Port Levy. The road over the Saddle was little more than a steep, narrow, dusty track, and as they reached the summit to areas of sea bed each time it receded. by water. For several days after the water slopped in and out of the harbour about every forty minutes, exposing great was the tsunami which swept up Lyttelton Harbour in 1960. Lesley's first knowledge of it was when she heard a strange Ohoka Homestead. A self-confessed sook, she rates the scariest times as among her most memorable. One such occasion was the tsunami which swept up Lyttelton Harbour in 1960. Lesley's first knowledge of it was when she heard a strange gurgling noise under their house at Orton Bradley Park. On investigation she found the building completely surrounded by water. For several days after the water slopped in and out of the harbour about every forty minutes, exposing great areas of sea bed each time it receded. You could virtually have walked across Port Levy, adds Dick. In 1964 the couple were in a position to consider fulfilling more of Dick's dream and they went to look at a farm for sale in Port Levy. The road over the Saddle was little more than a steep, narrow, dusty track, and as they reached the summit to look down on Port Levy, Lesley had had enough. She got out of the car declaring, I am not going down there! Dick continued alone to inspect and ultimately buy the farm which had been home for four generations of the Field family since 1865. Despite the road, Lesley soon also fell in love with the property, and after renovating the old house they moved in, a new manager being appointed to the Bradley Estate, with Dick as Supervisor. By now the couple had a son and daughter and later had a young niece and nephew come to live with them, but Lesley was alone on the farm when her next most memorable moment occurred. It was Easter, 1968. The children were at school, and Dick had left early to make the one-and-a-half hours journey to the city to pick up his mother who was to holiday with them. Soon after his departure, the wind started to increase, and what was to become known as the Wahine Storm swept the roof off the woodshed crashing it into the side of the house. The phone rang and she was advised that the school was closing and she needed to drive down urgently to collect the children - a harrowing experience for any sook! And the rest of the day continued in the same vein to the extent that when Dick arrived home, Lesley simply swept past her mother-in-law and collapsed into her husband's arms. Of course there were the good times too. The annual visit by members of the Salvation Army was always a highlight, with lots of music, a concert and the showing of comic films such as Laurel and Hardy – a great treat for all the local children. An avid reader, Lesley was the Port Levy librarian and still marvels at the courage and skill of those who drove the large Country Library Service vehicles over roads like those between Port Levy, Pigeon Bay and Little River. Meanwhile Dick cared for the farm, always true to his maxim that it is a privilege to own land, and one must always leave it in as good or better condition than when one arrived. He admits to not liking machinery much, saying, I always felt that time spent sitting on a tractor was time wasted. I should have been doing something! He certainly made good use of every minute, even finding time to be actively involved in both participation and administration of local cricket, golf, tennis and the clubie collis. When asked by the community to become a Justice of the Peace for the area, he went on to study and qualify as a judicial JP, sitting on traffic offence cases and deposition hearings, as well as serving two terms on the former Mt Herbert County Council. In 1990 the couple left the farm in the capable hands of son Richard and his wife, Clare, and built their present home in Ngatea Rd where they now maintain a large garden which included Dick's bonsai collection. He also enjoys building model ships, but somehow they still find time to serve their community, Dick as JP, auditor for several clubs and groups, a life member of each of his sporting clubs, and of course at Orton Bradley. Lesley was a Diamond Harbour Librarian for many years, and district co-ordinator of Neighbourhood Watch, the ethos of which is certainly part of their life and they are always ready to lend a helping hand in any way they can. While our community benefits from people such as Dick and Lesley, this couple see it differently; Life is great - we don't know how lucky we are.
Are we prepared?
Have you heard about the prepper movement in the US? These are people who think (possibly with reason, given the tragedy that was Hurricane Katrina) that they can’t rely on governments to protect them in the event of natural disasters or economic collapse. So they think they had better get prepared to look after themselves. I have been checking out prepper websites and my general impression is gardens plus guns. It is a very American take on what is not just an American problem - the economic and social challenges the whole world is facing with the decline of cheap oil and other cheap natural resources, and the associated financial squeeze, compounded by an increasingly unstable climate.

Perhaps North America will descend into the ghastly violence and despair depicted in the movie The Road - and perhaps this is all the more likely if so many Americans persist in thinking that social and political problems have individual solutions. How is New Zealand going to deal with these challenges? I am encouraged by the fact that instead of an individualistic prepper movement, New Zealand has the community-based Transition Towns movement. Transition Towns have lots of gardens - and say no to guns. The Transition Towns movement has already analysed the problems identified by the preppers, and proposes very different solutions. Read on for details – and watch this space for updates.

Christine Dann, Co-ordinator, Transition Harbour Project

Transition Exhibition
The Transition Exhibition held at Stoddart’s Cottage on February 21 and 28 showcased the major challenges of our times - peak oil, industrial agriculture, climate change, destruction of natural biodiversity and resilient landscapes - and outlined some of the solutions that the Transition Harbour Project has started working on. These include growing food organically close to home, providing services to each other for free via the Time Bank, and saving money and fuel by sharing rides. Lots of veggie seedlings were given away, and good discussions were had about how we can live better by sourcing more veggie seedlings.

Transition Conversations - discussion group, April 6
Whether you are convinced that we live in a time of major transition, sceptical about it, or just plain curious, the Transition Conversations discussion group welcomes you. The group meets for the first time at 8pm on Tuesday April 6, and each (monthly) meeting will include a conversation starter followed by a discussion. Interested? For more information email transitionharbour@gmail.com or call Joke on 329 4199.

Nature in Transition - workshop and field trip, April 10
Lyttelton Harbour has been losing biodiversity (and natural beauty) at a great rate in recent years, as more and more new subdivisions cover the land in concrete and asphalt. Did you know that by January 2008 the City Council had received 15 applications for non-complying subdivisions in the Banks Peninsula Rural Zone, had given consents for 11 of them, and had declined none? The Black Point subdivision is a prime example of this non-compliant travesty of good rural planning.

The Council must take better responsibility for looking after our land through the planning process, but even if and when we get it to take protecting native vegetation and natural biodiversity seriously, we still have work to do ourselves in restoring what has been lost. A magnificent band of volunteers has been working on revegetating Quail Island for over ten years, and on the mainland some individuals have planted up their own properties and extended plantings into nearby gullies and other public open spaces.

If you want to be part of this nature restoration process, come to the Nature Restoration workshop and field trip on Saturday April 10, and learn about what naturally grows best around here, and how to plant and care for it. To register your interest, please email transitionharbour@gmail.com or phone Richard on 329 3177.

Transition on the new Diamond Harbour website
Transition Harbour news is now on the Diamond Harbour Community Association website: www.diamondharbour.info. From the website home page menu click on Future Developments, then click the Transition Harbour link, or go to www.diamondharbour.info/transition-harbour.aspx.

Ride-sharing/Carpooling
Want to save money and help reduce pollution? Check out the Ride-sharing/Carpooling section.

From the website home page menu click on Transport, then click the Ride-sharing/Carpooling link, or go to www.diamondharbour.info/car-pooling.aspx.

Want to join the Transition Harbour Project?
Go to www.diamondharbour.info/transition-harbour.aspx#join or send a $5 annual subscription with your contact details to Transition Harbour Project, c/o Box 46, Diamond Harbour 8941.
**Lost and Found in Diamond Harbour—Is it Yours?**

**Found:** on the cliff edge of the Coastal Cliff Reserve in Diamond Harbour: one barbecue expertly embedded in the ground with a 9 kg gas bottle attached.

**Lost:** from the bottom of a local resident's garden one wooden picnic table and two white plastic chairs, later located part way down the cliff.

Evidence seems to indicate that a person or person's chose this cliff edge site for a barbecue picnic and possibly borrowed the table and chairs to complement the occasion. Presumably it was easier to toss the furniture over the cliff than to replace it in the garden. When local residents discovered the new installation on the cliff edge they were concerned on two counts; firstly that the tinder dry grass could easily have caught light and secondly for the personal safety of the picnickers given that there was evidence that alcohol had been consumed as well as the contents of the barbecue.

Should you be interested in reclaiming the barbecue and gas bottle, they are now, on the advice of the local police, being looked after by the Diamond Harbour Fire Brigade (contact Don Cameron ph 329 4868). The table and chairs, alas, are still part way down the cliff.

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**Are They Wheelie That Bad?**

It is now one year since wheelie bins descended upon us, amid much furore and concerns. A recent survey of locals found no one who was strongly against the present rubbish collection system. That is not to suggest there are not some difficulties for those of us who are elderly or disabled, live on steep sections or down cul-de-sacs where the trucks can’t or won’t go. Sure the green bin is a bit on the small side for those of us who don’t compost and a bit useless for those who do. We all rely on our neighbours to know the red weeks from the yellow, our narrow footpaths are pretty clogged on Tuesdays and some bins get left out too long both before and after collection day. But we have each found a way of coping – did we have a choice?

Everyone is pretty much in favour of the principle of recycling and although, according to the Christchurch City Council, we have collectively lessened the amount of landfill by almost 50,000 tonnes a year, several people suggested even more could be done. Some European countries have an annual recycle day when everyone is not only invited to put all their unwanted furniture, plumbing, bicycles, etc out on the pavement for disposal, but also actively encouraged to scavenge for useful articles amongst other people’s rejects, with the remainder being removed by the council the following morning. Another option is to curb the present craze for packaging – a cucumber comes in a perfectly good natural package, so why wrap it in plastic and why do we need scissors to gain access to our new nail scissors, not to mention the variety of plastic shopping bags, often far to large for the item placed in them. In a similar vein, a few people felt that we could do better than use landfills for the real rubbish, with international research suggesting that it could be burnt in special furnaces to, for example, produce electricity. Certainly, although there is still a considerable human input required, the technology currently employed to process our re-useable waste is impressive, with graded conveyor belts automatically sorting cardboard and glass from our yellow bins contents, magnets extracting metal, and magic eyes identifying different plastics and activating air blasts to sort them left right and centre.

Did you know that it takes more than three months to turn your green bin’s contents into fertilizer? The processed product from both green and yellow recycling is on-sold, although no-one is saying whether this results in financial profit or loss, but we assume the benefit to the planet is money in the bank. And by the way, the suggestion that a hidden camera secretly records the address label and contents of every bin as it is emptied onto the truck is a bit over the top - although neither confirmed or denied.

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**Elaine**
CIVIC AWARD FOR RICHARD BARNETT

Richard Barnett was one of fourteen recipients of the 2009 Christchurch Civic Awards presented in December for contributions to community services, Antarctic education, migrant communities, sports, education, music, social welfare, horticulture, and youth leadership.

Although Canterbury is blessed with large tracts of unspoiled land, the ever-increasing pressures of a growing population, a burgeoning tourism industry, and often ill-conceived development, have made increasing inroads into our natural landscape. For more than fifty years Richard Barnett has worked long and tirelessly to preserve some of that wonderful heritage for us all – and for future generations.

For more than five decades he has been a custodian of Orton Bradley Park, working to enhance the farm and the forestry areas, to restore the historic farm buildings, and to ensure that it remains a public amenity. Richard served for twenty years as a member of the Park Board, as well as two terms with the Mt Herbert County Council.

Every week he still gives time to hands-on tasks, repairing this, restoring that, and building something else; all the while inspiring and leading the team of Park Volunteers. More than any other single person, Richard has ensured that the natural beauty and the unique cultural heritage that is embodied in Orton Bradley Park is preserved for the present and shall remain so long into the future.

Jan Henderson

PHOTOGRAPHY SUCCESS

Graeme Keeley of Diamond Harbour received 4 awards in the Lyttelton Summer Festival Photographic Competition. The Supreme and Best Overall Image was his Misty Moorings Magazine Bay. The 2 silver awards were for Logjam in the Lyttelton port side category and Sheep Purau in the landscape category. There was also a bronze award for Lanes of Lyttelton in the Heritage category. Graeme’s celebration photo was taken by Benita Dale McMillen of the Diamond Harbour Camera Club.

www.diamondharbour.info

Are your business or society details on the Diamond Harbour Community Association Website?

View www.diamondharbour.info to see if your business or society is on the website. If they’re not, we would love to have you there, not only for your business or society presence but for people wanting your information.

Please email info@diamondharbour.info or check out the website at www.diamondharbour.info for content updates

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

Diamond Harbour Fire Brigade - Recruitment Notice

Chief Fire Officer Don Cameron would like to hear from members of the local community who feel they may have the necessary attributes and commitment to serve their community in the local Fire Brigade.

Benefits of membership include training in a wide variety of skills supporting our fire fighting activities as well as additional training in First Aid. Training in emergency management relative to civil defence disasters and hazard management is also provided.

The Brigade meets for training and maintenance every Tuesday night at 7.30pm and it is a requirement that members attend this training and meetings on this night. Eligibility criteria include a minimum age of 18 years, good health, fitness and a willingness to work in a team environment in a professional manner.

The Brigade attends a significant variety of emergencies from whale strandings, cats up trees as well as house fires and car accidents. The summer fare of grass and rubbish fires ensures that members are exposed to a number of different challenges. The Brigade is designated as a First Response Unit and often responds to medical emergencies whilst Ambulance support is mobilised. Our appliance carries advanced equipment to support this special role.

Membership in the local Brigade strengthens community responses and builds personal skills in the members. Full professional training is provided and members can expect their own development in this area to be enhanced.

The Brigade membership provides a strong bond for like-minded people keen and committed to serving their community as well as providing an excellent supportive environment for its members and their families. A true sense of camaraderie exists in the Brigade.

Interested people should contact Chief Don Cameron on 329 4868 or 027 218 5522 or email don.cameron@fire.org.nz for further information.

SIMPSON COTTAGE ON THE MOVE —

Last week, an historic cottage constructed in 1905 and once owned by Seal Simpson, a long time employee of the Bradley family, was moved from its present site opposite the Charteris Bay Golf club to Orton Bradley Park.

The house was to be demolished but a generous donation by the new owners, Kurt Neilson and Elaine McGill (nee Simpson), has paid for the relocation of this historic cottage.

Orton Bradley Park intend to use the cottage as a historic display/function centre. Considerable refurbishing is required for which the Board is seeking funding.

The cottage, on a truck, took a circuitous route through the golf course and at approximately 2pm was gently lowered onto its new piles to begin the next hundred years of its life.

Jan Henderson

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

FREE QUOTES

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- Is your school or early education facility accessing necessary funds?
- Does your sports club need someone to apply for a grant?

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DID THE GRINCH STEAL SUMMER?

Well, it seems he might have done! We have had warm days, but they have been few and far between, and separated by runs of cool and cloudy days. Just lately, although the days have been fine and sunny, the mornings have an autumnal chill, with cloud hanging around the Port Hills until the day warms up. NIWA from time to time has assured us that the weather would improve, but has been notably quiet on this recently. It’s all down to a persistent El Nino, they said. There have been suggestions, readily accepted by most of us, that the last few months have been the coldest in living memory.

Living memory is, of course, notoriously fallible. Much depends upon what the person recalling conditions was doing at the time, as well as where they were. So let’s have a quick review of 2009. January and February were warm and sunny; March and April were cooler. Then until August the weather was cool and grey. August was warmer than average, and early September offered promise of an early summer, but reneged.

Based on my records from 2001, the months from August 2009 to January 2010 inclusive have been cooler than most previous years while September’s average was only slightly below previous years. Average monthly temperatures have been consistently below those of previous years. September, even with its warm beginning, only reached an average temperature of 9°C; October did no better; November got up to an average of 12°C, while at 14°C December was only about 1°C lower than in previous years. This January was also cool, with an average temperature of only 14.5°C, compared with values in previous years ranging from 15-18°C.

What can we make of these statistics? Well, perhaps the first point is that weather is variable, and comparisons with years past may be coloured with our memories of particular events. Some winters have had low temperatures, with frost even in Diamond Harbour gardens, but these have often been balanced by bright sunny days. What your impression of the winter is may depend on whether you had to get up early or could lie in bed until things warmed up!

Jane Soons

GAFFERS’ GOSSIP

Amo/Amas/Amat

Strolling through the Forum the other day, I met old Flavius, looking all stoked up.

‘Hey man, you’re looking pretty chipper. What’s the deal?’

‘Where’ve you been hiding, Pontius? It’s the Feast of Lupercalia tomorrow.’

‘Oh yeah. Right. Well I’m not into all that orgy stuff. Think I’ll just take Pontia for a quiet trip down the Tiber and maybe quaff some vino on the way.’

‘Wow. What a square. Flavia and me, we’re going to strip down to our goat skins and hit the party time up on Palatine Hill. Got a new batch of dancing girls just shipped in from Egypt.

‘Well good luck, but watch yourself.’

‘What’s that supposed to mean?’

‘Haven’t you heard? The Emperor’s got his knickers in a twist about Roman morals. Like he’s got this new man, Valentine, going around saying we got to say it with flowers.’

‘Flowers! You gotta be kidding?’

‘No. And chocolates.’

‘Hey man. You think this kind of malarkey is going to catch on?’

‘Not a chance. It’s just to keep the old denarii rolling in till the next feast day.’

Tony
WINE SPEAK

Autumn already...what happened to summer? Being the eternal optimist here's what I'll call a late summer six-pack only because I reckon there's gotta be a few more days of sunshine in the mix before it gets really cold, eh?

Still drinking savvie? Then try the 2009 from Dog Point in that sub-$20 bracket which is even better than last year's. Ripe passionfruit melded with tangerine/lime but it's the length that will blow you away, the flavours lasting for ages after swallowing. Also excellent is the 2008 Mud House Riesling from Waipara. This region is making cracker aromatics and this one has lovely lemon/lime/apple depth in the mouth finishing deliciously dry. It's been ridiculously priced at under $15 in supermarkets lately too. Also often on special and a bit sweeter is the 2009 Spy Valley Pinot Gris which at around $17 offers pear and spice and all things nice. For Chardonnay stalwarts try the 2008 on shelves from the ever consistent Selaks Winemaker’s Favourite label. This one is peach and pineapple then some creamy meallness in the palate that beckons nothing too heavy food-wise to match and is a bargain to boot at under $20.

For reds, well it just wouldn't be summer (late or not) without Rose. The one I keep going back to in that $15-20 bracket is the 2009 Clearview Black Reef Blush. Raspberry and strawberry and finishing just off-dry it's simply mandatory pre-dinner quaffing on the deck as the sun goes down wine. However food is in order and ideally lamb or game for the 2008 Grasshopper Rock Pinot Noir from the Earnscleugh vineyard. This has ripe cherry and berry fruit and great palate depth where savoury and herb notes fill out the back end. At a snip under $27 it's actually good buying for such a classy and complex Central Otago Pinot. Cheers!

RECIPE

Foreign Cuisine - Visit No 1: Nikudango

This is my first visit to a person in our community from a different cuisine culture. I visited Toko Ota from Kokolo Farm in Teddington. She is Japanese in every way and kindly shared her kitchen and recipe with me. I was taken by her light-handed way of preparing food as we cooked dinner together. At the end I was invited to take home a delicious Japanese dinner, much to the delight of everybody from children to husband and Granddad. This easy meatball-in-sauce recipe is called Nikudango. It is quick to prepare, but it takes some time to cook the little balls.

Nikudango for 4

400gm pork mince       ½ onion finely diced
4 tbsp bread crumbs    1 egg
3 tbsp corn flour             salt and pepper to spice
good quality cooking oil

Mix all together (as for normal meatballs) kneading thoroughly with bare hands until small meat balls the size of a large unshelled walnut can be formed.

Deep-fry balls in small lots in medium-hot oil for 3-4min. Remove and let drip on household paper before placing on a plate somewhere warm.

(We did not use a deep fryer; it works fine in any good quality pan with as little as 3- 4 cm of oil.)

The sauce

3 tbsp sugar          3 tbsp soy sauce
4 tbsp tomato ketchup    3 tbsp vinegar
3 tbsp water                      1½ tbsp corn flour
4 tbsp sesame seeds

Mix the top 4 ingredients, warm up slowly on stove top, then add in corn flour dissolved in the water and heat until it is a nice thick sauce.

Add meatballs to sauce covering with sauce and sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Eat with chop sticks and/or fingers placing each ball individually into one leaf of lettuce. Serve with a vegetable salad and steamed white rice.

Salad dressing

½ onion diced  small garlic
40ml soy sauce  1½ tbsp sugar
10ml white wine  1 tsp lemon juice
40ml olive oil  20ml vinegar
10ml salad oil (canola or similar)
30ml sesame oil
salt and pepper to taste

Mix and blend in a blender then pour over slightly warm salad. Enjoy!

Franziska
ARTHRITIS IN ANIMALS

This is a common and chronic condition that mainly affects older dogs and cats. Usually it is classified as osteoarthritis, which affects cartilage and bone. It can also cause significant inflammation of the joint capsule, resulting in chronic pain.

Signs to look out for are stiffness or lameness, difficulty rising or jumping, or reluctance to climb stairs. Licking joints can also be an indication of arthritis, as it is a more sedentary lifestyle and reluctance to exercise. Often symptoms are worse in cold weather, first thing in the morning, or after exercise. Arthritis can be more difficult to detect in cats, signs are more subtle, sometimes just less activity or grooming and their behaviour can become more irritable, or they can have changes in toilet habits.

Arthritis cannot be cured, but there are some very effective ways of making arthritic animals more mobile and comfortable. Essentially we need to do three things: reduce the pain, reduce the stress on joints, and keep the joints mobile. For pain control there are numerous therapies available, mainly neuromodulators and anti-inflammatories. The trick is to find the right product or combination for your animal – there is no golden bullet that works in all cases.

We sometimes need to put animals on long term pain medication. Many products can be used safely for extended periods. Side-effects from anti-inflammatories include vomiting and blood in the stools. There is no harm in stopping medications when your pet is doing well, then restarting if necessary. Since we are treating symptoms, treatment can be stopped when symptoms diminish. For example, you may find that it is only necessary to medicate in winter.

Weight loss reduces the stress on joints, and should be considered. Usually bigger, heavier animals have the most problems with their joints. Lastly, exercise is needed to keep the joints moving. Be sure to avoid too much or uncontrolled exercise in arthritic animals. Start slowly and keep it short but frequent; allow warm-up and cool-down times and plenty of rest between sessions.

In last month’s issue, we included our letter to Amy Adams. We wish to stress that the content of this letter was in no way intended as a reflection on the integrity of our local NZ Post employees, whose actions in regard to this matter were entirely appropriate and appreciated. We apologise for any misunderstanding that may have occurred.

Elaine
OUR ELLESMERE CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Despite being one of the district’s smaller clubs, the Diamond Harbour Bowling Club has again scored above its weight in local competition, with Ann Stewart recently defeating junior women’s champions from the six other clubs to win the Ellesmere Women’s Junior Champion of Champions Singles trophy.

For those not familiar with this sport, the term junior refers to bowlers of less than five years experience, and in this one-loss-and-you’re-out competition format, each match continues until one bowler scores 21 points. With a maximum of only four points per end (game), there are a lot of bowls to be played in a match.

As well as the endurance factor, this event was played on an artificial green which can affect the bowls quite differently to the natural grass surface that Anne is used to. Nevertheless she overcame all this and her own nervousness to bring the trophy home to Diamond Harbour.

“My success is really a victory for the club and all the members who have given me such great support,” she says.

Ann’s participation in this sport followed on from her watching her parents-in-law competing.

Bowls is a great social activity, easy on the body and yet still very challenging.

Her next goal for this, her final junior year, is to acquit herself well in April’s Canterbury competition, where she will compete against Women’s Junior Singles Club Champions from all over the province. Her Ellesmere success and the fact that she finished third equal in last year’s Canterbury event suggest that Ann could end her junior bowling career on a high note, before moving into the senior ranks in 2011.

Elaine

BUSINESS HOUSE BOWLS SUCCESS

Diamond Harbour Business House Bowls Tournament ended this month with a social hour and prize giving, followed by a barbeque. This very popular annual event was run over seven weeks organised by Pam Clarke, assisted by Maureen Hunter. Maurice Taylor controlled the raffles, and Jan Meachen, Rata Boyd and Maxie Pearson manned the kitchen and the weekly barbeques.

The club is very grateful for their efforts and also for the contributions of sponsors, Bayman Services, Warren Woodturners, Joe Studholme Realty, Min Sarginson Real Estate, Telephone Service Systems, Peter Hughan Realty, Clinch Electrics and Black Cat Cruises. Results were: 1st: Joe Studholme Realty, 2nd: Peter Hughan Realty, and 3rd: Telephone Service Systems. The club thanks all who participated and looks forward to your support again next year.

Ian Boyd
HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

Selwyn MP Amy Adams is looking for a young person to help run the country.

The selection process is now open for a Selwyn constituent, aged 16 – 18 years old, to take their views all the way to the Prime Minister, when Youth Parliament is held in Wellington this July.

I’m looking for someone with a passion for the future of New Zealand, who is willing to stand up and have their voice heard, says Ms Adams.

Ms Adams will be visiting Colleges and High Schools throughout the Selwyn Electorate to explain the role of a Member of Parliament. From there Amy and the school will look at choosing a couple of the most suitable and interested candidates to compete for nominations as Selwyn’s Youth MP.

This is a rare chance for a young person to step into my shoes and experience life as an MP for a few days. It’s an interesting position, with long hours and difficult decisions, but a real opportunity to make a difference, she says.

During Youth Parliament, the selected teenagers will have the opportunity to debate legislation, sit on select committees and ask parliamentary questions of Cabinet Ministers. At the same time, their Youth Press Gallery colleagues will report on their activities and make sure they are held accountable to the public. When Youth Parliament finishes, the selected youth will keep the title of Youth MP for six months, to continue acting as eyes and ears for youth in the area.

If you think you’ve got what it takes, visit youthparliament.govt.nz, talk to your school, or free call 0508 367 693 for more information.

CHURCH NOTICES

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. $5 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.

Baby Group
A baby group meets regularly at Diamond Harbour Church for parents’ mutual support and encouragement. The groups are fortnightly on Tuesdays from 9am-noon for parents with a child aged between 0 and 16 months. Please ring Wendy Coles on 329 4483 for dates and other information.

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shopping van to South City mall will be running on 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.

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:
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

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
STODDART’S COTTAGE EVENTS

At the request of Stoddart’s Cottage Trust this section has been removed in the Herald web edition and replaced by the following:

Open most Sundays 1-4pm, for forthcoming exhibitions at Stoddart’s Cottage, please visit: www.stoddartscottage.co.nz/exhibitionsandevents/

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ORGANIC, PLANT & SEED SWAP

BRING YOUR SURPLUS SEEDS/SEEDLINGS/PLANTS: EXCHANGE & SHARE INFORMATION

FIRST MEETING: SUN 21 MARCH 10:30-NOON · 30 WHERO AVE (P.H.)

EMAIL: Caronze08@xtra.co.nz or PH RACHEL EVENINGS 329 4659 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THIS GROUP

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Reading for Pleasure
There are some vacancies in our WEA Book Discussion Group so 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, both fiction or nonfiction, usually come with an accompanying commentary which includes suggested topics for discussion. At the end of each 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 hope to get for 2010 year include; *Dreams from My Father* by Barack Obama, *The Coroner’s Lunch* by Colin Cotterell, and *Towards Another Summer* by Janet Frame. The advantages of belonging to the group include being introduced to books one may not have known about previously and joining in discussion on the style and content of them. 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 about or are interested in joining our friendly group do feel free to contact me on ph 329 4943.

Ann Thornton

Community Association News
At the February 15 meeting Claudia Reid talked about the CCC 10 year budget which includes Charteris Bay water and waste water (back in the budget for next year). Purau is not included in the 10 year plan.
There was strongly support for attempts to obtain the Purau Headland (currently for sale) for public use and there will be a panel on the issue at the Association AGM on March 22.

The submissions to Public Spaces Strategy and LPC Consent Application for reclamation and coal storage were passed with thanks to Richard Suggate for researching and writing it.

The successful Community Association website opening at Stoddart’s Cottage was attended 60-70 people. The Association wishes to remind all groups in the community to ensure their details are current and to contact the relevant content manager to update them if required.

HOW IT WAS 130 YEARS AGO

By popular demand, we print a further extract from the diary of Orton Bradley, who was 22 when he wrote this in 1880.

Saturday Feb 28
Rumours that a war with Russia is likely. Went to Port with John Hunter. It is a good job it was a fine day as we had a very heavy load viz one ton potatoes 4 lambs several boxes of apples & ourselves & Mrs Richardson. I was home by one to go to Tai Tapu to get a horse shod with Constable. But I could not get John Hunter to start. The consequence was I did not get home till three. Constable said it was too late when I got to the H of Bay so I had to go on by myself. Watson had 3 horses to do before mine. I got home at ½ past ten. It has been the hottest day there has been for months enough to melt you. It was fine riding at night after the hot day & it was splendid moonlight.

Diamond Harbour & Districts Historical Assn
Next meeting: 8 pm Tuesday 16 March, in the Rugby Club Room, DHB Community Hall. Dr David Round’s talk is entitled *The future is the past; the return of tradition in an age of crisis*. All welcome.

Bill Studholme

In Memory of Tom Droogan
A seat in memory of Tom Droogan, a long time and loved member of DH community was erected at the point down from the Bowling Club and looking towards Ripapa. The DH Ramblers were there last Tuesday when Tom’s ashes were scattered. Ann Schroeder read an original poem for Tom and Shirley and Russell Ward took photos.

Birdsafe Whakaraupo
Birdsafe was formed to eliminate possums within the residential areas of the Lyttelton Harbour Basin, with representatives in Lyttelton, Governor’s Bay, Church Bay and Diamond Harbour. We have recently received several Timms traps and would like to get them out there and working. If anyone would like a trap to deal with a current or potential possum problem please ring. Maybe you walk or run an area regularly and could help out by monitoring set traps, or have one down the garden ready.

Phone Dave Hammond 329 4270.

Sara Coop

Diamond Yoga

10am Every Weekday; 10 Te Ra Cres; $10
7pm Mondays, Community Centre; $12/$15

Personal programs by arrangement to meet your individual or group needs.

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

Diamond Harbour Camera Club
Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month 7.30 in the stage room. Ph 388 0542 for details of this month’s meeting.

Meeting: St Paul’s Anglican Church, Port Levy
Interested parties in the St Paul’s Anglican Church, Port Levy, Mt Herbert Parish, are notified of a meeting to discuss the future policy regarding burials in the church graveyard. This meeting, chaired by Mr John Willis of the Mt Herbert parish will be held at the Port Levy School on Monday 22 March at 7pm. All welcome.

Sara Coop

Tree and Garden Services
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CLASSIFIEDS

To Rent
3-4 bedroom house (furnished) near school from April. No dogs. Smokers outside please. $300 per week, prefer at least 6 months lease. Ph 942 7321.

Batches to Let
Hammer & Diamond Harbour holiday homes. Sleep 6-8. All mod cons. $70 per night. Ph Euan Godfrey 0800 212 272, ab 328 7556, fax 328 7569 or email casapropertymanagement@xtra.co.nz.

To Give Away
Pink nerine bulbs. Ph 329 4788.

Outdoor Boot Camp training
Great outdoor physical training program for Diamond Harbour and Church Bay. Join us for 4 weeks of fun! For details visit www.bootcampfitness.co.nz or contact Mike on 03 3294249 or mike@getme.fit.co.nz.

Garage Sale
Fund-raising event. 9am Saturday, 20 March. 16 Whero Ave.

For Sale (various)
Greenhouse 1.9m x 1.9m (6ft 3"), offers please. Jigsaw puzzles $7 each. Ph 329 4723.

TV Sony Bravia 19", hardly used, $350; Panasonic Breadmaker, works well, $25. Ph 329 4699.

Top Soil. The DH Bowling Club has top soil surplus to requirement. 4 cu m or less. Ph Ian 329 4110 or Richard 329 4699.


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

Professional woman seeking work: Child minding, house cleaning, gardening, cooking, pet minding etc. Overnight respite care (elderly, children or pets). Ph,txt 027 427 2674.

Glass Work/Repairs. If you need a broken window replaced or other glass work, repairs please contact me to coordinate jobs with Halswell Glass whom I have contacted to repair a broken window. Ph Daphne Cross

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**ZUMBA by TAYLOR SMITH**
(Zumba fitness instructor)
Diamond Harbour Hall Friday March 12, 7-8pm
Bring a bottle of water and towel - All welcome
Enquiries Chris Caulfield 329 4727

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**HERALD CALENDAR**

Annie’s Victorian Afternoon Teas: Mar 7 & 21, 1-4pm
Stoddart’s Cottage. See p11

Art Group: Weds 9.30am–12noon, Church Hall

Camera Club: Tue Mar 16, 7.30pm, Stage Room

Community Assn AGM: Mon Mar 15, 7.30pm, Com Hall

Diamond Harbour Singers: Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room

Easter Church Services: See Church Notices p10

Garage Sale: Sat Mar 20, 9am, 16 Whero Ave

Historical Assn.: Tue Mar 16, 8pm, Rugby Clubrooms

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

Ladies Probus: Mon Mar 8, 10am, CB Golf Club

Movie - Ratatouille: Fri Mar 19, 6pm, Stage Room

OSCAR fundraiser. See p12

Nature Restoration Workshop/Field trip: Apr 10. See p2

Pig Workshop: Sat Mar 27, 10am, Purau. See p8

Plant Swap: Sun, Mar 21, 10.30am, 30 Whero Ave. See p11

Poetry Workshop: Sat, Mar 13, 9am Stage Room. See p6

Purau Produce Market: Sat, Mar 20, 10am, Com Hall

Rainbow Music: Fri, 9.15am & 10.30am, Church Hall

Rugby Training with Crusaders: Mon Mar 8, 4-6pm

Rugby Club.

St Paul’s Church Graveyard Meeting: Mon Mar 22, 7pm

Port Levy School

Tai Chi/Qi Gong: Thurs 9.30, 10.15 & 11am, Com Hall

Transition Conversations: Apr 6, 8pm. See p2

Toy Library: Saturdays 10-11am, Community Hall

Transition Conversations: Apr 6, 8pm. See p2

White Elephant Stalls: Sat Mar 20, 10am, Com Hall

OSCAR fundraiser. See p3

Zuma Fitness: Fri Mar 12, 7-8pm, Com Hall. See p13

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**HERALD SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE**

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