CHRISTMAS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

Carina, Toby and Emil (right) are three German teenagers currently working and studying in NZ. As they are staying in Diamond Harbour, the Herald invited them to give us a teenagers’ perspective of Christmas in their homeland. On page 9 you will also find the recipe for Vanillekipferl, one of their favourite Christmas biscuits. They tell us...

Although they both celebrate the same feast, a German teenager experiences Christmas in a very different way than a New Zealand teenager probably does. On the other side of the world, December is the beginning of winter, so the days become shorter and the temperature drops.

That’s why we love to have cosy weekends with hot drinks and candles during Advent which is the four weeks before Christmas. But in fact, the weeks before Christmas are probably our busiest time of the year.

Many families make enormous amounts of Christmas biscuits - every family has its own traditional recipes - and decorate the whole house. One can buy many different sorts of Advent calendars, for children as well as for adults, but many people enjoy making their own and filling it out.

For Advent, we have wreaths made of fir branches with four candles on top. On each of the four Sundays before Christmas Eve we light one after another to symbolize that Christmas is coming closer.

In the centre of many towns you can find big Advent wreaths with electronic candles. Almost every German town or city has a Christmas market that is open from December 1 until December 24.

But apart from making biscuits and buying presents, teenagers have to do a lot of school work as the weeks before Christmas are also the busiest time of the school year. Three written exams per week as well as some oral presentations are quite common. So everybody is very relieved when it comes to the Christmas holidays even though they last for only three weeks in Germany, as it is winter and the middle of the school year too.

In the morning of Christmas Eve we have the chance to go and get the very last Christmas presents, but in the afternoon the streets slowly get empty. All families are at home preparing dinner and listening to Christmas music while candles are burning, children are running around the Christmas tree and everybody is snacking on biscuits.

In the evening most families go to church - even those who usually give it a wide berth. Finally, when the evening meal is finished, the dishes are done and everybody is sitting around in the living room it is time to open the presents that are lying under the Christmas tree. (Fortunately, we do not have to wait until the next morning.)

In the following two days we will visit different relatives and eat far too much food. That is what Christmas is like for us. Some traditions might be very similar to New Zealand, but the atmosphere is definitely different on the other side of the world.

Frohe Weihnachten! Carina, Toby and Emil
Have you ever wondered what the old stone building was just opposite Taunton Gardens on the road through Allandale?

On many trips to Diamond Harbour it had always intrigued me why it was there. Sadly, it has now been reduced to a pile of stone by the earthquakes but a few years back, when it was obviously some sort of old cottage I took a photograph of it. This was given to an artist auntie of mine but she died before putting brush to canvas. As time passed a tree fell on it and did some more damage, so I took another shot.

Having these photographs I decided I had better find out the history of this place. The first stop was Taunton Gardens where Tom Sligh suggested I contact Gilbert Stace over the road whose land the building is on. Mrs Stace produced a copy of a sketch of the stone cottage drawn by Fanny Buss when it was called the Garlick Cottage and suggested I contact Alison Hussey who had a wealth of knowledge of the local area.

Previously, on the Internet, I had found a mention of the cottage in the New Zealand Railways Magazine written by Joyce Garlick in 1940. It was part wood and part stone quarried nearby from a source which also supplied some of the stone for the Christchurch Cathedral.

The Library produced a copy of Lachie Griffen’s book, Growing Up and Growing Old in Governors Bay, 2009 which contained information on the Garlick family and some history of the cottage. The same sketch of the cottage I had seen at the Staces is reproduced in this book.

Still on my quest to find more about this building I found a 1955 booklet by Frances Cresswell, better known as Fanny Buss, called Old Homes of Lyttelton Harbour in Smith’s bookshop and I recognized it immediately as it had the same sketch of the Garlick Cottage on its front cover. Bill Garlick was the local Roadman and Mary (nee Small) had fled from Australia in 1859 to escape an abusive first husband.

The Garlick Cottage is now a pile of rubble, barely noticed as you drive past Taunton Gardens. Unlikely to be restored, it is slowly being incorporated back into the present landscape and grazed over by some unsuspecting sheep.

On 10 November, the Whero Avenue spur celebrated their neighbourhood with a street party. The weather on the day was beautiful, with the temperature topping 25°C.

About 35 people came along and enjoyed a barbecue which was generously sponsored by the City Council as part of the Neighbourhood Week initiative. New friends were made and there was some good networking going on as the afternoon progressed.

It has been a while since the neighbourhood got together, so it was a well overdue celebration. As there was some meat left over, the neighbourhood is planning on having a repeat sometime in January, so Whero Ave Spur folk, keep your eye on the mail box for the flyer! Martin Cox
NOTICE: When submitting a letter for publication in the Herald, you **must** include your full name and address, although you may choose not to have this information published. Ed

**Diamond Harbour Cemetery Upgrade**

As one who had a good deal to do with getting a cemetery for Diamond Harbour (which was designed by landscape architect Peter Rough and opened in 2002) I was interested to see the costings for substantial alterations to it by City Council Greenspace planners. Other readers might be too... No. 76: Redevelop top level sunken seating area. Construct a memorial wall for ashes and plaques (including commemorative plaques for ashes or burials at sea) utilising the sunken area. Cost $20,000.

No. 80: Enhance entrance including gates, signage and planting. Cost $5,000.

No. 81: Improve vehicle and pedestrian access. Form vehicle access to top of first terrace and provide a footpath to all three levels including steps and handrails where required. Cost $15,000.

No. 82: Improve connection to Stoddart Point Recreation Reserve, including signage and removal of fence where required. Cost $5,000.

No. 83: Tree maintenance and removals. Cost $25,000.

No. 84: Planting. Undertake tree or landscape planting as per the Development plan. Cost $25,000.

No. 85: Investigate potential eco-burial areas. Investigations have revealed that no area within the cemetery is suitable for eco-burials due to the water and clay content of the soil. Potential alternative sites in the Southern harbour area will be investigated. Cost $5,000.

It looks as though these improvements will cost nearly as much as the original cemetery with its huge earthworks, roadway and substantial planting did only a bit over ten years ago!

I fail to see why a memorial wall needs to be constructed, when there are two long berms already in place for ashes and plaques. In those ten years here would have been twenty burials on the first terrace and thirty ashes plaques installed. It would appear that there is sufficient provision for well into the future.

The memorial garden/cemetery does not seem to require a memorial wall for ashes and plaques (including commemorative plaques for ashes or burials at sea) utilising the sunken area. Cost $20,000.

No. 76: Redevelop top level sunken seating area. Construct a memorial wall for ashes and plaques (including commemorative plaques for ashes or burials at sea) utilising the sunken area. Cost $20,000.

Peter Rough’s plan had burials on the second terrace when the first was full, leaving the flat area where the cremation berms are, as simply garden, which is so uncluttered and restful for mourners and visitors there. Surely it would be better to use the vast sums allocated to the new Diamond Harbour memorial garden cemetery to repair the badly damaged older cemeteries of Lyttelton and Christchurch? Mary Stapylton-Smith

Ed’s Note: See page 9 for more on this subject.

**Buckets of Melons**

I’m very partial to melons of all kinds, but this far south it is not usually warm enough for long enough to grow them in the open. (If any locals are doing it, please let us all know how!) However, I have worked out how to grow them under cover in the smallest amount of space possible, in a tiny glass house that also grows other undercover crops (early tomatoes and basil, peppers, eggplants, lemongrass, winter lettuce) at the same time.

The secret is to grow them in buckets on a high shelf (in the warmest part of the glasshouse, with room for them to trail downwards). The buckets are cheap 9 or 10 litre plastic buckets, with a few holes punched in the bottom then filled with a veggie mix compost from the garden centre. I grow the melon plants from seed, chosen from the Kings Seeds catalogue. The musk melon varieties Charentais and Sweet Granite do well for me, and the small watermelon variety Sugar Baby is a good one for bucket growing.

So long as bees have good access to the plants, pollination is not a problem, and I usually have to cull flowers and some miniature melons to allow for only 2-3 good size melons per plant. It is also necessary to keep trimming back the ends of the trailing vines, or otherwise they will take over the glasshouse.

As well as watering the plants every warm, sunny day, it is important to feed them regularly (at least once a fortnight). I use the organic liquid fertiliser Biofeed – 1 cup of Biofeed diluted in 10 litres of water. From plants started from seed in late August I am eating melons by early February.

It is lovely to open the glasshouse in the morning and tell by the delicious scent that a melon is ready to eat.

Christine

**THE ECO GARDENER’S PATCH**

**Buckets of Melons**

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Christine
LIVING WELL

Successful Performance

If you want to do something really well, one of the best things you can do is find someone who does that thing really well and do what they do.

Say for example you wanted to be a brilliant athlete, you could ask your friends how they think you could go about it or you could ask your family members for ideas, but unless they are great athletes themselves, they’ll be giving you information purely from a theoretical viewpoint. In contrast, if you spoke to a great athlete and found out how they trained, what they ate and what mental techniques they used, you could start applying those same strategies in your training and feel confident of seeing great improvements in your performance as a result, as those are proven strategies for success in that area. If you then took that idea further and spoke to a number of great athletes, you’d find out a larger range of strategies being used, and also patterns with those strategies which would allow you to learn which strategies are likely to be crucial to success in comparison to those which are idiosyncratic to that particular athlete.

During the 1980s, when the American springboard and platform diver Greg Luganis was at his best, winning world championships and Olympic gold medals, the Chinese decided they wanted to be able to compete with the best divers in the world internationally. This was at a point where they barely even had training facilities for diving, however they set about choosing people they thought had the potential to be great divers, then studied Greg Luganis. They looked at every piece of video footage they could get, read articles about him, listened to interviews with him, and taught their divers to do what he did. This meant walking the way he did, warming up the way he did, training the way he did, and following what he did in great detail. Within a short amount of time, the Chinese had learned enough about how to be great divers that they too were competing with the best.

A great deal of the knowledge you need for modelling excellence can be gathered from observation, by reading articles and autobiographies, or by listening to interviews. It’s also useful where possible to speak to the person, as that way you can ask all the questions you want and really get into what that person does, what they believe about what they do, and how they think about what they do, as getting into those internal strategies is just as important as what you can see externally. It was here that caused some inconsistency in the performance of the Chinese divers – they did everything they could see Greg Luganis doing, but had not found out about his thought patterns and other strategies he was using internally. Finding successful people and doing what they do is an important concept for whatever it is you want to achieve in life. If you want to be happy, hanging out with people who are depressed will not help. Instead you need to do what happy people do – walk tall with a spring in your step, smile lots and do things you enjoy. If you want to be thin, eat like a thin person. Thin people do eat chocolate and cake and they don’t feel guilty about it or berate themselves for it. They maintain a balance, where the majority of food is healthy and the less healthy foods are eaten only occasionally.

Whatever it is you want to be good at, there are people out there who are already really good at that thing. Learning how they do what they do and adopting those same strategies gives you a recipe for success in that area. What is it that you want to be really good at? Robyn

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COMPUTER HELPDESK

...and You Can’t Trust Your Friends Either!

Last month I advised not to click on any link in an email message unless you know and trust the sender. A link takes you to a designated website in your browser, and internet fraudsters frequently send emails with links designed to deliver you to sites that will attempt to rip you off in some way or another.

Cautious internet users are increasingly wary of emails from unknown senders and think twice before clicking on links they contain. So cyber criminals have upped the ante by sending emails that appear to come from people you know and have exchanged emails with in the past.

In the light of a rogue email recently doing the rounds – including here in Diamond Harbour – I am updating the advisory about not clicking on links in emails to also include those from people you do know and trust … unless the contents of the email make it certain (by reference to identifiable people/places/events etc) that the sender is really who they claim to be – and not some distant doc, Click Here to view the message.

email messages such as...

…are designed to deliver you to sites that will attempt to rip you off in some way or another. In the light of a rogue email recently doing the rounds – including here in Diamond Harbour – I am updating the advisory about not clicking on links in emails to also include those from people you do know and trust … unless the contents of the email make it certain (by reference to identifiable people/places/events etc) that the sender is really who they claim to be – and not some distant doc, Click Here to view the message.

This is, in fact, the exact content of the rogue email that some DH residents (including myself along with the DH Herald) received recently – purportedly from a DH resident (whom I shall refer to as Ms X). The subject or contents of the email make it certain (by reference to identifiable people/places/events etc) that the sender is really who they claim to be – and not some distant doc, Click Here to view the message.

I realised immediately that Ms X was not the real sender and alerted her that rogue emails were being sent in her name – probably to everyone in her contact list (which is compiled automatically from the addresses of those whom you have emailed in the past).

Ms X had bought a laptop from me only days earlier, and so naturally assumed that the laptop was the source of these emails … an assumption I was eager to repudiate – it would not be a good look for the Computer Doctor, who goes about Diamond Harbour removing malware and safeguarding computers against infection, to be actually spreading it (either intentionally or not)!

Upon examining Ms X’s Gmail account we discovered that she had been sent the rogue email message in question a couple of weeks earlier by an acquaintance. At that time she was using library computers for email, and she recalled that she had, in fact, clicked on the Click Here link in the rogue email message.

I was curious to find out how it worked so I (very gingerly) clicked on the link on her new laptop. Voila! The WOT addon (which I have recommended in this column) and had installed in her Chrome browser, immediately popped up a very large message warning not to proceed to the site. Unfortunately the library computer Ms X was using at the time she opened the rogue email, was not as well protected and gave no such warning.

With shaking mouse, I ignored the warning from WOT and proceeded to the site, where I was presented with an entirely authentic looking screen, asking me to log in to Google Docs to view the document in question.

What a cunning scam! Had I typed in my Gmail email address and password the cyber crooks would have recorded it and used it to gain access to my Gmail account … and begin sending the same rogue email message to everyone with a Gmail account in my contact list! Plus they would also have on-sold my details to other internet baddies who could then target those in my contact list with malicious emails purporting to come from me.

If you were one of the unfortunate recipients of this email and clicked on the link it contained and logged in to Google Docs, then your Gmail password has certainly been stolen. If you have not done so already, change it ASAP! If you have used your Gmail email address with the same password for other things (Apple ID, Amazon, Adobe, Skype, TradeMe, etc) then you should also change those passwords. Even if you did not click on the link, be extra careful of emails purportedly coming from the person who sent it in the immediate future!

Before identifying how Ms X’s password had been stolen, my suspicion immediately fell upon the library computers she had been using. While they provide a wonderful service, especially when one is on the hop, like all public computers they are not as secure as a home computer. I would not advise using a public computer for internet banking; and if you use them for email or internet shopping, I suggest changing passwords regularly.

Oh … and if ever you receive an email from an acquaintance containing a link, and are unsure whether it is genuine, then before clicking on the link, reply to the email and ask the sender if they really sent it to you – apart from protecting yourself, you may be alerting them to the fact that their password has been stolen.

Ron

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Mark and Lou Warren
329 3254

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952 Page 5 No 174 December 2013
**Vet-Spot**

**Heat Stroke**

I didn’t think this would be a big issue in New Zealand, maybe we’ve just been here too long and are becoming acclimatised! However after the last few weeks it looks like we could be in for a long, hot summer.

While you enjoy the sunshine, remember your dogs, especially brachycephalic breeds like pugs, bulldogs and Staffordshire bull terriers don’t handle heat nearly as well as we do. Humans can sweat, and remove clothing to cool down, whereas dogs rely primarily on panting for cooling, a reasonably inefficient heat exchange mechanism. The only place they have sweat glands is in the pads of the feet. On the other hand they tolerate cold a lot better than we do! Think of the Siberian Huskies making caves in the snow, and sleeping happily there.

One of the worst places for a dog on a hot day, is in a parked car where the temperature can climb a lot higher than the outside temperature, even in overcast conditions. If you do have to leave your dog in the car, ensure you’re parked in the shade, and leave at least two windows partly open for ventilation; also be sure to leave them for the shortest possible time. The best plan is to simply leave them at home; they’ll be a lot happier and more comfortable there.

Try not to walk or work your dogs in the heat of the day. Heat stroke is extremely serious and potentially life threatening. While I haven’t seen as many cases here as I used to in Cape Town, it is certainly something dog owners need to be aware of.

Symptoms of heat stroke include weakness, collapse, panting and an extremely high core temperature.

Immediate first aid involves cooling in a cold bath, or spraying with cold water, allowing the animal to rest in the shade, with a breeze or fan to aid evaporation after wetting, which lowers their temperature. If the dog is collapsed veterinary advice is essential.

Of course clipping long haired dogs goes a long way towards keeping them cooler. Our dog, Laddie, who is ¼ Bichon and doesn’t moult, gets 3 haircuts a year.

He’s already had his first clip in September when it started getting hotter; he’ll have another around Christmas, and one in the autumn; then we’ll leave it long over winter. Another benefit to a clip in summer is that dogs are less likely to pick up barley grasses, which can penetrate skin or ears (I’ve even seen them in eyes!) and cause a nasty discharging sinus tract.

Rabbits, especially pregnant does, are also very sensitive to heat and humidity, so their hutches need to be well ventilated and positioned in a cool spot.

As we approach the summer holidays with their associated overindulgences, remember chocolate is very bad for dogs, as are grapes and macadamia nuts. Also beware of chicken and pork bones which splinter easily, and chop bones and others with sharp edges. Corn cobs are just the right size to cause an intestinal obstruction.

One of the most common medical conditions is obesity (unfortunately not only in dogs!) so avoid treats and leftovers... sometimes you have to be cruel to be kind!

On that note, have a great Christmas, and thanks for all your support this year.

Paul
Once upon a time…

Once there was a man called Edgar. He lived in the USA and had spent his adult life as a lawyer fighting for social justice for those who couldn’t fight for themselves. In 1980, a month before his 45th birthday, Edgar found himself in hospital recovering from a major heart attack. Feeling helpless was a new and uncomfortable feeling for him and it started him thinking about how Western society has allowed for the development of throwaway people – people who are made to feel helpless and dependent on others, people who are led to believe they have nothing to contribute to society. Out of this epiphany Edgar developed the timebank concept and spent the next 20 years getting it recognized and adopted by governments and social agencies.

In 2005 Margaret Jefferies heard of timebanks while she was at a conference in the US and brought the idea back to Aotearoa – and thus Project Lyttelton launched the first New Zealand timebank. There are now approximately 30 timebanks in Aotearoa. The main difference between timebanks here and those in Australia, the US and the UK is that the timebank movement in NZ is grassroots, rather than being a government initiative. This makes our timebanks vibrant, diverse and creative – reflecting the attributes of those people who join them.

One of the Lyttelton timebank’s recent members is Diamond Harbour local Jan Cole. Through the timebank, Jan has become involved with the Diamond Harbour school Garden to Table program. Every second Tuesday or so Jan can be found amongst the cabbages, lettuces, broad beans and so on surrounded by a small group of children. Jan has also found herself helping with the class cooking of the produce harvested from the garden. She enjoys the enthusiasm of the children in both the garden and in the kitchen.

Jan believes the experience of growing things, cooking them and hopefully eating them afterwards is very important and being part of a team that is helping the children have this experience is what keeps her coming back to the school whenever her other commitments allow.

Want to join timebank? Call me on 329 3344 (after 3pm) or go to www.lyttelton.net.nz/timebank. Sarah Pritchett

**our website**

The *Herald* takes a holiday in January

However the Diamond Harbour Website will continue to keep the local community informed about all the happenings here over the summer.

Our Website is now FOUR years old!

We would like to thank the school, playcentre, church, civil defence, neighbourhood support, fire service, medical centre, library, rugby club and all the local businesses, clubs and other groups for supporting us and providing the information that helps to keep our community connected.

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952  Page 7  No 174 December 2013
**Christmas with a Pig in a Blanket**

With Christmas just around the corner I have chosen a simple recipe, using pork fillet. You can prepare it in advance and bake it when it suits you, while you have Christmas pre-dinner drinks. Meat in a pastry coat is a Swiss tradition for Christmas. It can be a ham or pork fillet or roast beef, looking impressive on a nice large platter, served with salads it is also an ideal summer Christmas dinner.

**Ingredients (for 4)**
- 1 pork fillet around 600g (2 for big eaters)
- 1 roll of sausage meat
- 1 tbsp of cognac or sherry
- a bunch of parsley, finely chopped
- 1 packet of puff pastry or rolled out puff pastry
- egg
- salt, pepper and paprika

**Method**

Mix finely chopped onion and parsley and braise it in a frying pan. Add the cognac and let it simmer a minute. Let it cool down, and mix it with sausage meat in a bowl (best done with bare hands).

Roll out pastry 2-3mm thick, the length of the fillet plus 5cm and the width 4 times the fillet thickness.

Rub spices into fillet.

Spread sausage meat onto puff pastry, leaving a 1-2cm edge all around.

Put fillet onto pastry, wet edges with water or egg white. Roll the blanket up carefully and make a parcel out of it. Close the edges by pressing with a fork. Prick with fork to allow steam to exit.

Decorate with left-over pastry (eg stars for Xmas) brush with egg yolk and leave in the fridge until needed.

Bake at 200°C for around 35 mins. Juice should be clear when cooked.

Whether you are on your own, with a group, having a family get-together or a relaxed dinner for two, Chalfont Café & Bar offers something for everyone.

So spread the word and come on down to Chalfont Café & Bar in the heart of the village for friendly service and a welcoming atmosphere.

**Vanillekipferl**

These Vanilla Crescent Biscuits are a tradition German Christmas treat and a favourite of the visiting teenagers featured on page 1. And yes, that is tablespoons of essence!

**Ingredients (makes 60 small biscuits)**
- 2 vanilla pods (preferred)
- 280g plain flour
- 100g peeled ground almonds
- 70g sugar
- 210g butter
- 100g icing sugar
- some extra flour to work with

**Method**

1. Split the vanilla pods open lengthwise and scrape out the pulp. Cut butter into smaller pieces. Mix flour, almonds, sugar, butter and vanilla pulp and knead everything to a smooth dough.
2. Divide dough into four parts and form each part into a roll (2-3cm). Wrap in cling wrap and let it rest for about 12 hours in a cool place.
3. Preheat the oven to 160°C. Cover baking trays with baking paper. Cut the dough rolls into 1cm slices, roll each one into a small sausage, shape each into a crescent and put on the tray.
4. Put in the oven (middle) for about 12 mins. Pull baking paper with biscuits from the tray, cover with icing sugar and let the biscuits cool down.

**Carina Herbst**

**Chalfont Café & Bar**

**Diamond Harbour Country Store**

**NOW LICENSED WITH EXTENDED OPENING HOURS**

- **Monday and Tuesday:** 9am–4pm (later opening hours to be reviewed post-Christmas)
- **Wednesday to Sunday:** 9am–late, with dinner menu served from 5:30pm
- **Happy Hour:** Weds 5–7pm and Sunday 4–6pm
- **Fish & Chips/Burgers takeaways:** Thurs–Sat, 5–7pm *please note change of days from Thurs Dec 5

**CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS:**

- **Christmas Eve:** Open – closing time *TBC*
- **Christmas Day:** Closed
- **Boxing Day:** Opening at 3pm
- **New Year’s Eve:** Open – closing time *TBC*
- **New Year’s Day:** Opening at 11am

**Help DH playcentre sponsor a penguin nesting box**

The Korora (white flapped penguins) who live on Quail Island lost their burrows in the earthquakes.

We aim to raise $500 to sponsor a penguin box and keep Quail Island predator-free.

For more info email diamondharbourpc@gmail.com or phone Sarah on 329 3344.
During the consultation period on the Draft Plan earlier this year, a consultation session with Council staff, advertised by the Community Association, was held here in Diamond Harbour. This provided an opportunity for local people to voice our concerns about Council planning for our cemetery. It was accompanied by the opportunity to make written submissions and speak to the Council hearing panel.

Of the 100 written submissions the Council received on the Draft Plan almost half came from the Diamond Harbour area. As mentioned above, one of the major results is the Council commitment to engage proactively with local communities. Now that the Revised Plan, approved by Council on July 1, is publicly available both on the Council website (Google for: CCC Cemeteries Master Plan June 2013) and in hard copy for all to access we can anticipate looking forward to ongoing conversation with Council on issues relating to our local cemetery.

Hopefully there will be more good news to come in 2014 allowing us to have more say in what happens in our unique Memorial Garden!

Ann Thornton

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Christmas stockings – large and small (perfect to post in a card)

What’s happening at the Post Office?
The Diamond Harbour Post Office continues at present to operate from 9am - 12:30pm Mon-Fri and Saturday 9am-11am. Plans are progressing to keep the postal services in the Post Office, and to open a new gifts and goodies store, Chalfont Mercantile, in the same building. The new shop will offer a wide range of both traditional and modern pieces, plus a fantastic range of cards. A great opportunity to pick up a birthday present, Christmas present - or treat yourself!

We are expecting to open Chalfont Mercantile in early December and will be adding new ranges as we build our stock. So pop in and see Ella or Jane when you are passing to check out the latest addition to Diamond Harbour’s village atmosphere. Hope to see you there soon.

Jane

Mail Closing Dates for Christmas

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<th>Australia</th>
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<th>Rest of the world</th>
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<td>International Air</td>
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<td>International Express Courier</td>
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You can come too — Local events and community activities

**Woolfun Day at Bergli**
Next Woolfun Days: Saturday December 21 & January 18
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, your woolcraft gear, and if felting, a table if possible.

Bergli B&B, 265 Charteris Bay Rd, Teddington.
Ph 329 9118.
Rowena MacGill

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

**PURAU VALLEY PRODUCE FARMER’S MARKET**
**DIAMOND HARBOUR VILLAGE CENTRE**
**DECEMBER 14 & 28 ~*~**
**JANUARY 11 & 25**
Every second Saturday morning from 9.30am - 12.30pm

**EARLY YOGA FOR YOU**
Tuesday & Thursday 6am — 6.50am
Stage Room $5 per class or by donation
Everyone Welcome
Enquiries: Jacinda 329 4424 cins@paradise.net.nz

**Come Learn**
Traditional Maori Wood Carving
Whakaraupo Carving Centre Trust is now taking enrolments
Free course
Open to males 18 years and older
Course runs for 6 months
3 days a week/ Tue, Wed, Thu 9am till 4pm
Travel allowance and lunch provided
For more information or if you are interested in enrolling for the course please contact Caine Tauwhare on 741 1410 or 027 958 3294 or at whakaraupo.carving@xnet.co.nz.

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

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952
Page 10
No 174 December 2013
Our Library

It's Christmas time again!

Are you looking for some ideas — for Christmas dinner, some decorations or Christmas cards to make? Perhaps you just want some holiday reading? The Library can help you.

Joining the Library is also free of charge.

Check out our web page at christchurchcitylibraries.com

Special Christmas Pre-School Storytime on Thursday December 19 at 10am

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Joyful, Happy New Year.

Christine

All the books are free to borrow if you have a library card.

SPRIG Live at the Point on Again this Summer

After 2012-13’s stunning summer and 10 fantastic music shows on Sunday afternoons, Live at the Point will be back again on the Godley House grounds with 9 weeks of great family entertainment from Dec 29 through to Feb 23.

Brochures, posters and signs will be going up soon.

The Eastern opens on Dec 29. Other great bands include Delaney Davidson and Friends, Devilish Mary and the Holy Rollers, Dr Sanchez and The Ranchsliders.

Visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/sprig.dhca or go to the DH website www.diamondharbour.info for more info about these great bands and to view the brochure online.

Come on down and bring your friends to enjoy the music, the view, the people and great food from our two fabulous cafés from 1-4pm every Sunday this summer in Diamond Harbour.

Janet Luxton
PERSIAN RUG SALE
The Real Thing

If you are investing in fine Persian rugs there's one way to make sure you are getting what you pay for.

Shop only at the Ibrahim Rug House. Mr. Khan's personal and intimate knowledge of the villagers, the nomads and the master-weavers at the world carpet frontiers have ensured astute buying at the source.

Bringing back collectable hand crafted Persian rugs at world-competitive prices. Every piece with the absolute reassurance of this unique certification of quality & origin. To be absolutely sure that you are getting the real thing at the right price, shop only at the Ibrahim Rug House.

Professional carpet repairing available

SALE STRICTLY FOUR DAYS
Sale starts Friday Dec 6 to Monday Dec 9
9.30am to 5.30pm
Diamond Harbour Community Hall
For further information please call 021 432 727

IBRAHIM RUG HOUSE
PHONE: 341 1277 or 021 432 727
Touch Rugby
Summer Social Touch Rugby Has Started!

When: Fridays 6:15pm
Where: Diamond Harbour Rugby Grounds.
Why: Social run around - fitness - fun
How: Informal – turn up and play
Age: Primary & high school / young adults / middle aged / retirees
Gender: Gals and Guys

Be great to see the locals turn out.
Bring a friend. Spread the word.

Contacts:
Magnum Tuipulotu: magnum.p.i.o@gmail.com
Wayne Eddington: wayne@egghead.co.nz
John McLister: johnmclister@yahoo.co.com

Snowdrop Cottage
Creative Children’s Store
A great range of top children’s brands
Dress-ups and wooden toys handmade locally
Children’s Party Planning Service
Call in when you see the sign or I can come to you
with ideas, catalogues and toy choices
Also available for sewing repairs and alterations
Call 329 4444 or M 027 32 32 644
Next to the children’s playground, Diamond Harbour

Christmas is quickly approaching
and we have already enjoyed
hosting some local and
corporate Christmas Functions
with a few more to come –
Godley Cafe is a great place to
have a private party/function so keep us in mind for
that birthday, work do, team building event etc.

Simone has made some delicious Christmas Cakes
which we are selling in various sizes – these are
great for wee gifts (easy to post) or why not treat
yourself this year? Gift Vouchers are also available
in whichever denomination you choose!

The PIZZA & PINT SPECIAL is so popular we are
continuing it until the end of the year. Every Friday
night from 5-8pm purchase any pizza and pint (or
glass of house wine) for $20 (takeaways excluded).

All our food and alcohol is available as takeaways.
Maybe try our mango daiquiri on a summers day!

We are celebrating our first anniversary on Sunday
December 8 from 12-3pm with “music on the deck”
Come and enjoy listening to easy music whilst
having a drink and bite to eat.

LIVE MUSIC Saturday evening Jan 4:
Deborah Poi & Co (nee Dagg) - more info to come.

We are still looking for an organised “foodie” to
come and work with us preparing and cooking food.
If this sounds like you call us for more info.

Hours: Wed & Thurs 9am-4.30pm, Fri 9am-10pm
Sat 9am-6.30pm, Sun 10am-4.30pm
Hours may change slightly over the summer months
call 329 4880 to check.

LIKE US on Facebook to keep up to date with the
happenings at Godley Café.

We wish to thank everyone for your support and
encouragement over the past 12 months and wish
everyone a very SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!!

The Team at Godley Café
CHURCH NOTICES

Catholic Masses
Every Sunday at 5.30 pm
First Sunday of month: Mass at DH Community Church
Second, Fourth, and Fifth Sunday: SCAF* service (which fulfills Sunday Obligation)
Third Sunday of month: Mass at Lyttelton (21 Exeter St) "Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest"

Christmas Eve Mass
Will be celebrated at the DH Community Church on December 24 at 5:30pm

Anglican – Methodist – Presbyterian Services
St Andrews Diamond Harbour
Sundays at 10.30am
Wednesdays at 9am and

Christmas Services at St Andrews
December 18 at 7pm is a Community Carol Service with Diamond Harbour Singers
December 24 at 11:30pm is a Christmas Eve Midnight Service
December 25 at 9:30am is a Christmas Day Service

Christmas Services at St Pauls, Pt Levy
December 24 at 7pm. This service includes carol singing.

Prayer for the Parish
All are welcome to join in prayer for our Parish weekdays at 8:15am in the St Andrew’s Church library.

Monday Night Study Group
Meets Monday fortnightly in a warm and friendly Charteris Bay home. The last meeting for the year is on Dec 16. It will resume again next year, the date is yet to be advised. For further details, please contact Bruce Beckett on phone 329 4422.

Bible Discussion Group
This group meets fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons from 3.30 to 5pm in the St Andrew’s Church library. Please call Anne Boyd on 329 4444 for details.

Alpha
There will another Alpha course starting in Diamond Harbour in February. The start date is yet to be advised. All enquires to Russell Pickersgill-Brown on ph 329 4876 or mt.herbertvicar@xtra.co.nz.

Gamma Home Group
Meets Monday weekly in a warm and friendly Diamond Harbour home. The last meeting for the year is on Dec 17. It will resume again next year, the date is yet to be advised. For further details, please contact Ross Fountain on 329 4202.

Baby & Toddlers Group
For infants 0-36 months and their caregivers meeting in the Church hall every second Tuesday at 10-12 noon. Dec 10 is a picnic at Orton Bradley playground. Upcoming dates for 2014: Jan 14 & 28 and Feb 11 & 25. Please contact Wendy Coles on 329 4483 for further information.

City Shopping Van
The van runs on alternate Wednesdays. Upcoming dates are December 4 & 18, Jan 15 & 29 and Feb 12 & 26. 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.

Music Jam Night
The next jam session is Dec 8 from 6:30-8:30pm at the St Andrews Community Hall. Watch the Diamond Harbour website, phone Russell on 329 4876, or the Church Office on 329 4790 for the 2014 dates.

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 http://mountherbertparish.wordpress.com

NATIVITY SETS
These beautiful wood cut Nativity decorations are available from Mount Herbert Parish. A large one is $13 (top picture) and a small one is $9 or a set of 4 is $30 (bottom four pictures).

Contact the Parish office on 329 4790 or mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz to place an order.
A sample set is available to view at the church. All funds raised will go to the Mount Herbert Parish.

ACUPUNCTURE
Neck/back pains Sports injuries Musculo-skeletal problems
Insomnia & depression Digestive problems
Menstrual/ menopause Headaches, migraines

Acupuncture could help these problems
Enquiries & appointments ring
Vida Watson Ph. 329 4663
Registered acupuncturist ACC approved
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Diamond Harbour Croquet Club
Christmas Hamper raffle results:
1st Prize: No 214 Alison Nicholl, Church Bay
2nd Prize: No 110 Faye Nolan, Diamond Harbour
3rd Prize: No 302 Mark Pearson, Christchurch

The Croquet Club members appreciate your support and thank you for your generosity.

Many Thanks
...to all those who contributed to the garage sale at Emerson Crescent on November 23.
Although selling was not brisk we still managed to raise over $165 for the Red Cross hurricane relief in the Philippines. Items which were not sold have gone either to garage sale in Lyttelton, which supports the Timebank, or to the Christchurch City Mission.

Thanks also to Lisa and Sarah who helped in a variety of ways, not least in keeping me company on the day.

Ruth Willis, President

Dog Attack
On May 31 I took my dog for a walk on the cliff track. At 9.30 am on the path close to Koromiko St we had an encounter with two brindle coloured bull mastiffs; one of them attacked our huntaway. The lady with shoulder-length black hair who was with the dogs is not aware that our huntaway needed surgery after being bitten by the smaller of her dogs. It was only when I arrived at home that I found the deep wound on our dog’s neck.

Could the lady, or anybody who knows who owns these two bull mastiffs, please contact me.

Katharina Cairns 329 4214

Civil Defence Update

Yes! 90% Off!

Just wanted to get your attention. But yes, more than 90% of the year has gone. And no more aftershocks. But just in case, your Civil Defence team keeps training and honing the skills that may be needed. It has fast become the organization to be in, as training and fun seem to mix well. If you feel that you’re missing out you could always give Wendy a ring on 329 4483 and we’ll see if we can fit you in for the 2014 training year.

In the meantime enjoy a relaxed and safe Christmas and New Year.

Civil Defence Team

Neighbourhood Support
Diamond Harbour

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, 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

Thanks for your updates
Thank you to all those who have confirmed their information on the Neighbourhood Support Area database, and in particular to those group leaders who do such a good job of maintaining the records of their neighbours. You will be reminded to do this again around October each year.

New group lists are being sent to everyone who has supplied an email address as well as hard copies given to group leaders for those individuals who do not have email, but have confirmed or updated their details within the last twelve months. If you are concerned that you have not received your copy, please contact your group leader, Elaine or contact the Neighbourhood Coordinator, Elaine.

Elaine

DH VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Last month there was a serious fire at the Charteris Bay Golf Club. Fortunately it was only a training exercise with no flames or smoke. Our primary resource for extinguishing fire is water and our fire truck holds around 2,000 litres. This is ample for a small fire, but can run out within 6 minutes if we are tackling a structure fire. If we are in a reticulated area (somewhere with mains water) then we can tap into the water supply using a fire hydrant and stand pipe. However, there are many areas in our patch that do not have mains water – the golf club being one of them. We are always on the lookout for other sources of water. These could be storage tanks, swimming pools or natural sources like the creek that runs alongside the golf club. If you own a property that is not on mains water, you might like to consider where your nearest water supply is. Some property owners with large water tanks have invested in fire-service compatible fittings so that we are able to gain access to their water supply well within that crucial 6 minutes. If you would like to know more about this, contact the fire station.

In the last Brigade Briefing I mentioned that Diamond Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade has launched an appeal to raise funds for a new operational support vehicle. We would like to thank those members of the community that have contributed already. We are also interested in hearing from anyone that might know of funding sources that would support this important community asset.

Finally, a reminder that during the summer months the control of outdoor fires is governed by two organisations – Environment Canterbury and the National Rural Fire Authority. If you need to know more then visit www.diamondharbour.info and search for fire ban.

Fire Fighter David Rice

Geoff Brewer Systems

Diamond Harbour’s Technology Specialist

Got Computer Problems?
Call 0272907859 or (03) 3294083

I am a qualified electronics technician and Microsoft certified systems engineer working in the computer industry for 35 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.

Thanks for your updates
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Elaine

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1952 Page 15 No 174 December 2013
DHCA November Meeting
Rugby Club building
The Rugby Club will be updating the showers and making changes to comply with new fire regulations. CCC will be required to replace pinex walls, exit points, staircases and heaters in the Community Centre.

Aikido mats
DHCA will pay up to $1,000 for the purchase of mats - which will be available for use by community groups.

Godley site
The further delay in finalising the heritage response regarding the Godley site will be raised by Paula at the Community Board meeting. The amended management plan, now online, incorporates several of the suggestions made by Richard on behalf of the DHCA and the Historical Assoc including the path around Black Point.

SPRING
Brian Scobie, Tracey Ower, and Janet Luxton are the organisers for the upcoming Live at the Point summer series. DHCA will donate $2,000 as a platinum sponsor.

Community Board
The Head to Head Walkway is being worked on. An email will be sent to the Community Board regarding the lack of signage and clear pathways in the portion of track from Purau to Diamond Harbour.

Port Company plans
LPC plans to move the ferry terminal west to be nearer the tank stands despite objections made in 2008-9. Our letter to the Press emphasises the need to keep convenient links between DH and Lyttelton. See letter opposite.

New committee member
Al Wilson attended the meeting and has agreed to join the committee. He was warmly received. We would still like another new member. Next Meeting Monday Dec 16.

Dear Editor
At the November meeting of The Diamond Harbour Community Association grave concern was expressed about the Lyttelton Port Co plans reported in The Press on November 9.

From 2007 to 2009 as part of a ‘Community Advisory Group’ the Community Association took part in discussions with the Port Co, CCC, and Ecan regarding the Diamond Harbour ferry terminal. The initial objection from the community was to the removal of the stairs accessing Lyttelton from the terminal. The present route to the overbridge is agreed to be unsatisfactory. The group worked on the changes needed at the Port.

Residents of both Lyttelton and Diamond Harbour have many links that are economic, social and cultural and wish to maintain walking access to the Lyttelton Town Centre. It was stated by the Community Advisory Group that ‘the western end option effectively breaks any convenient link between Diamond Harbour and Lyttelton via the ferry.’

It was therefore extremely disappointing to read that smaller ferries that service destinations such as Diamond Harbour would move towards the oil storage area of the port. The area between Oxford St and Canterbury St is considered the only area providing reasonable access between these populated areas and able to sustain both communities. The Community Association is dismayed that the Port Company appears to be ignoring the recommendations of the Community Advisory Group report.

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johnsandford2@gmail.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

Shoes Found
Leather boat shoes and white socks in found in the Domain carpark, Stoddart Point. State Street brand, size 9. If they are yours phone Paula 329 4445 or 027 241 3772.

Puppies to give away
Border collie X puppies, happy, well-socialised, parents smart and hard-working. Available now, free to good homes, ideal workers or mates. Ph 329 4605.

Guitars for sale
Two electric guitars and one acoustic guitar. Ph 550 4225.

Garden Implements wanted
Including a wheelbarrow, gardening fork, watering can, garden seats, pea straw and a few other things. Good condition, reasonable prices. Ph Bronwen 329 4303.

Free Timber - 2 Lots
1. Various lengths and sizes of treated timber. Ph 329 4474
2. Old decking timber to be removed from my garden. Ph 329 4487.

Stroller for sale

House/Flat wanted to Rent
Long-term rental sought by caring, trustworthy retired lady. If you have anything becoming available in the near year please contact Phyllis on 329 3222.

Flat wanted
Quiet living couple with immaculate references require long-term residential accommodation in Diamond Harbour area around $180-240 pw. Please phone 550 4225.

Flute Lessons
Available over the December-January period. I have just completed my first year of a Bachelor of Music in performance and am home for the summer. I’m friendly and enthusiastic with two years of teaching experience. If you are interested in lessons regular or casual contact me on 027 372 3070 or lianne.eveleens@vodafone.co.nz.

Sewing machine wanted
Please call Frances 329 4666.

Windows 7 laptops
Various brands, 2-3 years old, in good condition. 3-4Gb memory, 15" screen, clean factory re-install of Windows 7 anti-virus/anti-malware and other software. $250-$330. Phone 329 3032.

Free PC
No monitor (15" LCD available for $30). 40Gb hard drive, 1Gb memory, keyboard and mouse. Clean install of Windows XP SP3 (all updates applied). Anti-virus/anti-malware and other software installed. Phone 329 3032.

Dell 19" LCD for sale
Good condition, 1280x1024, adjustable height. VGA and DVI inputs. $60. 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.

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

Orton Bradley Firewood for sale
3m3 pine delivered $195. Ready to burn next winter. All proceeds to Park maintenance. Ph 329 4730.

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.

Outdoor Fitness
Outdoor Boot Camp Fitness with Mike at 6.30am Mon, Wed and Fri, all year round. Ph 3294647 or mikecatton@mac.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

Herald Calendar

Art Group: Weds, 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall
Bridge Club: Weds, 7pm, DH Bowling Club, 329 4094
Carol Evening: Wed Dec 18, 7pm. Church Hall p10
Church Notices: p14
Croquet: Weds 1.30-4.30pm, Sats 10am-1pm
DHCa Com.Mtg: Mon Dec 16, 7.30pm Comm Rm p16
Early Morning Yoga: Tues. Thu 6am, Stage Room. p10
Film Society: Thurs, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Harbour Singers: Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Insight Meditation: Tues, 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave
Ladies Probus: Mon Dec 9, 10am, Church Hall
Library Story Time: Thu Dec 19, 10am. p11
Live at the Point: Sun Dec 29, 1pm — The Eastern
Live Music at Godley Café: Sat evening, Jan 4. p13
Mail Closing Dates: p9
Men's Probus: Thu Dec 5 10am, DH Rugby Club
Music Jam Nights: Dec 8, 6.30pm Church Hall, p14
Plenty to Share: Sats, 11am. Village Centre. p13
Purau Farmers Market: Sats Dec 14, 28 & Jan 11, 25. p10
Rug Sale: Dec 6-9, 9.30am-5pm, Com Hall. p12
Running Group: Sats, 8am. p10
Shopping Van: Weds Dec 4, 18, Jan 15,29; Feb 12,26. p14
Skate Jam: Fri Dec 6, 5.30pm, Lyttelton. p10
String Players: Tues, 7pm. Ph 329 4536
Tai Chi: Thu 11-12noon, Com Hall
Tennis Club: Sats 10am-11am, Community Hall
Touch Rugby: Fri, 6.15pm, Rugby Grounds. p13
Toy Library: Sats 10am-11am, Community Hall
Woolfun at Bergli: Mon, Wed and Fri, all year round. Ph 329 4605.

Disclaimer — Views expressed in the Diamond Harbour Herald are not necessarily those of the Editor. While due care is taken to ensure the contents of the Herald are accurate the Editor and Printer cannot accept liability for omissions and errors.

For latest event updates go to www.diamondharbour.info
**Local Building, Maintenance and Services Directory**

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