matt Searles. Everyone welcome. Visitors: $3 donation.
Rouke Bakker

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

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

SING A NEW SONG!

A workshop with Wellington choir leader CAROL SHORTIS
Saturday May 4 9:30am – 4pm
Diamond Harbour Community Hall
Singers of all ages and levels of experience welcome
$50 waged; $40 unwaged/low income
(includes lunch and other refreshments)
Registration essential
e-mail diamondharboursingers@gmail.com or phone 329 4588
More info at http://diamondharboursingers.blogspot.co.nz

Jean Burford

Mount Herbert Ladies Probus
We meet at the church hall at 10am on the second Monday of the month. Why not come along to our friendly meetings to listen to interesting speakers and share in the fellowship and fun of Probus. Phone 329 4830 or 329 3125.
Jean Burford

PURAU VALLEY PRODUCE FARMER’S MARKET
DIAMOND HARBOUR VILLAGE CENTRE
APRIL 6th & 20th
MAY 4th & 18th
*~*
*~*
And every second Saturday morning from nine to noon thereafter

purauproducentz@gmail.com

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YOU CAN COME TOO — CONTD

After-School Care
Please remember us whenever you need after school care for your child.
Our numbers are seriously down.
If you don’t use this service it will be lost!

We are based in the Te Kete Aronui Building at Diamond Harbour School from 3-6pm Monday to Thursday.
Book your child/children in for a regular slot or just telephone and let us know any time you need us.
Casual one off bookings are fine too.
You don’t even need to have a child attending the school.
Please contact Christine Turner: 329 3033 or 021 161 2555 or afterschoolcaredh@gmail.com for further information.

Indoor Sports Club AGM
Monday April 8 at 7.30pm
at the Lawn Bowls Room, Purau Avenue.
All welcome. Maureen Scott

National Dexter Cattle Open Day
April 13 & 14 (Sat & Sun) 10am-4pm,
at 50 Purau Port Levy Road, Purau.
All interested in cattle welcome to come and have a look.
Phone 329 3364 for further details.
Louise Swaton

Project Lyttelton
the soul of a sustainable community

HARBOUR HARVEST FESTIVAL
Forget Jamie Oliver - Lyttelton Harbour has its own food revolution. As part of Project Lyttelton’s Harbour Resilience Project the inaugural Harbour Harvest Festival will be held at Orton Bradley on Wednesday April 10 from 5-9pm.

Schools Event
During the day there will be a series of workshops for all the schools and preschools of the harbour. Children will attend workshops on gardening, cooking and looking after our environment.

Evening Event
An event for the whole community with food, music, movies and nga korero – a chance to hear locals talk about environmental projects in and around the harbour.
So come along on to Orton Bradley Park on Wednesday April 10 from 5pm to:

Eat – great local kai
Hear – talented local musicians
Learn – about locals looking after the environment.
Eftpos will be available on the night.

Thank You
A big thank you to the following businesses who are sponsoring a workshop or supplying materials for one at the school’s event: Oderings, New World Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Trees for Canterbury, Mitre 10 Mega Ferrymead, SN Painting Ltd, Stark Bros and Campbell’s Orchard. Thanks also to Lyttelton Port Company and Horncastle Homes for supplying marquees.
Sarah Pritchett

HARBOUR HARVEST FESTIVAL
Orton Bradley Park
Wednesday 10 April, 5-9pm

EAT
local kai

HEAR
local musicians
including Dr Sanchez and Delaney Davidson

LEARN
about local projects

Celebrate the food revolution that is happening right here.
Part of Project Lyttelton’s Harbour Resilience Project

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Celebrate the food revolution that is happening right here.
Part of Project Lyttelton’s Harbour Resilience Project

Are your veggies going ballistic in your garden?
Is last year’s batch of preserves and pickles still crowding your cupboard?
Do you wonder what on earth to do with the pile of seeds that you haven’t managed to plant?
Have you baked one too many cookies again?
Do you LIKE TO SHARE?

PLenty to SHARE

FOOD SWAP
Saturdays
11am-1pm
Diamond Harbour Village Centre

10

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DIAMOND HARBOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM


The 2013 committee is: Adrian Te Patu (President), David Dearsley (Treasurer), Joy McLeod (Secretary), Karen Colyer, Heather Watson, Dave Hammond, Pete Simpson (SPRIG representative), Richard Suggate, Paula Smith (Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board).

The meeting began with drinks and refreshments kindly provided by Godley Café.

Guest Speaker

Former Christchurch mayor, Garry Moore, gave a very interesting and well presented talk about the work of the Rod Donald Trust which was set up with a $3.5 million fund to honour Rod Donald and to follow his ideas and leave a legacy on the peninsula. It is inspired by Harry Ell’s vision of 17 resting places along the walking tracks of the Port Hills and the work of Cora Wilding of the Sunlight League who was responsible for the setting up of the Youth Hostel Association in NZ, which began on the peninsula. Strategic goals are access to the peninsula, knowledge, partnerships, and biodiversity.

Projects underway include establishing a walkway around the whole peninsula. Diamond Harbour will be part of the Head to Head walkway which will be connected to the Rail Trail.

There is a Public Open Space Strategy for 2010-2040 which aims to build huts (Packhorse Hut will be the first), involve youth and provide a resource for the city.

Property has been purchased with DOC and the Langham Trust at Saddle Hill. Funding for three years has been provided to the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Orton Bradley Park and for planting along the Rail Trail.

Garry Moore challenged us to consider the 39 hectares above Diamond Harbour owned by the council. Perhaps the community, with help from the Trust, could be involved in the development of a sustainable village which meets the wishes and needs of local people – involving such things as Elder Housing? If the initiative is taken by local people then inappropriate development can be prevented.

The presentation was appreciated by those present and it was unfortunate that more people were not present to hear this engaging speaker.

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Diamond Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade

Brigade Briefing

The role of the Diamond Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade has changed since it was first established in 1955. Back then fighting fires was the primary task and this was largely limited to Diamond Harbour and its immediate surroundings. In 2013 we find that the majority of calls are medical incidents where the Brigade is a First Response Medical Unit for our area – which extends from Gebbies Pass in the west to Pigeon Bay in the east.

The Brigade comprises 20 members, many of whom have been in the Brigade for over ten years – there is a very low turnover. This stability is testament to good leadership and a strong feeling of camaraderie. We meet each Tuesday evening and either train or carry out maintenance tests on our equipment. The siren test will be a familiar sound to residents at around 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening.

When I first moved to Diamond Harbour in 2000, I was struck by the strong sense of community here. The volunteer fire brigades of New Zealand seem to embody this notion of individuals putting their community before themselves. At a moment’s notice any volunteer firefighter could be called to a choking toddler, an overturned bus or a person trapped in a burning building.

Over the coming months I hope to share with you an insider’s view of our brigade and provide some information that could help us to help you.

For more information visit the Fire Brigade page on the diamondharbour.info web site or just Google Diamond Harbour Fire Brigade.

Fire Fighter David Rice

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Banks Peninsula Transport 2006 Ltd

Cartage Contractors – Little River

Hiab Freight Service

Twice Monthly (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Christchurch to Harbour Bays and Port Levy

Also Shingle Deliveries, ReadyMix Concrete

Ph Rex on 325 1024

"If it’s BIG, we will move it!"

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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 HARBOR

TO ADD, UPDATE OR REMOVE YOUR DETAILS, TO REQUEST A NEW GROUP LIST, OR FOR INFORMATION OR CONCERNS CONTACT: ELAINE BRYSON (AREA CO-ORDINATOR)
EMAIL: DHNSHQ@GMAIL.COM PH: 329 4512
28 KOROMIKO CRES, CHURCH BAY, RD1 LYTTELTON 8971
OR RON DUBIN (DEPUTY CO-ORDINATOR) PH: 329 3032

HE AIN’T HEAVY, HE’S MY BROTHER

Many of our residents first came to this little slice of paradise on retirement. They enjoy many years of life in one of Canterbury’s loveliest villages. When a spouse dies, or when serious ailments limit enjoyment, some depart. But some don’t.

This month let us consider those who, though afflicted with some disability, choose to remain. Under normal circumstances they adapt and cope. But what happens when a natural disaster strikes? When you add panic to such issues as sight impairment, hearing disability, mobility problems, respiratory ailments and special dietary requirements, survival may depend on how well one has prepared ahead. What follows is advice to those who feel vulnerable but it is also an alert to their neighbours and friends.

1. Set up a network. Don’t leave it to just someone. Ask at least three people you trust to alert you to any civil defence warnings (in case of deafness to the radio), or to help you evacuate your dwelling if need be.

2. Plan ahead. Ensure that you and your supporters know what to do to help you and where your support equipment is and how to use it. You should consider giving a house key to a neighbour. If you rely on life-sustaining equipment, find out where other back-up equipment is held. Always wear your medical-alert bracelet.

3. Let your team know when you are going to be away so that they don’t needlessly worry when you don’t answer their calls.

4. Have a getaway kit. Ensure it has back-up supplies of your medication or special diet foods. If you have a respiratory problem include some dust masks. Discuss with your health professionals what medication you should store.

5. Those who are wheelchair-bound may experience difficulty with ground shaking during an earthquake. If you are unable to get under a table try to get away from windows and tall items, move to an inside wall (where two walls meet is best) lock your wheels, and cover your head and neck.

IN OUR HARBOUR FOR ALL REAL ESTATE AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ENQUIRIES

COASTAL REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS

154 MARINE DR, CHURCH BAY PH: (03) 329 4161
53 LONDON ST, LYTTELTON PH: (03) 328 7273
WWW.MIN.CO.NZ
Catholic Masses
Diamond Harbour: First Sun of month 5:30pm
Lyttelton (21 Exeter Street): Third Sun of month at 5:30pm
Other Sundays: A SCAP service (Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest) in Diamond Harbour at 9am

Anglican – Methodist – Presbyterian Services
Every Wednesday at 9am and Sunday at 10:30am

Wednesday @ 9
Wednesday mornings 9-9:30am. This service is relaxed and reflective. A great place to drop into after the kids are at school or for you have had your morning walk. We would love to see you and offer a time of friendly fellowship and a mid-week breathing space.

Prayer for the Parish
Meets every weekday in the Church library at 8.15am. All are welcome. If you are unable to join us, feel free to pray wherever you are. The prayer chain is also available to pray for you personally or for any other prayer needs you may have. The prayer chain is totally confidential. Please contact Anne Fountain 329 4202 for any prayer requests.

AGM of Parishioners of Mt Herbert Parish
Sunday 14 April 2013 Governors Bay Hotel
Lunch at 1pm (RSVP required). AGM at 2pm
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Church members of the Mt Herbert Parish will be held on Sunday 14th April, 2013 at 2pm in the Governor’s Bay Hotel beginning with a lunch at 1pm. Please phone the Parish Office on 329 4790 or email mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz with any enquiries.
For catering purposes a menu and RSVP will be available from the Parish office and each of the Church buildings.

Mount Herbert Parish Quiz Night Fundraiser
Friday May 24 at 8pm in the Community Hall
For more information or to offer support please contact Reverend Russell Pickersgill-Brown on 329 4790 or mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz

Monday Night Home Group
Meets alternate weeks in the Church and Charteris Bay. Please phone Bruce Beckett for details on 329 4422.

Bible Discussion Group
Meets Wednesday afternoons each fortnight. Please phone Anne Boyd for details on 329 4444.

Rainbow Music
Meets in the Church Hall every Friday at 9.30am during school term. Upcoming dates April 5, 12 and 19. There is a your favourite dress-up theme on April 19. Please contact Juliet Bridger on 329 4848 or the Parish Office on 329 4790 for further details.

Baby & Toddlers Group
Meets in the Church hall every second Tuesday at 10-12 noon. Upcoming dates April 9 & 23; May 7 & 21. Please contact Wendy Coles 329 4483 for further information.

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shoppers van will be heading into town on April 10 & 24 and May 8 & 22. The van will pick you up from home around 9am and drop you back home around 1.30 pm. To book a place in the van please phone Wendy Coles 329 4483 or Nicky Palmer 329 4341. Suggested donation to cover petrol for the van is $10 per trip.

Soup & Toast Lunches
Fortnightly at 12 noon in the Church Hall on alternate Wednesdays to the shoppers van. Upcoming dates are May 1, 15 & 29 and June 12 & 26. Gold coin donation.

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

POINTS TO PONDER
I woke up BEFORE the alarm to our canine friend licking my face and then a husband who wanted a cuddle… I was pretty grumpy! I love my sleep and really dislike being disturbed from it before the alarm goes off. I got up and visited the loo… got back into bed after making sure the canine friend wasn’t going to get squashed… pulled back all the covers that my dearly beloved had hopped on his side… thus emitting a protest from said dearly beloved. Canine friend tried to lick my face again and as I pushed him away nearly sent him flying over the head of the bed… I grunted my displeasure at both dearly beloved and canine friend who then left me alone.

After all of this grumpy activity on my part sleep just wasn’t going to happen and I sighed as I realized that I had a bit of apologising to do… “blow” I thought (or a word to that effect), “now I have a bit of back pedaling to do”. It would have been so much easier to just explain nicely to dearly beloved and canine friend that I didn’t appreciate being woken before the alarm sounded. Good manners and being kind is really much easier than the effort now required to apologise for my grumpy behavior!!

Ring any bells for you? Ah well… life is a journey, not a destination!

Anna Pickersgill-Brown
Brooch Lost
Butterfly-shaped brooch lost on cliff track. Of great sentimental value. If found, please contact Betty Chapman on 324 9129 or betty.chapman@xtra.co.nz.

Accommodation Available

Flat Wanted
Quiet living couple seek long-term rental accommodation in the Diamond Harbour area. We have immaculate references. Contact Neville at zarathustra@orcon.net.nz or 329 4706.

Cat Needs Home
Chico, an abandoned earthquake cat now living in Ranui Cres, seeks a home as its owner is leaving DH. Very independent, loving and sociable with other animals. Please contact Jo on 329 4111 or 021 269 5255.

Beautiful dog seeks loving home
Weimaraner - a wonderful boy, very loyal and friendly, loves people, walks and playing with other dogs. Would be happy living with another dog. Needs a fully fenced, dog-proof exercise area. Sleeps inside - being short haired does not like extreme cold. Papers available. Contact Nez at kiwisailormz@yahoo.com or 021 107 6473.

Duck Houses for sale
Two large duck houses. Rodent proof, can also be used as small animal shelters. Well made with quality materials. Also a run that can be attached. Ph Nez on 021 107 6473.

Ducks for sale
3 white pure bred Indian runner ducks in their prime for egg laying (great for sponge cakes). $85 for the three ducks. Automatic feeder $75 — or $150 for ducks and feeder plus two clam-shaped paddle pools for them to splash in. Contact Nez on 021 107 6473.

Dexter Cows for sale
2 full bred Dexter cows for sale: have recently run with a Dexter bull for 6 weeks; and could calve from 2nd week in November. Quiet easy to handle cattle. Good for breeding stock to produce both milk and meat. Come and see them at the Dexter Open Day (see p11) or phone 329 3364.

Computer for sale
Dell desktop PC. Clean install of Windows XP Pro SP3 with all updates. 1Gb mem, 40Gb HD, 19” LCD screen. MSE Antivirus, Google Chrome, LibreOffice 4 (MS Office compatible), Foxit PDF Reader, ImgBurn DVD Writer, VLC & Winamp media players. $90. Ph 329 3032.

Toshiba Laptops for sale
Various models 2-3 years old, $250-350. Fresh Windows 7 install. MSE Antivirus, Chrome, LibreOffice 4, PDF Reader ImgBurn DVD Writer, VLC & Winamp players. 329 3032.

Garden Help wanted
2 hours per week. Skills not necessary, good rate, times by arrangement. Ph 329 4329.

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

Motorcycle Repairs and Servicing
Also small welding repairs. Jon 329 3236 or 021 0278 4453.

Hairdressing
Experienced hairdresser and Reiki practitioner working from home. If you have mobility problems, I can come to you. 329 4224 or 021 152 3937 or indigo-barb@hotmail.com.

Orton Bradley Firewood for sale
3m3 pine delivered $195. 3m3 gum delivered $265. All proceeds to Park maintenance. Ph 329 4730.

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.

Doggie Bootcamp Training
Fitness and Fun all in one for you and your dog, 329 9525 or 027 773 0036 or baysidefit@gmail.com.

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.

Herald Calendar
ANZC Breakfast: Church Hall. See page 10
Art Group: Weds, 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall
Ballet - Harbour Basin Dance: Sats, 9.15am, Hall. p8
Bowling Club: Tue, Thu, Sat at 1.15pm
Bridge Club: Weds, 7pm, DH Bowling Club, 329 4094
Camera Club: Tue Apr 16, 7.30pm, Stage Room. p10
Church Activities: see page 14
Croquet Club: Weds, 2pm; Sats 10am
Farmers Market: Sat Apr 6 & 20; May 4 & 18, village. p10
Film Society: Thurs, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Flu Shots: DH Surgery. See p10
Harbour Harvest Festival: Wed Apr 10, 5pm, OBP. p11
Harbour Singers: Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Health Day: Sat Apr 27, 9am, Hall. p10
Historical Assoc: Tue Apr 9, 8pm, Stage Room. p10
Indoor Sports Club AGM: Mon Apr 8, 7.30pm. p11
Innovation Meditation: Tues, 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave
Jazz - Harbour Basin Dance: Tues, 4pm, Hall. p8
Ladies Probus: Mon Apr 8, 10am, Church Hall. p10
Library Story Time: Tue Apr 16, 2pm. p10
Mens Probus: Thu May 2, 10am, DH Rugby Club
Mt Herbert Parish AGM: Sun Apr 14, Gov Bay. p14
Plenty to Share: Sats, 11am-1pm. Village Centre. p11
Quilting Group: Mon Apr 29. Ph Rosie 329 4646
Rugby Club: Bar open Fri & Sat evenings
Running Group: Sun, 8am. p10
Shoppers Van: Wed Apr 10 & 24. p14
String Players: Weds, 4pm, Hall. p8
Tai Chi: Thu 11-12noon, Sun 5-6pm, Com Hall.
Tennis Club: Sats, 9.30am, Waipapa Courts
Toy Library: Sats 10am-11am, Community Hall
Woolfun at Bergli: Sat Apr 20. p10
Yoga: Weds & Mons, 7pm. p5

Fantastic Fridaynight Fryups!
Admire the views as you enjoy your tasty Fish & Chips takeaways on Godley House lawn
5-8 pm Weekly
Phone orders welcome 021 184 3389

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