VANDALS AT THE GARDEN GATES

What sort of person deliberately sets out to cause pain to others, to wilfully destroy the fruits of their labour, to deny them and their children food for their table? Surely such malevolence cannot exist in our caring community... sadly, it does.

Three or four years ago the Van Staveren family offered the use of some land in Purau (on the Purau Pt Levy Road) as a community garden. Their generous offer was enthusiastically taken up by around 10 families who have worked hard, digging and weeding the long grass that covered the ground, pegging out beds, making paths with old newspapers covered with mulch collected locally, to transform a rough paddock into what is now a productive organic garden with dozens of well-tended beds growing every sort of vegetable, bordered by berries and fruit trees. New members are always welcome and the more experienced gardeners are happy to pass on their knowledge and expertise to anyone wishing to learn the art of organic gardening. Several young families have recently joined the gardens, keen to develop the skills of self-sufficiency and to grow their own fresh, healthy, organic food – a real boon in these tough economic times.

Alas, one night in January (probably the 13th) one or more vandals set about to destroy all this hard work and hope. Every bed was damaged; whole beds of vegetables (most of them not yet ready for harvest) were pulled out and left lying on the ground. Some potatoes were taken, but mostly it was simply mindless damage.

This was not the first time, either. The gardens have been vandalised each season, and the evidence suggests that it may be the same person(s) each time. Nothing has so far deterred them: a padlock on the gate, security lights erected with a grant from Safer Banks Peninsula, or the reporting of incidents to the police.

It is sad to think that this inspiring venture at community cooperation and sustainability, something the whole community can feel proud of, is now threatened by one or two sad individuals seemingly bent on destroying all that is good in our community. While it would be comforting to think that the culprit(s) are out-of-towners, the evidence suggests otherwise. If it is an adult, they need help. If it is young people – someone’s children – they may have said something to their friends. Perhaps their parents heard or noticed something unusual, perhaps the mysterious appearance of potatoes?

If this vandalism continues and the gardens are abandoned, what will they target next? What will our community be like if we do not stop them? Will we just throw up our hands in resignation and retreat between high walls and locked gates – or will we do something before it is too late?

Any suggestions (or offers of assistance) on ways to prevent the vandalism or to identify the offenders are most welcome. If you can help or if you have any information about the identity of the offender(s) please contact Joy McLeod on 329 4119 or email dhgarden@gmail.com. Anonymous notes may be deposited in one of the Herald boxes at the Diamond Harbour Post Centre or Church Bay Services.

Community Gardeners

Contacting the Herald:
Email: dhherald@gmail.com
News and Community Notices: Elaine 329 4512
Advertising, Classified and Display: Ron 329 3032
Payments and Accounts: Colin 329 4119
Boxes at Diamond Harbour Post Centre and Church Bay Services are provided for subscriptions, pre-arranged payments, ad copy or news etc.
Deadline for March issue: 5pm Wed, February 24
We gratefully acknowledge the support of the RD1, RD2 and Diamond Harbour Postal Services in delivering the Herald each month.

Diamond Harbour Herald • Established 1953
Don’t tell anyone this, will you, but I’ve been talking to Charlie Dudley. You know Charlie Dudley? You don’t? You must know Charlie Dudley. He’s the chap who got bitten by a shark, fell out of a tree, drives around in a 1983 Land Rover and... but let’s start at the beginning.

Charlie Dudley was born a West Coaster, which some would say explains the resilience and determination which have helped him through a challenging life.

His mother died before he was five, and so after he and his siblings were dispersed to lead new and separate lives with various members of their extended family. For young Charlie, who had only just started school, his grandmother’s house in Diamond Harbour became home and he attended Diamond Harbour School, which was then on the present-day Playcentre site.

During his boyhood, Charlie became involved in local activities, particularly scouting and sailing, and developed a penchant for working things out for himself, such as how to safely crank a marine engine with a flat battery – a feat he achieved when given the task of regularly checking a launch moored in Purau.

Raising a teenage boy seemed too daunting for his aging grandmother, so Charlie was packed off to spend his secondary school years as a border at Rangiora High School. For a quiet lad from a small community, the first few weeks there were traumatic. He knew no-one among the fifty-three borders, let alone the total six hundred pupils, and the maze of classrooms left him feeling bewildered and homesick. Nevertheless, he adapted with determination and went on to enjoy his four years of secondary education, excelling in athletics and rugby along the way.

Schooling over, he had no sooner returned to Diamond Harbour wondering what to do next, when he was offered a job by Geoff Henderson, a local market gardener. Although the prospect of life among potatoes did not really appeal, Charlie, or perhaps Grandmother, accepted immediately. To his delight and life-long appreciation, as well as learning about horticulture, Charlie was taught to drive a tractor and soon became competent with a range of machinery. He also joined the Diamond Harbour Volunteer Fire Brigade, although initially he was deemed too young to be officially included, so was not eligible for a uniform. Thus he claims to have attended a few night-time fires wearing his pyjamas, but he continued to serve the community, eventually becoming Chief Fire Officer for the district.

An urge to return to sailing eventually saw him regularly racing at Charteris Bay Club in an R Class. On one occasion, in 1963, the club race was started then abandoned because of strong winds. Charlie and his crewmate deliberately capsized their yacht and were both balancing on the centre-board waiting for a pick-up boat to tow them ashore, when Charlie felt something crash against his leg. He instinctively reached down to fend the obstacle off, but his hand instantly became painfully trapped. Unable to free it, he pulled upwards, dragging a sizable shark half out of the water... its jaws clamped around Charlie’s hand. After a short struggle, the shark seemingly decided this exposure - or perhaps the taste - was not to its liking and released its grip.

The pick-up boat, still some distance away, was probably attracted by the frantic yells and signalling of Charlie’s traumatised crewmate. On arrival, it took them on board and immediately headed for Lyttelton where there was a small hospital. To their credit the officials at the club were able to decipher a very poor quality radio communication and organised an ambulance to meet the boat at Lyttelton. There the paramedics applied first aid and wisely took Charlie straight to the larger and better equipped Christchurch Hospital. Despite losing a finger to the shark, the incident did not deter the resilient Charlie from boating and, perhaps justifiably, he still enjoys a meal of fish.

According to recent research done by Otago University in conjunction with an American university, Charlie currently holds the dubious honour of being the world’s longest surviving shark attack victim.

In his early twenties, Charlie was persuaded by the family with whom he was now boarding, to become apprenticed to Barry Bowater’s building firm. Again this proved a fortuitous move in terms of skills gained, but a couple of years after completing his apprenticeship, he chose to return to horticulture and was soon offered a position as a forester at Orton Bradley Park.

That employment finished eighteen years later, when the Park faced a financial crisis, but fortunately Charlie, now with a wife and three children, was able to stay on in the house which was originally built for him on the site of the burnt-out homestead, and which is now the Park Manager’s house. Ironically the Park eventually recovered by selling the timber from the many trees Charlie had been responsible for planting years before. Meantime the unemployed Charlie used his redundancy to pay off a section and then built the house in which he and Monica still live today, before setting up business as a garden and tree contractor.

It was in this capacity that he set out one morning to finish a tree-felling job, and woke up in hospital a fortnight later with no recollection of the intervening time. It transpired that he had arrived at the property, donned his leggings, helmet and safety belt and climbed as usual to the top of a tree, hoisting his chain saw up to begin cutting off branches. What exactly happened next has never been established, but both Charlie and the chainsaw fell almost thirty metres to the ground. Fortunately they landed a short distance apart as the saw motor was still running when the property owner arrived on the scene. Charlie understandably did not fare so well, and spent months in hospital recovering. But, you know something? He still climbs trees today.

Lesser challenges he has met, often single-handedly, include erecting a local three-storied house, relocating the Charteris Bay schoolhouse to Orton Bradley Park, and building most of the bridges which exist in the Park today. However, Charlie ranks his greatest and certainly most rewarding challenge as winning the hand of Monica, and with her, raising their son and two daughters.

Finally, as author of this article, I write it despite numerous times throughout the interview, being told don’t tell anyone this, will you, and having to admit that, no, I don’t know many of the people of whom he spoke. So, for those of you who know something, I now do know something about the rather remarkable Charlie Dudley.

Elaine
We have really enjoyed our first three months here at Godley House. It has been great seeing so many new faces making repeat visits, enjoying a meal, quiet drink or just coming down to see some of the changes we have made. The response has been positive and encouraging and all of us here appreciate your continued support. Our cabinet food is proving popular and the garden is looking spectacular. We hope to see you down here soon.

**THE LYTTEL HARBOUR THAT COULD**

Project Lyttelton’s 2010 Summer Festival, Feb 19-28, will be the biggest and best yet. The whole week is packed with activities and displays and the entertainment line-up for the Street Party is outstanding. It is a line-up that says, Hello world, we are Lyttelton, hear us roar!

The programme is due for release next week. You can either save a tree and download it from the Project Lyttelton website: www.lyttelton.net.nz/summer or pick up a copy at your local café.

Elaine

PROJECTS & SERVICES

- Section clearing
- Hedge trimming
- Weeding
- Tree pruning
- Green waste removal

For prompt, efficient service • No job too big or small

Ph Brian 329 3238 or 027 753 9173

*LOCAL SAILORS EXCEL IN P CLASS NATIONALS*

For Charteris Bay Yacht Club, last month’s 2010 National P Class Sailing Championships were a great success. While it could be said that the club had a slight home advantage with the event being hosted by the Naval Point Club, Lyttelton, water-wise locals appreciate that conditions in the main harbour are generally quite different to those in Charteris Bay. Even so, few clubs could match CBYC’s having seven members finishing in the top twenty of the open championship, the Tauranga Cup. The most outstanding of these was certainly Jayvee Buchanan of Diamond Harbour who finished first, taking the cup and joining the ranks of the likes of Team NZ skipper, Dean Barker, and veteran Graham Mander who won this trophy for Canterbury in 1946 and whose sailing achievements and contribution to the sport are the stuff of legend. Jayvee’s achievement was even more commendable in that this was the first time the 14-years-old had entered this event and he was up against many more experienced P Class skippers, up to the age of 16. While records of placings of first time entrants have not always been kept, there is no evidence of another entrant winning the Tauranga Cup on first try.

**DIAMOND HARBOUR GARDEN RESTORATION**

PURAU VALLEY PRODUCE FARMER’S MARKET DIAMOND HARBOUR VILLAGE CENTRE

Summer Every second Saturday February
13th and 27th Produce & Baking All Fresh and locally grown
T: 03 329 4779

**CHOCOLATE DOG**

Photographic Pet Portraits $150 including a 12x8" print

Jane and Neil Smith T 03 329 4949

Coming up …

**Music in the Garden**

Sunday 7th Feb and Sunday 14th Feb.

Why not make a booking for Valentines Night 14th Feb from 5pm onwards – free glass of bubbly with every main meal, candles, chocs, flowers on tables, table service. Choose from the main menu or something special from our Valentines blackboard menu. Bookings essential.

Cheers - Richard and Michelle
Every day I try to make a yoga day. That is, a day of opportunity to practice mindful living. To practice being present and focused on all activities that comprise my day – all my attention given to each activity so that I feel satisfied and certain that I have given it my all. Yoga or mindful living is as important to me as breakfast, striving to eat good food, or having a rejuvenating night’s sleep.

The result is, my body feels great, my mind fully awake and interested, my emotions positively transformed or enhanced, and I feel well connected to people in my life, to my home, community, and the planet.

A cornerstone to each day of my working week is a practice of mindful breathing followed by yoga asana or posture work. As we derive energy from the food we eat, so we also gain energy as we breathe. The chemical components of the air which we breathe in and out are bound by energy. In yoga we learn how to manage this energy in the body and thereby maximise its benefits.

We are energetic beings, and need to consume energy. Posture work helps to awaken and move energy through the body and thereby increases flexibility of tight muscles, strengthens underused muscles, balances skeletal misalignments, and creates joint space rejuvenating and healing damaged tissue. Posture work also stimulates our body’s organs and physiology including our nervous system and hormonal processes, and hence enhances overall functioning and well-being.

Practicing yoga can provide unexpected rewards. Whether for reasons of increased flexibility and strength, as a way to manage stress in your life, or as a therapy to complement some medical treatment process, you will always gain by practicing some yoga.

This is my seventh year of teaching yoga in Diamond Harbour. In addition to my usual Monday evening General Yoga Class, I am offering a One-hour Yoga Class at 10am every morning, Monday to Friday. I am also open to individual or group yoga by arrangement. If you know of two or more others who would like to have your own yoga class at a time and place to suit you then I will be very happy to meet your needs. See my advertisement, on this page.

MAKE EVERY DAY A YOGA DAY

Diamond Yoga

One-hour Yoga
- 10am every Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri at 10 Te Ra Cres
- $10 per class

General Yoga Class
- 7-8.30pm Mondays, Community Centre, Stage Room
- $12 per class ($120 for block of 10 classes) or $15 casual

Yoga for You
- Personal program or yoga therapy to meet your individual or group needs.

Contact Adrian or just come along
Ph 329 3395 or e: diamondyoga@slingshot.co.nz

DIAMOND HARBOUR RUGBY

Friday Night Touch Continues:
Every Friday evening until the end of March at 6.45pm, DH Sports Ground, for adults and children 9yrs and over. Refereeing is loose and friendly. Players over 40 must bring their own medical back-up.
See you there for fitness and fun!
Call 329 4611 or 329 4966 if you have any questions.

Junior Rugby Season Starting Soon:
For boys and girls from U7 up.
Watch out for details of registration days or ph 329 4611.

From the Senior Coach:
Well, with the super 14 starting in a couple of weeks, it’s time to think about Diamond Harbour Rugby. Our competition is scheduled to start in early April and the Senior Team training will begin in earnest in early March before a couple of pre-season games. We will be kicking the season off with a social get-together in a couple of weeks, so if there are any keen players out there, please give me a call and I will let you know the details. Likewise, if anyone would like to assist with organizing, managing, coaching, or just supporting the senior side please give me a call. No experience required, just an enthusiasm for the game and for Diamond Harbour.

Finally, the Seniors are always looking for odd jobs to help with team funds so if you have a job that looks too daunting for you, but would suit about 20 young, fit (well, getting slightly fit) guys, let me know.

Ian Lloyd phone 329 3183 or 029 200 9332

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953
SEASON’S GREETINGS DELAYED——

The Herald team was privileged to receive personal season’s greetings cards from the Mayor of Christchurch and our local MP. The former, correctly addressed, arrived without delay, but in the case of Amy’s card, we felt that the response, which follows, was in order.

Dear Amy,

Thank you for your season’s greetings. Your card eventually reached us belatedly by somewhat unorthodox means. We are sure that in days gone by, despite the fact that there are no PO Boxes or even a Post Centre in the 8972 Rural Delivery zone, the address Elaine, Ron and the Team Diamond Harbour Herald PO Box Post Centre DIAMOND HARBOUR 8972, would have found us without delay, particularly as, in the course of its wanderings around our three local postal areas, it passed through the hands of at least three postal employees who would have immediately recognised the intended recipients and known the correct address. In this age of wondrous technology, however, NZ Post’s rules of engagement, in our area at least, generally firmly prohibit the delivery of inaccurately-addressed mail.

On the flipside, NZ Post must be applauded for achieving a profit in the last year, as there can be no doubt that the cost of processing your card would have been considerably more than the value of its 50c stamp.

We wish you an enjoyable and successful year in 2010, and suggest perhaps you consider an email next Christmas.

Elaine, Ron and the Team, Diamond Harbour Herald

GAFFERS’ GOSSP——

Genome Sweet Gnome

I read the other day that some affluent Americans had purchased their own personalized gnomes for $70,000 each. Well, bless their hearts, I got mine for $59.12 at Mitre 10 and I personalized him by christening him Frank and lending him a pair of my old gardening shoes. He sits benignly at the top of the garden dispensing rubicund smiles at all who pass by, and doubtless swapping risqué stories with the concrete rabbit.

Without being racist, from which foul sin the good St Hone preserve me, I do wish that the Yanks could get their spelling right. They seem to be fine on words like ‘antidisestablishmentarianism’ but when it comes to ‘labor’ and ‘harbor’ or even ‘genome’, they just can’t seem to get it. I had thought of writing to Bill Gates, pointing out the untold harm he is doing by hurling squiggly red lines at confused users of his otherwise excellent software. Needless to say I would write in longhand to maintain the purity of the English language.

Anyway, to get back to Frank. He is such a cheerful wee soul that I have decided to clone him, although I don’t think that Mitre 10 actually supplied a DNA certificate. Never mind, a couple of wheelbarrows of cement and some bright colours (damn, here goes that squiggly red line again!) of concrete paint and Bob’s your Uncle, or Frank is a very distant relative.

Now, would anyone be interested in a personalized genome at the heavily reduced price of $55,000? Tony

ADULT WRITERS WORKSHOP

Sponsored by the Diamond Harbour Writers’ Group

Saturday March 13
Stageroom, DH Community Hall
3 continuing sessions: 9-11am, 11.30am-1pm & 2-4pm

Tutor: James Norcliffe

Theme: Poetry “Develop your imagination – have fun”

Morning tea and lunch will be provided

Limited to the first 20 registrants

Registrations to Tony Morrison 329 4646
Fee $10 on application

James Norcliffe has a very distinguished place in New Zealand letters, having twice won the NZ Poetry Society International Prize. His work is included in the Oxford Anthology of New Zealand Poetry in English and major journals in a number of countries.

For further details please visit our page on the DH website: www.diamondharbour.info/writers-group.aspx

McLeod Automotive

A division of Church Bay Services
141 Marine Drive
Phone / Fax 03 329 4803
Serving Diamond Harbour and Districts

Does your WOF show 2?
We have a full range of KUMHO tyres
For full A grade mechanical repairs

Phone Russell for an appointment now
Hours Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm

Tree and Garden Services

Hedge Cutting Garden Clearance

Dave Hammond
ND in Amenity Horticulture
Phone 329 4270
What do you do if your pet goes missing, or if you find a wandering animal? Hopefully you will never have to go through the trauma of losing your pet, but if it happens you should have some idea of what to do. The Christchurch City Council animal control team (941 8666) handle stray pets and wandering stock. An animal control officer will collect strays from your property, or round up stock. Just contain the animal until they can get to you, if possible try to reassure it, and offer it some food and water. If you’re worried that it may be aggressive, just phone animal control but keep clear of it. Far more worrying is when your own pet goes missing. Again, contact animal control, also your local vet, since people often inform them if they have a lost or found pet. It is always a good idea to visit the council pound yourself since written descriptions of animals are often inaccurate. Always ensure that your dog wears a collar, with the registration tag (which can be traced back to you). Also attach a tag with your phone number. Even cats can safely wear elasticized cat collars. It is compulsory to register dogs over the age of 3 months with the city council, and unless they are working dogs, they need to have a microchip inserted. This a silicone coated passive transponder, about the size of a grain of rice. It contains a unique number that is registered to you. The city council has its own database. We also recommend registering with the New Zealand Companion Animal register (cost about $20 in addition to the normal microchip fee). These days all vets and shelters have microchip scanners. By reading your pet’s microchip, they can identify the owner and contact you immediately - 24/7 - rather than having to trace the chip through the city council during office hours. Although there was a lot of negative publicity when microchipping was introduced, I am personally in favour, having often had to treat injured animals with no identification.

Paul

Dear Editor,

We are sad to report another low for our community. On the weekend of 5th/6th December thieves broke into the Diamond Harbour Playcentre grounds and took an old sofa and two armchairs from the covered area outside the building. No great loss? Yes and no. Monetarily, the furniture was worth very little, especially since the cushions were still inside the building. On the other hand this furniture was invaluable for mums to breastfeed their infants while being outside. They now have to sit on wooden upright chairs or the ground. We have searched the local area and have found no trace of the sofa or chairs. We have reported the theft to the police but there is no way of buying new sofas through an insurance claim, as the value of the stolen one was negligible. We have been kindly offered a replacement sofa for the centre (thank you to Jane Smith) but felt that there should be some community comment, hence this letter.

If anyone has any knowledge of this event, which effectively targets the youngest and most vulnerable within our community, or can shed light on where the sofa and chairs may be, please contact us on the number below. Thank you.

Jon Ward Ph. 329 4323

Meditation & Buddhism

Weekly drop-in classes • Wednesdays 7.30-9pm
Guided meditation & Buddhist teachings for every day life
No experience necessary
Commencing February 3rd at The stables
22 Canterbury Street
Lyttelton
$10 per class
booking not required
Telephone 03 332 2076

Master Your Health Acupuncture Clinic

Therapies provided:
Acupuncture
Gapping Therapy
Massage Therapy
Acupointics
Also available for purchase: 100% Pure Essential Oils
Balmments and Ointments
Chinese Herbal Medicine
Vitamins and Minerals

Vetlife

Now in Diamond Harbour

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

We look forward to seeing you and your pet!

Large animal calls and house calls can also be arranged.

Please phone 3251006 to book an appointment.
WINE SPEAK

Sick of the rain? Gosh I hope summer is planning to make an appearance soon! Either way there’s plenty of choice at present to tipple on the deck when the sun does shine or indoors as you watch the rain crash against the window. New season savvies are hitting the shelves and are a notch up from 2008 where the focus has been quality over quantity. The 2009 Eradus Sauvignon Blanc at under $17 is already a household mainstay with hallmark herb flavours up front and racy acidity giving a fresh lip-smacking zip, but it’s the passionfruit, tropical and stone fruit flavours in the palate I relish. Also big on flavour in the apricot, peach and spice realm is the 2006 Trinity Hills Gimblett Gravels Viognier – I paid a ridiculous $16 for it on special recently as well! Top notch too, is the 2007 Villa Maria Seddon Vineyard Pinot Gris edging near $30 now. Baked cinnamon pears then custard in the palate, the finish is dry and the acid balance perfect. Try with pork or quaff it on its own.

RECIPE

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953       Page 7

Kumara and Bean Pilaf with Basmati Rice

I hope everyone feels great and satisfied with many good dinners shared with friends and family, indulging in the different tastes of Christmas (and after Christmas feasts). Now it is time to tighten the food belt, although there is loads of fresh food to harvest in the garden or buy in the shops. I am picking tender green French beans and I will be cooking this recipe quite a few times until autumn. The children love it… and so does the budget!

Ingredients for 4 people, preparation time approx 40 min.

400g kumara (peeled and diced)
2 tbsp oil
1 green chilli (may be left out for kids)
1 clove garlic crushed
½ tsp curcuma spice
½ tsp cumin powder
8-10 tender peppermint leaves (1st lot)
½ tsp salt
200ml good stock
350g tender green beans
6-8 tender peppermint leaves (2nd lot)

Heat oil in a large frying pan or wok.

Add diced kumara, brown them and put them aside. For a snip under $20 the 2007 Wild Rock Gravel Pit Red is the best I’ve had under this label at under $17. Black fruits and chocolate cocoa sum it up with a spice kick from the Malbec beckoning lamb or game. For a snip under $20 the 2007 Craggy Range Te Kahu bordeaux blend has similar traits with a bit more red currant fruit in the palate and a sumptuously smooth finish. However, the clear standout at under $25 is the 2007 Alluviale from Gimblett Road. Testament yet again to a cracker Hawkes Bay vintage this has outstanding depth of flavour, all ripe plum on savoury oak and will cellar for some time yet if you can keep your hands off it. Cheers!

LYNN’S LIBRARY FAREWELL

After many years of service to our library, Lyn McDonald is retiring. L-R in the photo are Maurie Smale, Jackie Riminton, Lyn, Robin Manger, Toni Dearsley, Shirley Patterson, Colin McLeod and John Patterson.

A friendly team providing:
- Manipulative therapy
- Acupuncture
- Sports injuries
- Massage
- Back and neck problems
- Small gym for rehabilitation
- Post operative rehabilitation
- and for fitness programs or weight loss

Lyttelton Physiotherapy
Lyttelton Health Centre • 18 Oxford St • Lyttelton
Ph 03 328 8111 • Fax 03 328 8501 • Email lytteltonphysio@gmail.com

Computer Problems?

- Hardware upgrades
- OS installs and upgrades
- Software installation
- Virus removal
- Network configuration
- Web site development

Call Geoff Brewer Systems on (03) 329 4083 or (027) 280 7859

Franziska
Have You Noticed….

There’s a gleaming new structure on Parson’s Rock, officially known as a buoyage beacon, consisting of a steel pole topped with a flashing red light. There is also a maintenance platform around the pole. It was set in place late January in a tricky operation requiring a special barge and equipment as well as calm sea and wind conditions. Considerable time and care were needed to secure the structure in the deep silt of the sea floor. The remains of the old wooden structure are due to be removed any day.

While fully equipped to sail, the ketch carries about 48,000 litres of fuel for its 875 bhp motor, and all up weighs in at 513 tonnes. With its crew of nine, it is on a two and a half years cruise around the world, with the owners, reportedly members of Spanish royalty, joining it from time to time.

Lyttelton has been chosen as the site for re-surfacing (antifouling) the underwater area of the hull, so the Nirvana is now in the Lyttelton dry dock - apparently the only yacht ever to have been admitted there.

Elaine

Heaven on the Harbour

This sparkling 53m (175ft) yacht dwarfs one of our largest local yachts (the catamaran on the right) while anchored for a couple of days off Diamond Harbour last week, its 57m main mast towering above the backdrop of Evans Pass. One of the largest yachts seen in Lyttelton, the Nirvana (meaning Heaven), was built in Holland by Vitters Shipyard and launched in late 2007. With a beam (width) of almost 12m it is definitely luxury class, with, apart from the usual marine essentials, a number of extras, including a wet bike stored below decks, and an electric lift to carry crew members up the main mast should running repairs be needed.

The two main sails each reef into the booms, which as one local remarked, are big enough to sleep in.

While fully equipped to sail, the ketch carries about 48,000 litres of fuel for its 875 bhp motor, and all up weighs in at 513 tonnes. With its crew of nine, it is on a two and a half years cruise around the world, with the owners, reportedly members of Spanish royalty, joining it from time to time.

Lyttelton has been chosen as the site for re-surfacing (antifouling) the underwater area of the hull, so the Nirvana is now in the Lyttelton dry dock - apparently the only yacht ever to have been admitted there.

Elaine

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

Amy Adams
MP FOR SELWYN

Constituency clinics held regularly in Akaroa and Diamond Harbour.

To make an appointment, please phone 03 344 0418 or email
selwynoffice@parliament.govt.nz

www.amyadams.co.nz

A strong voice for our communities

National

www.national.org.nz
EMILY’S POEM

Emily, 13, from Ashburton, wrote this while spending the holidays with her grandparents in Diamond Harbour.

The Black Cat

The waves crash onto the rocks,
The wharf is just standing there.
Starfish are hiding and fish are playing tag.
Something black is heading towards the wharf.

The black blob forms its shape,
The Black Cat is coming!
Its paws skim the water,
It finally arrives.

I hop on its silky back,
It skims the water once again.
Diamonds shine on top of the water.
It arrives at the little harbour,
I hop off and I say goodbye.
Home Groups
Two home groups meet on alternate Monday evenings at 7:30pm.
Group 1: in the Church (contact Ross Fountain 329 4202).
Group 2: in the home of John and Margaret Somerville (contact the Somervilles 329 4713).

Rainbow Music
Weekly sessions at 9:15am and 10:30am each Friday. All preschoolers are welcome. $3 for one child or $4 per family. Inquiries can be made to the Parish office on 329 4790 or to Debbie Falla on 365 8880. Term one commences February 5, 2010.

Baby Group
A baby group meets regularly at Diamond Harbour Church for parents' mutual support and encouragement. The groups are fortnightly on Tuesdays from 10am-noon for parents with a child aged between 0 and 16 months. Please ring Wendy Coles on 329 4483 for dates and other information. Meetings recommence January 19, 2010.

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shopping van to South City mall will be running on Feb 3, 17 and March 3, 17. The van does pick-ups from home around 9:30am and drops people back home around 1pm. A contribution towards fuel of $10 per shopping day is expected. To book an occasional or regular ride to South City, ring Nicky Palmer on 329 4341 or Wendy Coles on 329 4483.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday February 6, 2010 from 7:45am to 9:30am at the Diamond Harbour Church Hall, 85 Marine Drive, Diamond Harbour.
Speaker: Tom Kuenning retired Brigadier, General US Airforce.
Cooked breakfast provided; donations toward costs welcome. For catering purposes please RSVP to John Somerville 329 4713 or Brian Noonan 329 4476.

Women's Breakfast
Saturday February 27, 2010 8:15am to 10:00am at the Diamond Harbour Church Hall, 85 Marine Drive, Diamond Harbour.
Delicious breakfast: croissants, bacon, eggs, muesli, yoghurt, and fruit platter; donations toward costs welcome. For catering purposes please RSVP to Ruth Willis 329 4243 or the Parish Office 329 4790.

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.

Lenten Studies - Wednesday Evenings - The Book of Deuteronomy
7:30pm at St Andrews Church. Dates:
24 Feb Remembering! Deuteronomy 1
3 Mar Moving On! Deuteronomy 2-4
10 Mar Hear, God’s People, Deuteronomy 5-11
17 Mar Laws & Feasts, Deuteronomy 12-26; Matthew 5-7
24 Mar Choosing our Future! Deuteronomy 27-33

SERVICES
Ash Wednesday
Wednesday February 17 at 7:30pm St Andrews Church: Imposition of Ashes
Regular Services
Catholic Mass every Saturday at 6:30pm.
Anglican-Methodist-Presbyterian: Sunday 8am communion and 10:30am church service.
Easter Services
28 March Palm Sunday
8:00 am Diamond Harbour Communion
9:00 am Governors Bay Communion
10:30 am Diamond Harbour Communion
11:00 am Little River Communion
1 April Maundy Thursday
7:30 pm Diamond Harbour Communion
2 April Good Friday
10:00 am Governors Bay
10:00 am Diamond Harbour
11:00 am Little River
3 April Saturday Easter Eve
7:00 pm Gebbies Valley Easter Communion
4 April Easter Day
8:00 am Diamond Harbour Easter Communion
9:00 am Governors Bay Easter Communion
9:00 am Teddington Easter Communion
9:30 am Kaituna Easter Communion
10:00 am Port Levy Easter Communion
10:30 am Diamond Harbour Easter Communion
11:00 am Little River Easter Communion

Lyttel Piko
Wholefoods Co-Operative
Your port of call for Organics
FREE Diamond Harbour Deliveries Available
Most Days
The one-stop-shop for organic and gluten free groceries, eco cleaning, bulk goods, and fresh seasonal fruit and veg
Mon to Fri 10am-6pm • Sat 9.30am-5pm
Sun 11am-5pm
12 London Street • Telephone 328 8544
Can you help the Cottage?

Stoddart’s Cottage is the oldest standing building in Diamond Harbour. Built by Mark Stoddart circa 1860, it was the birthplace and childhood home of renowned 19th century botanic artist Margaret Stoddart and her siblings. In the late 1980s a group of locals painstakingly restored the cottage. It is now a Historic Places Trust category one listed building.

While Christchurch City Council owns the cottage, a small group of volunteer trustees from the local community maintain it. The cottage is open most Sunday afternoons to allow visitors to view parts of the cottage restored to its original form and memorabilia of that bygone age. Trustee Annie Baxter delights all with her culinary skills, ably assisted by her Victorian attired maids and butler who serve Victorian Afternoon Teas in silver teapots and china cups with delicious homemade cakes, while locals display their arts and crafts.

The cottage is also available for groups who can see Stoddart family characters being role-played, as well as small wedding parties and the like. The cottage also plays host to events like the recent Beca Heritage Weekend which saw many locals participating and a community-supported exhibition together with talks and great entertainment for all to enjoy.

Organising all of this takes time and in order to continue to bring the local community enjoyment and diverse entertainment, the Stoddart’s Cottage Trustees need more trustees to join them in this work. We are particularly looking for new trustees who can help in one or more of the following areas: gardening; funding co-ordinator; minor maintenance and upkeep of the cottage; opening the cottage to visitors; exhibition/events/publicity co-ordinator; presentations on the history of the cottage and the Stoddart family; chairperson.

If you are keen to participate more in the local community and can spare the time, please contact Maddi Naylor, Secretary, 329 4419 or email stoddartscottage@gmail.com. Help us to protect our heritage for future generations to enjoy!

Maddi

Stoddart’s Cottage Events——

This column has been removed in the Herald web edition at the request of the Stoddart’s Cottage Trust.

For details of exhibitions and events at Stoddart’s Cottage please visit the Stoddart’s Cottage website:
www.stoddartscottage.co.nz

---

**Afternoon Tea as it used to be**

**VICTORIAN AFTERNOON TEA**  
**Home made cakes and strong leaf tea.**  
**Served by Annie and her staff in period costume**  
**Sunday**  
**February 14th and 28th**  
**1pm to 4pm**  
**To book call Annie on 329 4779**

**Piano Tuning**  
For skilled sensitive and prompt attention  
**Ph: Peter 329 4452**  
**Third generation tuner**

---

**Stephanie Crisp**  
Small groups in the artist’s  
**Lyttelton studio**  
**Monday or Tuesday**  
**10am - 12 midday**  
**Phone 03 328 8852**

---

**Flying somewhere?**  
Store your car with us.  
**Economical secure outdoor parking**  
**$45 flat rate up to 5 nights - $7 per additional night**  
**Free transport to and from Airport**

Waimack Auto Park,  
109 Waimakariri Road,  
Harewood,  
Phone 03 359 3552  
Email waimack@xtra.co.nz  
**Bookings essential**
Reading for Pleasure
As there are now some vacancies in our WEA Book Discussion Group we are keen to welcome new members to join us. We take turns to meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in each other’s homes. The WEA supplies us with books for 11 months of the year at a charge of $56 per member. The books, which can be either fiction or nonfiction, usually come with an accompanying commentary which includes suggested topics for discussion. At the end of the year members of the group have the opportunity to nominate books from the supplied catalogue for the following year’s meetings. Some of the titles we have chosen (and hope to get) for 2010 include; *Dreams from my Father*, Barack Obama; *The Coroner’s Lunch*, Colin Cotterell; *Towards Another Summer*, Janet Frame.

Amongst the advantages of belonging to the group is being introduced to books one may not have had the opportunity of knowing about previously and joining in discussion of the style and content of the books. These discussions often focus on social and ethical issues well worth having the opportunity to voice and hear different opinions about.

If you would like more information or are interested in joining our friendly group do feel free to contact Denny Kerr 329 4533.

Ann Thornton

Chipping Round: February 20 & 21
The cost is $20 to for any job of less than 10 minutes, or $2 a minute for the first 20 minutes, then $1 a minute thereafter.

— Place the green waste in a place that is easily accessible to a large and cumbersome towed chipper. It will save the customer money and the operator time if the waste does not have to be moved far. The shredder cannot be manoeuvred up steep slopes and must be operated on level ground.

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

— If you do not want your chips, the Community Garden group will be happy to take them away for free. Please call Colin 329 4119 or Ron 329 3032.

— If the waste has been lying for some time, or has become a tangled, semi-solid mass, loosen it up to increase the rate that it can be fed into the machine.

— Much of the operator’s time is wasted trying to find the green waste. If your place is not easy to find, ring Dave and tell him – or you may be missed. Tie a bag to the pile with a note inside with your name on it.

Note: Free possum trapping is still available, please contact me if interested.

Dave Hammond 329 4270

Diamond Harbour Singers
We begin practising again for 2010 on Wednesday February 3 and welcome you to join us. We are a community choir, singing a capella music from all around the world - times past and present. There are no auditions, with a note inside with your name on it. And you don’t need to be able to read music (although free tuition is available if you want to learn). Our conductor, Rachel Bayliss, is an experienced community choir leader and practices are fun and stimulating. A love of singing is all that is required for our choir, so get your voice out of the shower and into the practice room! We’d love to harmonise with you.

We rehearse 7:45-9:30pm every Wednesday in junior school term time, in the Stage Room of the Diamond Harbour Hall (entrance via the Rugby Club doors). Membership of the choir is $70 per term. For more information please call Karen on 329 3006.

T’ai Chi Recommences
Term 1 begins in the community hall on Thursday Feb 4:
● 9:30 Qi Gong
● 10:15 T’ai Chi for health (all levels)
● 11:00 Advanced T’ai Chi

For details phone Chris 027 442 4858

Diamond Harbour Insight Meditation
The Diamond Harbour Insight Meditation group sits every Tuesday 6:30-7:30pm at 7a Whero Ave. We begin with recorded meditation instructions, suitable for both beginners and more experienced meditators (chairs are available for those who prefer them). Insight (Vipassana) meditation is the original form of meditation taught by the Buddha 2500 years ago. It does not involve religious belief and is entirely compatible with all faiths. Meditation is a way of calming and understanding the mind. It leads to a more relaxed, less stressful way of being, and offers the possibility of living a more peaceful, compassionate, harmonious, happy, and productive life.

Interested? Please contact Christine 329 4588 or Ron 329 3032 - or just turn up any Tuesday evening.

Want to Get into Sailing this Summer?
Charteris Bay Yacht Club has boats and training available for both adults and children.

Come along to the Commodore’s Party, BBQ, Boats, and Band, February 14 at the Club, and check out the facilities and friendly atmosphere. All welcome. Ph 329 4768 or 359 5452 for more details.

Diamond Harbour & Districts Historical Association
We meet for a BBQ at Orton Bradley Park on Tuesday February 9 at 6pm. Bring meat to BBQ, a shared salad, drinks, plates, etc. Following the BBQ Ian Luxton will talk about the history of the Park and future developments.

All welcome.

Camera Club
Next Meeting will be on Feb 16, 7:30pm in Stage Room at the hall.

Anyone interested is very welcome to attend. For enquiries phone 388 0542.

CCC Open Space Strategy Submission
The Diamond Harbour Community Association has prepared a draft submission on this strategy. Issues that are highlighted include the proposed Purau headland purchase and improved access to the beaches, coastline, and scenic areas. To make a submission (closes Feb 5) go to: www1.ccc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay/

Diamond Harbour Insight Meditation Group sits every Tuesday 6:30-7:30pm at 7a Whero Ave. We begin with recorded meditation instructions, suitable for both beginners and more experienced meditators (chairs are available for those who prefer them). Insight (Vipassana) meditation is the original form of meditation taught by the Buddha 2500 years ago. It does not involve religious belief and is entirely compatible with all faiths. Meditation is a way of calming and understanding the mind. It leads to a more relaxed, less stressful way of being, and offers the possibility of living a more peaceful, compassionate, harmonious, happy, and productive life.

Interested? Please contact Christine 329 4588 or Ron 329 3032 - or just turn up any Tuesday evening.

Camera Club
Next Meeting will be on Feb 16, 7:30pm in Stage Room at the hall.

Anyone interested is very welcome to attend. For enquiries phone 388 0542.

CCC Open Space Strategy Submission
The Diamond Harbour Community Association has prepared a draft submission on this strategy. Issues that are highlighted include the proposed Purau headland purchase and improved access to the beaches, coastline, and scenic areas. To make a submission (closes Feb 5) go to: www1.ccc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay/

DraftOpenSpaceStrategy.

If you would like a copy of the DHCA submission contact Richard Suggate at rem@paradise.net.nz or ph 329 3177 or stop for it on the DH website.


Proposed Lyttelton Port Company Reclamation - Public Meeting
The Lyttelton Port Company have applied for resource consents to quarry and reclaim further areas in the Harbour. Issues of concern to Diamond Harbour residents include increased noise, lighting, sediment, and the visual effects. Submissions close on 12 February. The Diamond Harbour Community Association has organised a public meeting to discuss the issues and assist with submissions.

The meeting will be held at the DH Community Hall at 7.30pm, Monday 8 February. The Port Company will send speakers.

If you would like to make a submission, attend the meeting or else you can contact Richard Suggate at rem@paradise.net.nz or ph 329 3177 for more details.
**Herald Calendar**

**Art Group:** Weds 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall  
**Bowls:** Business House tournament, Mon evenings  
**RollUp** Tues, Thurs, Sat at 1.15pm  
**Camera Club:** Tue Feb 16, Stage Room. See p12  
**Community Association:** Mon Feb 15, 7.30pm, Com Rm  
**Diamond Harbour & Districts Historical Assn:**  
BBQ Orton Bradley Park, Tues Feb 9, 6pm. See p12  
**Diamond Harbour Singers:** Weds 7.45pm Stg Rm See p12  
**Insight Meditation:** Tues 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave. See p12  
**Ladies Probus:** Mon Feb 8, 10am, CB Golf Club  
**Port Company Reclamation - Public Meeting:**  
7.30pm, Monday Feb 8, DH Com Hall. See p12  
**Purau Produce Market:** Sat Feb 13 & 27. See p3  
**Rainbow Music:** Fris 9.15am & 10.30am, Church Hall  
**Senior Net:** Mondays 10am-12noon, Church Hall  
**Stoddart’s Cottage Events:** See Stoddart’s Cottage website  
**Tai Chi/Qi Gong:** Thurs 9.30, 10.15 & 11am. See p12  
**Touch Rugby:** Fridays 6.45pm, DH Sports Field  
**Toy Library:** Saturdays 10am-11am, Community Hall  
**Transition Exhibition & Picnic:** Sun Feb 21, 1pm. See p9  
**Yoga:** Mon 7pm, Stage Room; Every weekday, See p4

---

**Classifieds**

**For Sale:**  
Wooden Dining table, 130mm x 90mm with 2 extensions, each 38mm, plus 4 chairs. Price neg. Ph 329 4243.  
**Ironing:** We need someone to do our weekly ironing. Please contact David 329 9919.  
**Hairdressing:**  
Experienced hairdresser available – will cut your hair in your own home. Ph 021 152 3937.  
**For Sale**  
300 cm diam solid rimu colonial style dining table $100 ono. Ph 329 4646.  
**Wanted**  
Child’s high chair in good condition and expanding gate to keep toddlers away from stairs. Ph Frances 329 4666.  
**Wanted**  
Agee preserving jars or similar. Ph Aprilla 329 4888.  
**Firewood Delivered**  
Ready to burn next winter. Pine 6cu $310; old man pine 6cu $360. Ph Joel or Donna 324 8296.  
**Outdoor Boot Camp training**  
Four week fun program starting Friday Nov 13. For details visit www.bootcampfitness.co.nz or contact Mike on 329 4249 or mike@getmefit.co.nz.  
**Washer to give away**  
Early Gentle Annie washing machine. Ph Bruce 329 4422.  
**Permanent Part-time Position: Supervisor**  
Diamond Harbour Oscar After School Care program requires a supervisor. Hours: 3-6pm at Diamond Harbour School one or two days per week during school term. Must enjoy working with children – crafts and sport. Great remuneration. First Aid certificate a bonus but not essential. Please send your CV to Jill Martin, C/ Postal Centre, Diamond Harbour 8941 or phone 329 4275.

---

**Painting**

*Commercial & Residential*

**Serge van der Ster**  
PO Box 50  
Diamond Harbour 8941  
03 3293399  
021 231 5390  
serge.vanderster@hotmail.com

---

**advancedglass**

*Setting the standard in glazing*

- New Glazing  
- Repairs  
- Balustrades  
- Insurance Work  
- Mirrors  
- Splashbacks  
- Frameless Showers  
- Pet Doors

**Ph 383 9644 or 0272 336 007**  
www.advancedglass.co.nz

**Peninsula Electrical**

179 Marine Dr - Church Bay  
For all your electrical requirements

**John Allen**  
ph 329 4112  
or 027 4533 307

**Registered Electrician**

---

**Orton Bradley Park: Firewood for sale**

Proceeds go towards maintenance of the park

- 1.5 m³ bins  
  - Gum - $100  
  - Pine and park windfalls - $75

Phone 027 242 9300 - please phone prior to pick-up.  
Delivery in the Harbour Basin can be arranged.
Local Building, Maintenance and Services Directory
Use local skills and talent
Why pay for tradesmen to come from further afield? • All these services are available on your doorstep

Godzilla Plastering
Quality Workmanship
Contact Ricky on either 329 4600 or mobile 0274 805 600

Clinch Electrical
Domestic and commercial installations, repairs and maintenance
Prompt service
Free quotes
Contact Grant on
Tel/Fax 329 4450
Mobile 0274 358 038

Dennis Collins
Stoddart Terrace
Mobile 021 2237 487
Telephone 03 329 3069
• All your machinery hire needs met here in Diamond Harbour.
• If you need something specific let me know.
• Why go into town to collect and return when a huge range is on your doorstep?
• Honest price structure on a job-by-job basis.
• Your feedback is essential.
Machinery Hire on your doorstep - why go to town?

Bays Bins 2007 Ltd
Your local friendly rubbish removal company
weekly • fortnightly • monthly • casuals
• Bulk garden and household rubbish
• Weekend hire of truck
• You load and we dump
Phone Jude 385 9537 • Mobile 027 840 8744
Email baysbins@gmail.com

Bayman Services
Products delivered to your door
Compost | Crusher Dust
Bark | Lime Chips
Pea straw | Premix
Aggregates | Soil
Decorative stones | Premix
Services
Rubber-tracked BOBCAT compact loader with operator
Weekend and holiday work at no additional charge

Teddington Automotive
Motor Vehicle Repairs and Servicing
Also ATV, Tractor and Farm Bike Servicing
W.O.F.
Courtesy Car Available
Graeme Hamilton
40 Years Experience
753 Gebbies Pass Road
Phone 329 9763
1.2km from Wheatsheaf
Mobile 0274 331 766 or Fax 329 9911

Tom Thumb Earthmovers
All aspects of earthworks from A-Z
Christchurch & Peninsula based
Diggers and loaders • Vehicle transporting available
“Tread Light and Work Hard”
Phone 027 2528 306 or 03 329 0131

Tiling
Jon Hainsworth
Local Diamond Harbour tiler for floors, walls and wet rooms
Phone 03 329 3236
Mobile 021 0278 4453