The 09-19 LTCCP is a budgeted work programme which describes Council’s level of service and its ten-year capital work programme. It tells us how much this will cost ($7 billion) and its impact on rates — this year, 3.9%. It is a substantial document, which City Councillors signed off on 30 June.

It is likely that the only matter of real interest to Charteris Bay residents was whether or not new drinking water and wastewater systems would be extended their way, and when. After all, only last winter Council staff were meeting and talking with residents, surveying the area, and scoping a project that was scheduled to start now. It was at that late stage that it became apparent that former BPDC estimates for capital works had been woefully understated. Charteris Bay at the previous estimate of $4 million, was but one of a number of settlements this applied to. Purau was another. It was this, combined with the need to make way for new work, that saw a number of water and wastewater upgrades removed from the draft ten-year capital programme.

Where precedence was given to other work, it was on the basis that it was being legally driven. This included a $32 million project to change current practice and remove treated wastewater from Lyttelton Harbour. In effect there was no choice but to provide for this and comply with ECAN’s consent conditions for higher environmental standards.

The Charteris Bay upgrade is now back. $11.12 million has been allocated for work to start next year to extend the Diamond Harbour/Church Bay drinking water and wastewater system through to the bay.

This will be the first upgrade where the cost will be borne by all the city’s ratepayers, not simply targeted exclusively to local property owners.

Many Charteris Bay residents submitted a persuasive case for its reinstatement which made it easier for me to argue their case at the Council table. The Government’s $15 million contribution for the AMI stadium upgrade certainly helped free up some funds, but it still took considerable negotiation and reprogramming to reach the final decision.

Meanwhile the situation for Purau residents is highly complex and uncertain. Residents have been left with the possibility of a private developer accessing the Diamond Harbour public water supply when they cannot. This prospect has emerged from good intentions at the time, as staff negotiated what would have been a shorter-term restricted water supply on the basis that the reticulated water supply upgrade was imminent.

Now that Purau’s water and wastewater upgrade has gone from the ten year plan, it is a clumsy outcome. Residents face the galling prospect of water passing by Purau for a new subdivision beyond the settlement. If this does happen, options for providing a similar restricted water supply to existing Purau residents will be investigated.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the ten-year plan, please feel free to contact me. Its next major review will be in 2012.

Claudia Reid, Christchurch City Councillor
Telephone: 03 329 4377
Introducing Amy

The Herald sought some information about the person who is our local Member of Parliament.

Amy Adams doesn’t come from a background of politics but, says she is relishing her new role.

To me, the desire to become an MP came from wanting to help this region, and the country, reach the potential I believe it has. I didn’t want my children to grow up thinking that the only way for them to have a successful future would be to leave for overseas.

Amy and her husband Don run a 600-acre sheep and crop farm in Aylesbury, near Darfield. They have two children aged 11 and 9. Before heading into politics Amy had been a partner in a Christchurch law firm specialising in commercial and property law.

In some ways the transition from law to parliament is not that big a jump. The first part of my job is still to help people with problems they have, the second part is my role in the law making process in Wellington. In both aspects I find the skills I learnt as a lawyer very helpful.

In a typical week Amy spends Tuesday to Thursday at Parliament and has Friday, Saturday and Monday working in her electorate which stretches from Arthurs Pass to the tip of the Peninsula.

I try and keep Sundays for the family as they really don’t get to see enough of me during the week. I’m incredibly lucky that they are so supportive of me and what I’m doing. This is not a job you could take on as a mother without a great family network behind you.

Asked what she enjoys most about her new role, Amy says it’s the chance to meet with so many people who live in the Selwyn electorate.

Even though I’ve lived here for 15 years, I’ve had the opportunity to learn so much more about the wonderful things that are happening in our communities and of course learn more about some of the challenges we face.

We are lucky to have around us a spectacular natural environment that we must cherish, a much better economic outlook than many places and perhaps most importantly a sense of community that seems to have been lost in many other parts of the country.

Amy visits the Peninsula regularly and can be contacted through her Templeton office on 03 344 0418.
We have just had the changing of the guard, Prem the chef gone and Graeme the new man straight in at the deep end. Naturally the style of food will change as Graeme works a menu to suit the style of his cooking and Godley House. So come on down and check out the new menu, watch the All Blacks, have a game of pool and pass those winter nights away.

We have “happy hour”, Wed 5-7pm, Thurs 6-7pm and Friday 6-7pm: $6 jugs and $4 house wines - well worth the visit.

Always look forward to seeing you at our place,

D.H. RESIDENT

HONOURED IN GLASGOW

Jane Soons is well known to many of us for her involvement in a number of community groups. She is also the Herald’s resident weather authority. Jane, who is originally from England, moved from there to complete a PhD in Geography at the University of Glasgow, her specialist field being geomorphology, which involves the development of landscapes and the natural hazards and risks to which they are exposed. From Glasgow, she was involved in research at various other universities, eventually being offered a position at Canterbury University. Undaunted by the prospect of moving to the other side of the world, she soon settled in Christchurch and in Diamond Harbour, lecturing at the university until her retirement a few years ago.

When an ordinary-looking envelope from Glasgow arrived in her mailbox earlier this year, Jane opened it with the expectation that her old alma mater was contacting past associates in connection with some fundraising project. In contrast, its contents left her quite stunned. After reading the message several times, it finally sunk in that she had been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science by the University of Glasgow in recognition of her life’s work, and the fact that, unknown to her, she had been the first female recipient of a PhD in Geography in that university. Accordingly, Jane attended her graduation ceremony in Glasgow last month. In keeping with tradition there, as well as the usual awards, she was presented with a quaich, which is a generously-sized silver cup of welcome and farewell. The ceremony was followed by the Geography graduates’ parade, led by, of course, a piper, who, again as dictated by tradition, received from the college principal, a quaich of whiskey at both the start and finish of the parade. Since it is not unusual in the large university to have several graduation parades in one day, Jane found herself wondering how the lone piper’s performance might be affected by the end of it.

The contrast between the ceremony in bustling Glasgow and the quietness of Diamond Harbour in the winter is great, but Jane is happy to be home and justly very proud of the well-deserved honour bestowed upon her.

Congratulations from all of us, Jane.

Jane with her quaich and certificate

Hi from the team at Godley.

We have just had the changing of the guard, Prem the chef gone and Graeme the new man straight in at the deep end.

Naturally the style of food will change as Graeme works a menu to suit the style of his cooking and Godley House. So come on down and check out the new menu, watch the All Blacks, have a game of pool and pass those winter nights away.

We have “happy hour”, Wed 5-7pm, Thurs. 6-7pm. and Friday 6-7pm; $6 jugs and $4 house wines - well worth the visit.

Always look forward to seeing you at our place,

Over and out. Neil.

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The Global Poverty Action Group’s Teddy Bear raffle was drawn on Sunday 19 July at Church Bay Services by a passer-by who pulled the name Jane out of the hat. The teddy is definitely not a Plain Jane, and the lucky winner, Margaret, has decided that it will be heading to a new home in Auckland to keep a newborn little girl company.

GPAG would like to thank everyone who supported Guess the Name of the Teddy Bear, especially Elaine, from Church Bay Services, for hosting the raffle and looking after the bear.

SNAP the Difference

Following the wine trail has taken on a new meaning for 60 North Canterbury vineyards. Steve Wratten, Professor of Ecology at Lincoln University, concluded his recent talk to the Diamond Harbour and Purau Garden Club by describing this new venture which introduces biodiversity to a once monoculture landscape. Those walking the trail around the perimeter of the vineyards get to pass through a variety of exotic and native vegetation which provides a habitat for numerous indigenous creatures including birds, native snails and slugs and insects such as wetas.

Recently a shipment of New Zealand wine was returned to our shores by German officials because of the high content of copper in the wine. Wine produced in the Waipara vineyards would never suffer this fate. Providing biodiversity, that is planting a wide variety of vegetation around the vineyard to host a wide selection of insects which prey on pests which assault grapevines, eliminates the need for using insect sprays. In a world becoming increasingly adverse to the use of chemicals in horticulture this has a distinct commercial advantage as well as safeguarding the environment. There is also an economic advantage. The seeds for a row of insect nurturing plants costs $2; the cost for chemical spray to do the same job costs $250.

So what part does SNAP have to play in all this? SNAP stands for Shelter, Nectar, Alternative prey, and Pollen. These are the ingredients for a bio-diverse environment which fosters the proliferation of desirable predatory insects. Biodiversity, says Professor Wratten, gives back nature’s services at a very low economic cost to the environment, in this case eliminating the need for the expensive and polluting use of chemical sprays. And SNAP can be applied to our own gardens too, especially the vegetable garden. To eliminate the use of chemical sprays, introduce plantings of Alyssum, tansy leaf (phacelia) or buckwheat. Not only will our gardens be more colourful but they will attract pollinating bees and moths, predatory parasitic wasps, ladybirds and lacewings, and provide us with nutritious pest free vegetables.

Small snippets

It is possible that the varroa mite may not attack native bee hives which are vital for pollinating native plants – it would be good to know more about this. We must all look after earwigs as they eat carrot fly eggs. Phacelia is planted around paddocks of corn. Hoverfly offspring eat greenfly like a vacuum cleaner. Double rows of buckwheat planted between rows of apples can double the production per hectare by controlling the light brown apple moth. The lowland of New Zealand has less than 1% of its native vegetation left – second only to Hawaii which has the worst record in the world – a sobering thought.

Anne and Karen
D.H. Ramblers into Recycling

We recently had an education day at Parkhouse Road Recycling Centre and Dyers Road Green Waste Centre. We were shown the sophisticated system for sorting the Yellow Bin of recyclables that is picked up at our gate, and we learnt the reason why...........

- Plastic supermarket carrier bags ONLY can be recycled and can be packed in one bag;
- Washed plastic bottles - coke, milk, etc. should be with plastic tops on and not flattened;
- Glass bottles (with metal caps removed) and broken glass pieces need not be wrapped;
- Metal tops and lids should be placed in a clean tin with the top squashed in to retain the smaller metal parts;
- Newspapers, cardboard, glossy paper needs to be left loose, not in plastic bags or tied with string as a Devil’s Machine is used to loosen or fluff them up to be sorted;
- All the above along with clear plastic biscuit trays, washed soft garden/nursery plastic pots can go in the Yellow Bin.
- Hard glass, Pyrex, pottery and pottery pieces, Glad Wrap, biscuit wrappings, tin-foils and other plastics and bread bags (which could be used for doggie doos) must go in the Red Bin.
- Flax and cabbage tree leaves also go in the Red Bin, but anything else that grows, including bones and food stuffs, can go in the Green Bin, but not too tightly packed, please.
- Green bin contents are mulched in 30 metre composting/steaming tunnels, a process which takes up to 100 days before the compost is ready for eventual use.

If you would like to join the Ramblers, phone 3294 243.

Ruth A. Willis

Grand Concert

The Diamond Harbour Singers provided a great night’s entertainment on July 4 in the Community Hall, where they were joined by the very talented A Capellago World Music Choir from Christchurch.

A record 85 guests plus choir members enjoyed a cabaret style setting, with great food and drinks. It was wonderful to listen to such a variety of music in a hall with excellent acoustics. The spectacle will be repeated next year with a new selection of songs.

If anyone wants to join the singing group, we meet every Wednesday night in the Stage Room at 7.30pm and the first two practices are free. There is also a weekend school on October 17 and 18 with the talented Julian Raphael, who takes a 100 strong community choir in Wellington. The school is to be held here in Diamond Harbour and will conclude with a concert.

Karen

Condolances

The committee of the Diamond Harbour Bowling Club, on behalf of all its members, expresses great sorrow at the loss of our founding member, Malcolm Ireland. It was Malcolm who, in 1979, instigated the formation of our club, overseeing the acquisition of the land, laying of the greens and construction of the club house. Since the club opened in 1980, he was an active competitor who at various times held not only every applicable trophy but also every executive position. His contribution to the club has been enormous and he will be sadly missed and long remembered. Our condolences go to Lita and his family and all who knew him.

Ian Boyd, President.

Diamond Harbour Ballet

A big thank you to Adele and Georgina Gaunt for all their hard work and energy designing and making the costumes and choreography for the production. The little dancers were fantastic and very entertaining. Thanks also to audience for your support.

Felicia

P.S. If you want to join the Ramblers, phone 3294 243.
Dear Editor,

After reading the article regarding access to Laurenson Park from Ranui Crescent in the last edition of the Herald I feel it is important to clarify the situation.

The area between 36 and 40 Ranui Crescent has always been legal access to the Park and has never been part of the property at 40 Ranui Crescent. I agree this may not have been evident from some of the activities and buildings that were present on the access way.

The access way has now been cleared of all structures and a major part of the vegetation, and it is hoped to have it properly fenced in the near future.

In the meantime if you are using the access way and stray onto the wrong side of the boundary this is not a problem to us, the May family, as the new owners. Just say “Hi” to David, Andrew, Nerida and Bridie if they are about.

Mahony May

Dear Editor,

Thank you, James Norcliffe, for your leading article on the Black Point gated community. This gating is possibly doing our community a favour however. People, so intellectually challenged that they choose to buy a section on the south facing slope of a hillside, in constant shade throughout the winter and the first to feel the southerly blasts as they come up the harbour from Gebbies Pass, are perhaps better locked away from the rest of us.

Thank goodness, we do not all live in a state of developer and media driven paranoia and fear.

Adrien Gordon

Lyttel Piko

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AKAROA HERE WE COME!

Lyttelton Harbour Visitor’s Group arranged a great day out to Little River and Akaroa on July 13 (thanks again to Rod). The purpose of the trip was to visit Information Centres in both areas to see how they operate compared to the Lyttelton Information Centre. The Sunnyside of the Harbour contingent was made up of accommodation providers.

First up was the Little River Information Centre, followed by coffee at the gallery next door. We made a brief stop at Hilltop to test the snow and take in the wonderful view of snow-topped hills all around. Then it was on to the Akaroa Information Centre where we met Sandra Innes, the manager. After lunch we stopped at the museum and Linton Mosaic Garden which was very popular with the children in the party. Lots of photos were taken.

It was a great day out and proved useful for those of us who volunteer at the Lyttelton Centre. We learned that although the offices are successful, with thousands of visitors a year, funding is always difficult.

Karen

Pauline (Mt Evans B&B), Wendy (Manaaki Eco Farmstay), Robyn (Diamond Harbour Lodge), Karen (Waimarama)
WINE SPEAK

It continues to be a buyer's - or should we say imbiber's - market out there, so get in quick because it surely can't last. Here are some hearty whites and reds to see you through the tail end of winter.

Ranked 7th in Cuisine, the 2007 Tahi Chardonnay is a fruit-driven beauty that really shows off the cracker vintage in Gisborne. I get toasted coconut wafting off the glass, clean and pure textural stonefruit in the palate and creamy vanilla oak with food. In a completely different style is the 2008 Coopers Creek The Limeworks Chardonnay. This Hawkes Bay single vineyard wine is as elegant as the highly acclaimed Coopers Creek The Limeworks Chardonnay with food. In a completely different style is the 2008

Recipe

Self saucing berry pudding

The caption that goes with recipe reads food cooked at home is cooked with love. That is exactly what happened during the last week of the holidays while I had five members of my family staying. The three grandchildren were always interested in what was happening in the kitchen. We had a great time making peanut butter. The dish most loved by all was this one, which fitted the bill nicely for a family pudding. I happened to have some blackboy peaches in the freezer along with black currants and used them both. Any fruit or berries could be used.

½ cups self-raising flour

75g butter, diced

½ cup sugar

Grated rind and juice of 1 orange

1 cup milk

Fruit of your choice (thawed frozen fruit is fine)

1 cup of berries (I used black currants)

Sauce

Make the orange juice up to 1½ cups with boiling water. Stir in ½ cup of jam and half a cup of sugar.

Pre-heat oven to 180 deg.

Lightly grease a dish big enough to take the pudding without it being able to overflow. Sift the flour into a bowl and rub in the butter until the mixture resembles fine crumbs. Stir in the sugar and orange rind and make a well in the centre. Pour in the milk, add the berries, and mix with a slotted spoon to form a stiff batter. Spread the peaches in the bottom of the dish and pour over the batter. If using the sauce, pour it over the batter. Bake for 45 minutes or until the sponge top is cooked in the centre. Sprinkle with icing sugar and serve with cream.

Served 6 big portions and was enjoyed by all. Karen

GAFFERS GOSSIP

I had a very interesting conversation with my young son the other day on the subject of corporal punishment and the general discipline of minors. It transpired that we held widely differing beliefs, but as I have always encouraged healthy debate in our family I was prepared to listen to his juvenile arguments. He maintained that I was rigid and authoritarian, with no understanding of the aspirations of the younger generation. I tried to point out that our views were bound to differ but my greater experience in life made it imperative that I pass on my knowledge to him in the best way that I could. He then enquired whether this included physical enforcement and I had to reply that this may become necessary in extreme circumstances in order to equip him to face the world as a man. He asked if this applied to his sister, which was a patently ridiculous remark.

At this point the discussion grew quite heated and he bit me. Feeling offended by this aggressive behaviour, and having no fear of judicial repercussions, I bit him back. Mind you it is asking rather a lot to expect a four year old to engage in constructive debate.

Tony

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Tony
A recent stroll in the Botanical Gardens had an unexpected outcome for Catherine Ward and her family. Two-year-old Nathan thought it was pretty cool when they stopped in at the ice cream shop, but as they continued on their walk, each happily licking on their chosen treat, they were approached by a man who identified himself as a scout for Street's Icecream, his task being to reward the first person he saw eating a Street's product—and that was a very surprised Catherine!

True to his word, he contacted our local Street's dealer, Church Bay Services, and arranged for management, Elaine to present Catherine with a Street's tee-shirt, two inflatable balls and a generous selection of the company's products.

When the Herald later called on the family, Nathan was quick to don his priz ed Street's tee-shirt and point out his favourites on the Street's poster. Of course, he would have preferred to show us the real versions, but he had already sampled the m, and the rest were safely stored in the freezer, which this young street's fan is not yet big enough to open by himself.

Elaine

**FIRST AID FOR ANIMALS**

Although this is written with animals in mind, the principles are much the same for people. The ABC of first aid follows, which is helpful as it is easy to panic. Take a step back, assess the whole situation, and then:

**A: Airway** - Extend the head, and carefully (so as not to get bitten) clear away fluids in mouth. Keep the head down to aid drainage. Check if breathing; if not, close the mouth and blow into nose roughly every 5-6 seconds.

In newborn animals a stalk of grass stuck up the nose can stimulate breathing.

**B: Bleeding** - Blood oozing is not so serious, but if spurting (arterial bleeding) it needs to be stopped with pressure or bandages.

**C: Circulation** - Is there a pulse? Feel the left side of the chest just behind the elbow for a heart beat, or in the groin for a pulse. If nothing, apply lateral pressure to the chest with the animal lying on its side, roughly every second, remembering to blow air into nose after five compressions. For tiny puppies and kittens just use finger pressure, for bigger dogs two hands can be used.

**D & E: Digestive and Excretory** - This is not really first aid, but something the vet will assess (internal injuries).

**F: Fractures** - Need to be supported with splints or bandages for comfort.

It is also helpful to be aware of some common medical scenarios and how to deal with them.

**Fitting animals:** Keep things as quiet and dark as possible. If inside, draw the curtains, close doors, and keep children away. Most animals will recover within a few minutes. If your dog is in pain, aspirin (Disprin) works well. Use 10mg/kg (e.g. a 300mg tablet for a 30kg dog). Do not give painkillers to cats as they do not tolerate them well; particularly a void paracetamol (Paradol) with cats. Wounds should be cleaned with water, and a weak antiseptic solution if available. Betadine or Chlorhexidine are the safest for animals. Also clip away as much hair around the wound as possible to aid hygiene and drainage.

Paul

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A couple of months ago, Jayvee Buchanan was busy selling firewood to raise funds towards his trip to the Dominican Republic for the North American Optimist Championships as a member of the NZ team. Jayvee is now back in Charteris Bay, having had the experience of a lifetime, despite it not starting out in a very positive way. Firstly, his yacht sails went missing en route, finally reaching him just one day before the regatta began and thus depriving him of vital practice in the local conditions, and probably contributing to his capsizing in the first race. Then on the second day, he finished well up in the fleet only to find that he was listed as having over the line before the starting signal. While this might seem a basic error, serious racing yachts will know that manoeuvring to be right on the crowded invisible start-line is essential if one is to have any chance of being near the front of the fleet as the starting gun goes. Carrying penalty points for two “wasted” races, Jayvee showed his true spirit and ability in steadily improving his performance every day, to eventually win the final race and finishing the best placed Kiwi at 13th overall in the huge fleet of 198 competitors, an exceptional performance. Summing up, Jayvee acknowledged all the help he has had in getting to this event, and commented that he has learnt to recognise his weaknesses and work to improve them, to minimise his mistakes, and to compete with confidence on a world stage. Who can suggest that sport is not great training for life!

Elaine

DID YOU KNOW?

Remember Jayvee?

The Herald goes to press, our Senior Team will have completed the last game before the semi-finals. A win against our close rivals, Leeston, should see us progress, but a loss means we can throw the boots in the cupboard for another year. We would like to thank our supporters for their ongoing encouragement throughout the season. Likewise the Senior Team relies heavily on our sponsors and thanks to Godley House and Robbies of Riccarton.

For the Juniors, the last competition game is on 15 August, followed by some semis and finals in the subsequent weeks for the top teams.

The 7 a side tournament which was postponed from earlier in the season due to bad weather, but will now be held on 16 August. Diamond Harbour will have teams competing, and this fast-moving version of the game is exciting for both players and spectators. Head to Rolleston from 9am onwards to see teams from Under 7 to U 18 playing.

Congratulations to Tom Dixon (U48kg) and Ollie Alexander (U16) who have been selected for Ellesmere representative teams. This means a couple of extra practices per week, and a great opportunity to experience intensive coaching and playing teams from around the South Island.

Talor Fleet and Ed Ryde are currently attending U12 skills days as part of the Metro rep selection process. We’ll let you know next month how they get on.

The players appreciate the efforts of our local referees – Richard Fisher, Bill Haley, Jamie Douglas and John Rochford. They are called on to officiate at home games, and are universally liked by both the local and visiting players. Thanks guys!

Keep an eye on the Teddington notice board to know when the DH teams are playing at home. They love having support on the sidelines!

The clubs annual prize giving will be held on Saturday 22 August and will coincide with team photographs and our traditional married versus singles match. The married singles match is always good humour and is a chance for the young bucks to test their skills against the old boys. Will youth, fitness and enthusiasm triumph or will cunning, experience and beer bellies prevail? Kick off will be about 12.30pm and you will be guaranteed a laugh! And don’t forget our annual Golf tournament at Charteris Bay, Sunday Sept. 6 – see details on page 15.

Ian Lloyd and James Dixon
Most people will know about the two recent serious car crashes involving locals, the first resulting in a miraculous escape, and the second in the tragic death of a community stalwart who will be greatly missed by many.

As usual in accidents and emergencies in our vicinity, our Volunteer Fire Brigade responded immediately, assessing the situation, securing the area, and generally coordinating the ensuing essential procedures. In the case of the most recent event, this involved setting up road blocks and controlling traffic in both directions along the precarious narrow detour route. Of course this resulted in considerable delays for motorists during most of the day, which for many, no doubt, proved stressful and frustrating, but it was nevertheless sadly incredible that a few drivers, some of them local, chose to vent their feelings by vehemently and personally abusing the firemen on duty, their actions and attitude suggesting that they firmly believed it was just all part of a devious plan by egotistical individuals wanting to display their powers.

If you were one of those people, compare the cost of your inconvenience on this occasion to that of the volunteers who, not just on that day, but all too often, are called upon to forgo their families, their recreation and in several cases, their employment for hours at a time to take care of the rest of us. Perhaps you should also consider the price you might have paid had the Fire Brigade not been doing its job and you had tried to negotiate the crowded accident scene in the face of opposing traffic or had to brave and swerve suddenly to a void an unseen vehicle on one of the blind corners on the narrow gravel road above Hunter’s Gully. And if you are now subconsciously thinking, “That wouldn’t happen to me”, remember that for two of us, it just did.

Now available from the Diamond Harbour Library

Orton Bradley’s Diary

A Sort of Diary

R.O.Public

Published by the Friends of the Diamond Harbour Library

Available insight into the life of a twenty-year old young man who lived in this area 130 years ago.

The diary was discovered by Neil McGilvray, transcribed by Lesley and Dick Barnett and is published by the Friends of the Diamond Harbour Library.

The proceeds from the sale of this book will go to helping and relocating, Orton Bradley’s family (his main source of income) at Orton Bradley Park.

Price $10

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How Would YOU Cope?

Civil Defence Report — Oct 21, 2010

SITUATION

On Oct 20, 2010, NIWA reported the anticipated landfall of a “rain bomb” carried by gales of unprecedented strength along the east coasts of both islands. In the event, the winds arrived too early for much to be done in the way of preparation. During the day, showers gave way to heavy rainfall and the wind velocity rose. By midday the Avon and Heathcote rivers had broken their banks and wind-generated sea surge was causing serious flooding in coastal areas. By 1930hrs it was impossible to travel safely by car in many areas. The gale force winds brought down trees with power outages in most areas. At 2100hrs the Mayor declared a State of Civil Emergency. Radio announcements immediately began advising people of the situation in the various suburbs.

Harbour Basin

In the Lyttelton Harbour area, rain, wind and tide was exacerbated by the geography of the basin, producing a huge sea surge in which many boats were torn adrift and jetties damaged. The rain catchment of Mt. Herbert, Bradley and Evans turned seven dry valleys into torrents. Gullying, slips and large fallen trees closed the roads in many places on both sides of the harbour. Thirty-three houses succumbed to the erosion of their foundations.

Diamond Harbour

Being the furthest from the emergency services, Diamond Harbour was virtually isolated and the local Civil Defence team assumed the tasks and responsibilities invested in them by the Act, dealing with people displaced from their homes, assisting casualties, assessing the extent of damage to the local infrastructure, coordinating their responses with the local Fire Station and medical staff, and maintaining contact with Regional HQ.

It was quickly apparent that assistance from external services would be impossible while the storm raged. As casual volunteers turned up at the primary school Sector Post they were equipped with cell phones and torches and sent out to reconnoitre their local areas and report back. Thus a comprehensive picture of the extent of local problems emerged and was radioed to Regional HQ. The previously compiled register of local skilled people and useful equipment was used to organise the setting up of work gangs and a rudimentary welfare centre in the school assembly hall. People injured by flying debris and some traumatised elderly were conveyed, where possible, to the Medical Centre and Regional HQ advised of their condition. Firemen located and designated dangerous downed power lines and assisted homeowners with missing roof sections. Although many locals had emergency survival food and safe drinking water stored, and there was a supply of donated food, blankets and BBQs, the Civil Defence Coordinator requisitioned from the local stores and forty displaced persons were accommodated overnight at the school. Some 140 meals were prepared and cooked by volunteers in the three days before the wind velocity dropped sufficiently for boats and helicopters to access the area.

Not real, folks – but very possible! Are you prepared?
Can you help? Your Civil Defence team needs more volunteers. Training is provided.

Ring Wendy 329 483 or John 329 4545.
Local Life Long Learning Evening Courses

In Lyttelton, Diamond Harbour, and Little River

Come along and have some fun. These evening classes are designed to be close to home, affordable, relaxing, and fun. Lyttelton courses are synchronised with the ferry timetable to be accessible to Diamond Harbour residents. A minimum of eight people are required, so book early to ensure that the classes you want go ahead. Most courses are $40 with extra costs for materials. Costs will be on our website. You can call and talk to us about the classes.

TERM THREE

Lyttelton:

Introduction to Te Reo and Tikanga – With a tutor from Southern Maori Development Trust. Wed Aug 19 to Sep 23, 6.15-8.15pm. Venue to be advised.

Sewing – With Louise Galloway. Wed Aug 5 to Sep 23, 6.30-8.30pm. Louise has a lovely relaxed style mixed with very good skills. Bring your machine. Lyttelton Main School Hall.


Home composting kitchen and garden waste (free) – With Lily White. Sat until Sep 26, 10.30am-12.30pm. Lyttelton Community Gardens. Contact Annmarie Banchy 942 7190.

Herbs for health and beauty from your garden – With Bettina Evans. Mon Aug 3 to Sep 14, 6.15-8.15pm. Lyttelton Community Gardens.

Computing skills – With Elaine Bryson. Thu Aug 13 to Sep 17, 6.15-8.15pm. Elaine is happy to teach beginners and people with more advanced skills. Bring your own laptop if you have one, or let us know if you do not. Lyttelton Main School Library.

Love your look – With Debbie Lawson. Dress to suit your body and character and learn to love what you are wearing. Sun Aug 16, 10am-4pm.

Craft tasting – Try eight different crafts, Tue 6.15-8.15pm, Project Lyttelton Headquarters. Sandy Hodgson will teach mosaics. See website for cost, venue, crafts, and dates.

Belly dancing and contemporary dancing – See www.lyttelton.net.nz/local-learning.

Diamond Harbour:


Craft tasting – Try eight different crafts, Aug to Oct. Spinning, dying, and wool weaving will be taught by Fran MacFarlane. See website for cost, venue, crafts, and dates.

Organic vegetable gardening throughout the year – With Mary Fryer. Sun Aug 16 to Nov 15. A four hour class each month. Te Papau Crescent. Learn hands-on about planning and setting up garden beds, composting, weed and pest management, propagation and more.

Computing skills – With Elaine Bryson. Tue Aug 11 to Sep 15, 6.15-8.15pm. Diamond Harbour Church Hall. Beginner and intermediate levels. Tell us what you want to learn. Bring your laptop if you have one.

Little River:

Find the artist in you – With David Irving. Thu 7.30-9.30pm for eight weeks from Sep 3 (school holidays to be negotiated). Little River Community Centre. Beginning watercolour painting and beginning drawing.

Indie crafts with Katrina Pennino. Mon Jul 27 to Sep 14, 7-9pm. Little River Service Centre. Fun, crafty, and inspirational classes using things from around the home.

Organic vegetable gardening throughout the year – With Gilda Ottway. Wed Aug 19 to Sep 6, 6-8pm; plus a full day on Sun Sep 20. Little River School.

If you wish to suggest a course for your community please tell us what you would like.

Please check the Project Lyttelton website www.lyttelton.net.nz for details of courses. To enroll, contact Sue-Ellen Sandilands on 328 9243 Tue to Fri or email office@lyttelton.net.nz. To discuss classes, contact Roz Jenkins on 328 8552 or email communitylearning@lyttelton.net.nz.

Courses supported with funding from Akaroa Area School ACE, Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board, Safer Banks Peninsula, Hillmorton High School ACE, Hagley High School ACE, Christchurch City Council Creative Communities, Risingholme Community Centre and Canterbury Community Trust, ECAN, Lyttelton Port Company and CPIT.
Diamond Harbour:  
**Toolbox course** – Parenting 0-5yr olds. Mon Oct 19 to Nov 16, 7.15-9pm. Stage Room, Community Hall. Facilitated by Sarah Luxford. What rules do rules, routine, and charm play in bringing up kids? Supper provided, plus a year's subscription to *Parenting* magazine and a professional workbook to take home.

Little River:  
**Flax weaving** – With Barbara Filmer. A six week course Oct/Nov. Yet to be finalised but some funding secured from Creative Communities for this.

Courses supported with funding from Akaroa Area School ACE, Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board, Safer Banks Peninsula, Hillmorton High School ACE, Hagley High School ACE, Christchurch City Council Creative Communities, Risingholme Community Centre and Canterbury Community Trust, ECAN, Lyttelton Port Company and CPIT.

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GET GROWING FOR CHRISTMAS

A Waipapa Ave family responded to the call from the Transition Harbour Food Group and called in our help to get them started on a new vegetable garden. With five children and limited time, Katie thought it best to have the kitchen garden close by the house.

Half an hour was spent in the planning and a couple of hours later, the new garden was prepared and ready for planting in August. Ben and Katie, along with Franziska and Karen from the Food Group worked together and were joined by enthusiastic children to lay the mulch and peat straw. A very pleasant Saturday morning it was too.

We gave Katie a list of things to do to help towards creating other new plots and promised to come back to see how they are progressing. She said it has really motivated her and she can see what needs to be done now.

If anyone else would like the experienced Food Group members to come and talk with them about starting to grow food, do get in touch with us.
Joy 3294119, Franziska 3294892, Karen 3293006, Annie 3294779.

D. H. HERALD READER SURVEY

Over the last two months, 75 readers have responded, filling in the survey forms and in many cases adding very useful comments.
Perhaps not surprisingly, the most popular columns were local news, the calendar, classifieds, community notices and community association items; nearly all of the respondents read these.
The lucky winners of the hand-knitted Aran jersey and fruit crumble are Don and Bev Cameron.
Thank you to everyone who responded. Your feedback is always appreciated and can be directed to any member of the Herald team.

THANKS, JIM

Life and death matters
Jim Thornton has a dedicated following for his stimulating philosophy lectures each winter and this year was no exception. He weighed into some controversial areas and provoked some excellent discussion.
What will the topic be for next year’s lecture series?
We look forward to it, Jim. Karen

Do you need to fight the flab?

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Need funds?
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Orton Bradley Park update
As with everywhere else in the district, the Park is wet and muddy at present. Please be aware that some of the side streams can get impassable during heavy rain, so be prepared if you plan to come for a walk.

On the subject of walking tracks: all tracks in the park will be closed due to lambing from August 20 to October 1. Sorry for any inconvenience. We are also aware that a number of people are getting lost while walking the Arboretum track (a loop east from the historical buildings) so we are currently working on improving the signage on this track, which will be complete when the tracks re-open in October.

In association with Trees for Canterbury we are undertaking to plant 700 native trees behind the Adventure playground on Sunday August 2, starting at 10:30 am. If you can help out please bring a spade and a raincoat; your help would be greatly appreciated.

Spring fair
After a break of two years the Orton Bradley Spring Fair is back by popular demand. Keep Sunday October 25 free to see the rhododendrons in full bloom, and browse the stalls and park.

Ian Luxford, Park Manager

BECA Heritage Week: Wartime in the Harbour
As part of the BECA Heritage Week, taking place in October in the run up to Labour Weekend, the Stoddart Cottage Trust is hoping to mount an exhibition of memorabilia of local life during the war years.

We would be interested to hear about any items people may have, and the stories surrounding them, that might provide a glimpse of life both at home and away. If you are willing to have them exhibited, we assure you they will be well cared for and treated with respect. The theme is Doves and Defences – we are interested in how people coped here at home while their loved ones were far away, as well as material about life in the services. Of course, Annie has many items in her clothing collection of the period and we have researched some photographic material but the more local we can make it the more interesting it will be.

In addition to the exhibition there will be the usual round of afternoon teas over the weekend with a wartime flavour (no powdered egg, we promise), plus a film night at the hall where we will be showing a suitable classic film, dressing up in period costume, being entertained with old songs and generally having a great time. We will also feature a talk on life in the Royal Naval Reserve Cadets in the war years and wartime food and gardening.

Further details will be announced nearer the event, but for now, we would be very grateful to hear from anyone who would either be willing to help with the event in any way, or who may be able to lend us exhibits and/or tell us the background stories.

Contact Jane Smith 329 4949 or Annie Baxter 329 4779.

Chipping Day August 15
The cost is $20 for any job of less than 10 minutes, or $2 a minute for the first 20 minutes, then $1 a minute after that.

Place the green waste in a place that is easily accessible to the shredder, such as a driveway or the street, to avoid the customer having to move the waste far.

Keep compostable rubbish, plus grass, cabbage trees, flax, earth, roots and stones out of the mix – the shredder takes only woody material, not herbeaceous which blocks the outlet – stoppages caused by such materials will be at the customer’s expense. Remember, all the material has to be fed into an 8 inch gap.

Note that any chips not left at the place of work will have to be taken away at a later date for a separate price.

If the waste has been there for some time, or has become a tangled, almost solid mass, please loosen it to speed up the rate it can be fed into the machine.

Much of the operator’s time is wasted trying to find the green waste or locate the correct address. If you are not easy to find, ring Dave and tell him or you may be missed.

Tie a bag to the pile with a note saying whose it is!

Dave Hammond Ph. 329 4270

Diamond Harbour and Purau Garden Club
If you are interested in learning more about attracting native birds to your garden, come along and hear Joy Burt at the next garden club on Monday August 3. She is a very interesting speaker and the meeting is open to everyone.

Last month’s meeting was very successful, so make the most of the opportunity.

Spring barn dance
Celebrate the end of winter by coming to the Spring Barn Dance to be held in the Diamond Harbour Hall on September 26. There will be great music and suppers and best of all you don’t need a partner. Watch this space.

Contact Annie Baxter 329 4779.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES CONT'D. ——

Daffodil Day in Diamond Harbour
It's that time of year again. Daffodil Day is on Friday August 28 and the Diamond Harbour Cancer Support Group will be out and about collecting for the Cancer Society. Please come and support us.
The Group has been very fortunate to have a beautiful set of paintings donated by Mary Fiddes as a raffle prize. A photograph of the paintings will be on display at the Medical Centre where tickets can be purchased. We will also be outside the shop and after your money on the Saturdays leading up to Daffodil Day and will be holding a raffle for a grocery basket. All money raised will go towards funding a fluid and medication delivery pump which will be used to deliver medication continuously to patients, predominantly those with cancer. As no medical equipment comes cheap, we are keen to raise as much money as possible before the end of the year.
Following Daffodil Day we will be holding our annual film show on Saturday August 29 in the Stage Room. The film will be Saving Grace so come along for an entertaining evening and a glass of mulled wine. Joy Harding, Secretary

Tai Chi in Diamond Harbour Hall
The new Tai Chi term began on July 23. Chris is continuing the classes started last term, so come and progress further and keep limbered up.
Qi Gong:
Consists of easy stretching exercises for health and flexibility. Thursdays July 23 to Sep 24, 10.30-11am.
Tai Chi:
Sun style – falls prevention and all levels welcome. July 23 and August 6, 11.15-12.15.
Yang style, short form – August 13, 20 & 27, 11.15-12.15.
To enrol phone Chris on 03 304 8949.
Yang style, long form – Sept 3, 10, & 17, 11.15-12.15.
To enrol phone Chris on 03 304 8949.
Supported by Rural Canterbury Primary Health. $20 per term goes towards our new ECG machine.

CLASSIFIEDS

For rent
Warm 3 bedroom house at Teddington with large garden and grazing possible. $250 p.w. (neg) daruma@clear.net.nz or 329 4835.

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 tidy ing. Affordable rates. Phone Jim on 328 8274 or 027 226 4548.

Hairdressing
Experience hairdresser available – will cut your hair in your own home. Phone 021 152 3937.

House sitter available
I am house sitting in the area and would like to stay longer, as Diamond Harbour is so lovely. I will be available for house sitting during November and December. Please phone 021 152 3937.

Chimney cleaning
Chimney sweeping in our area has been taken over by Abel and Prestige Chimney Cleaning. Please phone 0800 661 244 for this service.

For Sale
Black 29” Philips colour TV in excellent condition. Great picture. Has a mobile shelving unit underneath. Suitable main or second TV. $150 ono. Phone 329 4521.
Two pest free plug in units. Rodent deterrents. Free trial period. Normally $159 each. Will sell $100 each or two for $160. Phone 329 4521.

Babysitter available
Female, 17 years old, has First Aid certificate. Very experienced and has references. Call Makaela on 329 3380.

Carpool wanted
1-2 days weekdays to Central Chch or University of Canterbury area. Petrol contribution. Contact Ang by email: cam229@student.canterbury.ac.nz

Herald Calendar

Art group: Wednesdays 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall Badminton: Wednesdays 7.30pm, Community Hall Camera club: Tue Aug 18, Stage Room Chipping round: Sat Aug 15 Community Association: Mon Aug 17, Committee Room Daffodil Day: Fri Aug 28 Diamond Harbour Singers: Weds 7.30pm, Stage Room D. H. Rugby Club Prize-giving: Sat Aug 22, Clubrooms Film evening for Cancer Support: Sat Aug 29, 7.30pm, Stage Room Garden Club: Mon Aug 3, Rugby Club rooms Golf: DHRFC Fundraising Tournament, Charteris Bay Golf Course, September 6 – see details opposite Historical Association: Tue Aug 11, 7.30pm, Stage Room Indoor Bowls: Thursdays 2-4pm, Community Hall Insight Meditation: Tuesdays 7pm, 7A Whero Ave; Fridays 11.30am, Stage Room Ladies Probus: Aug 10, Charteris Bay Golf Club, 10am Mt. Herbert Under 20 Trust
Fund raising dinner—Friday Sept. 11 at Rugby Club rooms.
Dinner prepared by professional chef.
$25 / head.
For further details contact Ross Fountain Ph.329 4202

Diamond Harbour Rugby Football Club
Annual Fund-raising Tournament

Charteris Bay Golf Course
Sunday September 6
Teams of Four Men, Women, or Mixed.
Entry: $25 per person
ALL WELCOME - Great Prizes
Game of Chance, Longest Drive, Closest to Pin etc.
Make up your own team or join one on the day.
Entries close at Charteris Bay Golf Clubrooms – falls prevention and all levels welcome.  $250 p.w. (neg) daruma@clear.net.nz.

Mt. Herbert Under 20 Trust
Fund raising dinner—Friday Sept. 11 at Rugby Club rooms.
Dinner prepared by professional chef.
$25 / head.
For further details contact Ross Fountain Ph.329 4202

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