NANA, NANA, THE TENTS ARE MOVING!

The contrast between the flat fields of his home on a Mid-Canterbury farm and the blue waters of Lyttelton Harbour made visiting Nana at Charteris Bay a real adventure for a very young Paul Pritchett in the early 1940s. The white triangular tents of the Naval Training Base on Quail Island added greatly to the intrigue, particularly on the day the little boy first spotted a group of these tents moving to and fro along the front of the beach. Nana no doubt gently explained the difference between tents and yacht sails with no idea that she was igniting in her young grandson a flame which would last a lifetime.

Paul credits the extreme snow falls in Canterbury in 1945 as being a major factor in the promotion of his sailing ambitions. For his father, a Gallipoli veteran who had lost a leg in the war, the difficulty of working on a hill farm meant the snow was the last straw. The following year the family relocated to Charteris Bay, from where nine-years-old Paul cycled daily to the Diamond Harbour School for a year before going to boarding school in Christchurch.

Near his grandmother’s house opposite the Golf Club was the district’s milk distribution shed, which also served as a sort of community centre. Inspired by notices there advertising local activities and groups, Paul formed a rafting club and several youngsters were soon on the water on rafts they had built from logs and whatever else they could find that floated. But it was his eleventh Christmas which saw his dreams come true when his parents presented him with an old P Class yacht. Paul spent the rest of the day and quite a bit of that night practising hiking out in the boat on the lawn, oblivious of the rain and his parent’s insistence that he move inside.

Next day, without any form of tuition, he rigged the P, launched it from Nana’s garden and sailed single-handedly around to Church Bay and the spot on the beach there which he had already selected as the ideal place to keep a boat. By the end of the summer he was confidently sailing all over the harbour. From being the only P Class sailor in the Charteris Bay Yacht Club, Paul had progressed to sailing a Takapuna before an old yachtsman approached him saying, Your sail is set all wrong. I’ll come out with you and show you what to do. – the first instruction he had ever had. When the Olympic Finn Class began to take hold in New Zealand, Paul was one of those who built their own yachts. The class flourished as a close-knit but highly competitive fleet. Several skippers banded together to help build a weekend bach on Paul’s section in Bay View Road and The Shambles as it was affectionately known to all, became something of a mecca among Charteris Bay sailors.

Having completed a carpentry apprenticeship with Charlie Luney builders, Paul worked for a couple of years with Maurice Leech. After his marriage to Pat, the couple moved to Cheviot and later to Sumner where they lived for 25 years, before returning to Church Bay and their present home, always maintaining their participation in sailing and their association with Charteris Bay Yacht Club.

After 25 yrs in the building trade, Paul joined Franklin’s Boat Builders, a job which saw him frequently travelling overseas. In the mid 90s, now living in Church Bay, he was boat building there and before retiring in 2007, he built many of the wooden plugs (moulds) used by Fi-Glass in their powerboats.

In 1974, close friend Clive Roberts, who was the New Zealand Sailing Federation’s National Youth Coach at that time, showed him a plan of a popular class of yacht being sailed overseas as a beginner boat for young sailors. Paul was at first sceptical of the simplistic design, but then decided to build one. He launched it with his two young daughters on board in 1975 at a Charteris Bay working bee, and to his amazement a number of parents and club officials expressed real interest. The club undertook the promotion of the class, and by March there were 50 Optimists being sailed in New Zealand, 45 of them in Canterbury and within 5 years there were 2,500 in NZ. Today several of our local club members are competing internationally in Optimists.

Since his Finn sailing days, Paul has been very involved in competitive sailing at an international level in the Flying Fifteen class. He has been involved in sailing administration at club, national and international levels for many years. He finds it particularly rewarding to follow the progress of the young sailors, some of whom have made it to senior international level, including sailing with Team New Zealand. His boat building skills are these days put into restoring vintage or classic boats. He is currently working on a Frostbite yacht, having completed two traditional launches, Otira, 108 years old and Mapu, 80. Otira has won several awards at classic boat regattas.

Paul also has found time to take an active interest in other community affairs, the Fire Brigade (in his 20s), Probus, Church Bay Neighbourhood Association and Lyttelton Harbour Issues Group being some of the groups he is currently involved in. He helped in the restoration of the Charteris Bay wharf and the formation of the Church Bay section of the Cliff Track and plays a significant role in our community’s dealings with local bodies.

All up, not too bad for someone who didn’t know the difference between a yacht and a tent!  

Elaine
We aim to give the community a monthly update on what we are up to!

The Trust was established in November 2007 to support youth work in the south west Lyttelton Harbour basin. Nestor Rodriguez was appointed our half-time community youth worker in February 2009. Many local organizations and individuals, including the CCC, have supported us over the past 18 months, and we wish to publicly thank them. Our ongoing survival is dependant on this help. Also, we must pay tribute to our wonderful group of youth leaders who work alongside Nestor – Katie Fox, Emily Watson, Makaela Smith and Naomi Wild who tirelessly organise fun youth events on Friday and Sunday evenings.

**Youth Groups**
Weekly meetings:
- 8+ Primary Youth Group meets Fridays 5-6.30pm
- High School Youth Group meets Fridays 7.30-10pm
- All Youth Group meets Sundays 5.30-7pm

While there have been a lot of interesting activities going on, our communication around events has not always been satisfactory. We know how important it is to keep you (particularly parents) informed. We now have a Youth Group registration form – which parents should have seen – enabling us to collate contact and emergency information and to email event information regularly. Hopefully, we have all parents’ contact details; but if you are not sure, or have not seen a notice recently, please contact one of the leaders: Nestor Rodriguez 329 4403, Emily Watson 332 2048 or 027 841 6219, Katie Fox 329 4660 or 027 747 7199, Ross Fountain 329 4202.

**Recent Events**
In late January the Trust ran a cooking course called Food for Flatters. We aimed to teach young people ways to eat healthily on a tight budget. Glenda Cheesborough and her support team provided 4 cooking sessions over 2 weeks. A lot of yummy food was produced, and new skills learned. Some young people returned home to cook for the family. We hope it is continuing!

**Easter Camp**
For 5 days over Easter, around 15 of our 13-18 yr olds attended Easter Camp 2010, ably led and supported by Nestor and his team. The Trust supported the leaders and subsidised fees of some young people to enable them to attend. See Katie’s report on page 3.

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**Program for rest of Term 2**
Note: The program applies to both groups, except for weeks when the High School group has a trip to town.

**May**
- Fri 7: Making Movies; Sun 9: Games
- Fri 14: Who wants to be a millionaire; Sun 16: Games
- Fri 21: Dodgeball (Primary) and Bowling in Christchurch (High School); Sun 23: Games
- Fri 28: Talent Night; Sun 30: Games

**June**
- Fri 4: Quiz; Sunday 6: Games
- Fri 11: Diamond Harbour Idol; Sun 13: Games
- Fri 18: Spotlight; Sun 20: Games
- Fri 25: Making Food and Games (Primary) and Laser Strike (High School); Sun 27: Games.

**July**
- Fri 2: Tournament Night; Sun 4: Games

**Trustees**
The Trustees – Ross Fountain (chair), Peter Butcher, Margaret Somerville, Lyn Williams, Katie Fox and Emily Watson – are all committed local people who wish to see the vision of the Trust realised. If you have questions or concerns we are at the end of our phones.

Many of you will know our van. This was donated to the Trust and is used for youth activities and also takes older folk into town for fortnightly shopping trips. Maintaining and upkeep of the van is a significant cost, and so far with very generous support from local folk, we have managed this. Some of their names appear on the van, please support them!

We plan to regularly publish a summary of our activities in the Herald and update our website page — check it out: www.diamondharbour.info/U20-Trust.aspx.

We are always on the lookout for fundraising opportunities for our young people. We are good at car washing – maybe now some can even cook! All suggestions are welcome. Further information is available in our small booklet, which you can request by emailing lyn@inova.co.nz or call 329 338.

Lyn Williams

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**MT HERBERT UNDER 20 TRUST NEWS**

**Program for rest of Term 2**

**Afternoon tea as it used to be...**

**VICTORIAN AFTERNOON TEA**

*Home made cake and strong leaf tea served to you by Annie and her maids in Victorian Period costume*

*Victorian afternoon tea will be served from 1pm to 4pm on:*
- Mothers’ Day - Sunday May 9th
- with Jo Ewing, botanical artist
- and Sunday 30th May
- with Judith Smith, watercolour artist

Please book for Mother's Day 9th May - 329 4779

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953
Page 2
No. 134 May 2010
Easter Camp is a crazy weekend to hang out with your mates and learn about how God fits the scheme of things. Run by CYS (Canterbury Youth Services) at Spencer Park, the camp goes for five days every Easter. Around 4,300 teenagers went this year, including 18 of us from the Diamond Harbour Youth Group. We camped out with the Cashmere group.

Every day begins when it's still dark. Thousands of people stumble out of their tents for breakfast. Still only half awake, we head back to our youth groups for activities. Then everybody goes to the Big Top, a huge marquee (used at the Ellerslie Flower Show) where the big meetings take place. The Easter Camp band Satellite gets up on stage and wakes everyone up with awesome music. Next come the speakers; this year we had amazing people from Christchurch, Wellington, and even a Canadian from Australia. They spoke powerfully about relevant topics and shared their life experiences following God.

Then it’s time for lunch, usually spent with friends under a tree. The afternoon is free time, full of exciting challenges and crazy activities such as gravy wrestling, milk sculling, helicopter rides, live performances on the open stage, sports, competitions, hip-hop dance workshops, cafes, a World Vision op shop, and optional seminars about more in-depth topics. Before you know it, it’s dinnertime. Then it’s back to your youth group before heading off to another session in the Big Top. Afterwards it’s time for nightlife, which includes the groove tent (a marquee with a DJ and strobe lights), carnival rides, spa pools, cafes, comedians, and more live music on the open stage. Bedtime is midnight, which gives you about eight hours of sleep before you get up and do it all again!

This is what people said they loved most about Easter Camp:
– hanging out with friends and meeting new people
– high-fiving people who had been gravy wrestling
– the music, the groove tent, and the activities
– seeing God change people’s lives, and Dave Wiggins, the funniest comedian ever
– dancing in the groove tent, speakers who communicated powerfully to so many people
– it brought us closer to Cashmere people
– being under a tree playing guitar with a lot of different people for hours
– all aspects of Easter Camp clumped together to make one big ball of good stuff awesomeness
– pulling off sick moves in the groove room and watching the gravy wrestling (people turned orange)
– everything; music, conferences, sport, relationships, and being with Cashmere (youth group kids)
– meeting God in an unexpected way

The youth group would like to thank the under 20 Trust who were extremely supportive, and especially the parents who helped with transport. If you’re interested in going to Easter Camp next year, come track us down at Diamond Harbour Youth Group or take a look at www.eastercamp.org.nz.

Katie

Need funds?

• Is your community group struggling for funds?
• 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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Felicia Forbes
Diamond Harbour
Bank’s Peninsula
COUCH CONCERNS
Have you lost this large comfy couch?
On the weekend of April 17 a large beige couch mysteriously appeared at the beach of the small bay just west of the Diamond Harbour jetty. Party-goers had clearly gone to some trouble to heft it down for a beach party. Regrettably, they did not trouble themselves to remove it afterwards, but left it on the little beach along with broken bottles and other litter – plus the remnants of two fires. Not content with dumping the couch and littering the beach, they also damaged the adjacent Ngaio tree, apparently attempting to fuel their fire with green wood – not so smart – particularly as it was a closed fire season. Chief Fire Officer Don Cameron expressed concern that the fires could have spread up Morgan’s Gully with serious consequences.

Richard Suggate

BIRDSAFE WHAKARAUPO
Possum Control
The Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board has provided a grant to enable 75 possum traps to be distributed to local residents by Birdsafe Whakaraupo, who are highlighting the large population of possums in residential areas of the Lyttelton Harbour Basin.

Birdsafe Whakaraupo aims to provide resources to residents of the Lyttelton Harbour Basin to help restore native bird populations to abundant levels. The focus is predominantly on urban and surrounding areas which are not presently subject to a coordinated pest control program.

Possums are the number one target because of their impact on vegetation and birdlife. Birdsafe Whakaraupo is aiming to eradicate possums from the Port Hills and ultimately the whole of the Banks Peninsula. There are also control measures in place for rats and stoats, both of which are a serious threat to birdlife.

Anyone interested in participating in the program can contact their local representative. Lyttelton: Jeff Knewstubb 328 8428; Governor’s Bay: Tony Edney 329 9868; Diamond Harbour: Dave Hammond 329 4270 and Pat Pritchett 329 4826.

Tony Edney

COUCH CONCERNS
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Richard Suggate

WHAT TO DO IN THE GARDEN – NOW
The Kitchen Garden Group invites you to a Soup and Bread Night
Jacinda Gilligan will speak on what the Lyttelton Community Garden is doing in autumn.

There will also be helpful hints and a question and answer session on
- winter crops
- green manure crops
- seedlings to grow

Bringing something for the Produce Swap Table from the garden or kitchen (veggies, fruit, jams, pickles etc) and take something away.

Friday May 14, 5.30-7pm
Stage Room (Hall) enter by Rugby Club
$3.00 adults – children free
CONGRATULATIONS, DON

Former long time Diamond Harbour, Church Bay resident, Don Scott, celebrated his eightieth birthday recently with family and friends. Don now lives in Kaiapoi.

ANOTHER SUPER YACHT

Photo courtesy of Live Yachting.

Lyttelton Boat Builders and Repairers, Stark Bros are well-known for quality workmanship on local fishing vessels, but for the third time in recent weeks they have benefited from an overload in the Auckland luxury yacht business. The latest super yacht to arrive here for routine maintenance is the sparkling Kokomo III which spent a few days moored off Diamond Harbour before going into the dry dock. The above photo was taken at its launch in Auckland just last December. Built by Alloy Yachts Ltd of Auckland, it is the largest super yacht to be built in NZ. At 56.4m it is 6.5m longer than its predecessor Kokomo II, which, like the original Kokomo, was also built by Alloy Yachts. All three were commissioned by an Australian businessman. Kokomo II was sold in 2009 for approximately 30 million dollars.

Although Kokomo III arrived here minus its rigging, it has completed sailing trials in Auckland. Fully rigged, its mast is at the maximum height permitted to enter the Suez Canal. To find out more, go to www.alloyyachts.co.nz or google KokomoIII.

Elaine

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.

LOCAL ARTIST ON DISPLAY

Photo by Benita Dale McMillen

Anne Fountain’s exhibition entitled Privilege is running at the Coca Gallery in Gloucester St. until May 23. Anne from Church Bay is pictured here on opening night with one of her favourite paintings.

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Dear Ed,

As the only person who took the trouble to make a submission to the 1997 Banks Peninsula District Plan regarding protection under that plan for the beautiful headland beside Ripapa Island, I have been waiting for months for someone to point out that some of the recent information and claims about the headland are open to question. But no one has questioned anything so far, yet there are some points that I feel should be made on the matter.

I am dubious about the claim that the headland is of historic significance and that there was a pa there. Historic Places Trust documents, DOC documents and various other publications are all agreed that the pa – a musket pa – was on Ripapa Island, not the headland. Historic Places Trust documents show there were a number of pre-European middens sites in the general area, and that they were dotted along the coastal rim on the southern side of Lyttelton Harbour. During European times the headland was ploughed and used for growing crops.

Claims that the headland is - or ever was - accessible by public transport are misleading. I have lived at Camp Bay for over 50 years and during that time there has not been a bus or boat service to the headland.

I was also concerned to read an article by a spokesman for the Lyttelton Harbour Landscape Protection Association which stated that if the headland was in public ownership it would be easy for people to swim the channel between the headland and Ripapa Island, then shin up the island’s walls and thus gain access to Fort Jervois. It would be interesting to know what DOC would have to say about that!

Another suggestion that people could camp on the headland fills me with alarm too, as Banks Peninsula does not appear to have any by-laws to limit the stay of campervans or caravans or even people living in tents on public land. If such by-laws exist I would be glad to know of them.

Mary Stapleton-Smith

Dear Ed,

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the organizers of Sunday’s Anzac Service, Jean Burford, Don Cameron, and John Barry.

Rev. David Boyd, the R.S.A., the Fire Service, the Police, the members of the Armed Services, the speakers, the Diamond Harbour Singers, the pianist, the Sea Cadets, and the citizens all helped to orchestrate a very special occasion, rounded off by an interesting display of memorabilia at Stoddart’s Cottage.

It was a truly meaningful remembrance to the stalwarts who gave so much and who made it possible for us to live in this safe and precious community. We must remember not to forget.

Dick and Lesley Barnett

Dear Ed,

The reason I am writing is that a local friend of mine whose daughter lives in Diamond Harbour visited here recently and brought a copy of the Diamond Harbour Herald for me to read.

What memories!! I left New Zealand in 1950 and although I have been back several times, Diamond Harbour is one place I always try to see again. The last time was ten years ago on a scenic trip to Akaroa.

I used to work in Christchurch with a John Gill – an Englishman who lived in Diamond Harbour and commuted each day.

For me, after the war it was a regular trip by train to Lyttelton and then boat to Diamond Harbour with a group of boys and girls of a similar age. We used to wander on the headland which was covered in gorse in those days. Now I presume it is covered in houses and the whole area has lost its peace and quiet.

The old shingle road was quite a driving test even when my son and I drove to Akaroa via the bays in the late 1970’s.

I would agree with your headline in the March 2010 issue by Dick Barnett: We don’t know how lucky we are! To have lived his life working around the harbour must have been a very fulfilling life.

One or two questions arose from reading your paper: What is the population of Diamond Harbour and where is the nearest golf club? All of interest to a person who has happy memories of Diamond Harbour.

Yours faithfully,

Mr AP Arnold
Manor Orchard
Harborough Road
Brixworth
Northamptonshire
NN69BX

Ed’s Note: The envelope was addressed as follow:
The Editor
Diamond Harborough Herald
Diamond Harborough, Canterbury
New Zealand
Our thanks to the postie who delivered it to Colin.
A belated summer?

Weather Watch

What an autumn it is! After a summer which barely deserved the name, we have had some of the best weather of the year (if you have been able to keep your garden well-watered). While we have had sun and warmth, we have been seriously lacking in rain. There was a sharp heavy fall one night in the last month, but the 6mm it brought vanished rapidly the next day. I measured 124mm for the year to date, and most of that fell in three days in January. February managed 21mm, and March 20mm. April looked as if it would be even drier, as we had all of 6mm up until Anzac weekend which brought 9mm. That still leaves the total for the month below that of March, but it was the kind of rain that does wonders for seedlings. The forecast for the next few days includes further light rain, and provided we don’t get too many nor’westers the soil moisture levels should start to rise.

Temperatures have been summery, and reached their highest values for the year. A maximum of 26.7°C was recorded at the airport on April 23, well above the usual values for this time of year. I recorded a mere 22.5°C—we tend to have lower summer temperatures than the city as a result of our location in the harbour, but I am sure that in some sheltered locations in the Diamond Harbour area the values would have been higher. Our highest temperature for the month was 25.4°C on April 1. A feature of the warm conditions and their coincidence with autumn is that overnight temperatures have frequently been cool. The beautiful clear skies and windless days have been associated with strong overnight radiative cooling, and I note that one of our local forecasters thinks that such conditions may continue into May, and possibly June, with consequent frosts as the days grow cooler.

And now for something completely different. Like many people, I’ve been watching the behaviour of the Icelandic volcano with the unpronounceable name with considerable interest. Not that I’ve been thinking of travelling, but this is one of those natural phenomena which should be of interest to New Zealanders even if they’re not immediately affected by it. We have our own volcanoes, and about 25 years ago Ruapehu erupted, producing enough ash to interfere with air travel. That was only a small eruption, and soon ceased, but we have no cause for complacency. Neither Ruapehu nor one or two its fellows can be trusted to behave themselves to suit the four poor wretches who might read this article, I should point out that the Rules state quite clearly that there is a distinct difference between natural snow and ice and manufactured snow and ice and the penalties for ignoring this Rule are dire and horrible. Loss of hole, confiscation of plus fours, or, in extreme circumstances, being forced to listen to endless repetitions of an amateur’s account of how he nearly got a Hole in One.

To those who are not initiated into the Ould & Ancient Game of Goulf, and I suppose it is possible that one of those four poor wretches might read this article, I should point out that the Rules state quite clearly that there is a distinct difference between natural snow and ice and manufactured snow and ice and the penalties for ignoring this Rule are dire and horrible. Loss of hole, confiscation of plus fours, or, in extreme circumstances, being forced to listen to endless repetitions of an amateur’s account of how he nearly got a Hole in One.

Now both our drives on the 17th were average. Mine approximately 25 metres and his a bare 350 metres, and I could see that he was worried but I reassured him that this was only a friendly game. Unfortunately when we reached his ball, we found that it had landed in a four foot snow drift and my unerring accuracy with a six inch putt, but he kept his gleaming smile in place. Alas. It was on the 17th hole that he realized that his handicap was much too high for his playing ability to an extent that I suspect he was actually surprised...
WINE SPEAK

Food Wine
Hope you’re relishing the Indian summer out there — so enjoy it while it lasts. Focus this month is food wine as the imminent cooler weather beckons such. Still slanted towards whites but I’ve snuck in a couple of reds too.

The 2009 Vavasour Sauvignon Blanc for under $20 is a beauty this year. An essay in herb, lime and passionfruit all beautifully melded with minerality and juicy acidity to cut through rich seafood or white meat dishes. I’ve been looking for a food Gewurztraminer for some time and think I’ve found it in the 2007 Villa Maria Cellar Selection series priced near $20. Lychene, ginger and spice waft from the glass then Turkish delight follows. The finish is dry and almost a touch sour but absolutely sings with Malaysian or Thai cuisine. Top of the tree is the 2007 Cloudy Bay Chardonnay which I grabbed on special under $30 recently. It’s a mealy, nutty complex number where in the mouth the citrus and oak play. Mineral lime will cut through rich seafood, white meat or even veal dishes and incredible length of flavour ensues.

Onto reds and I was quite impressed with the 2008 Passage Rock Syrah. Reflecting the cracker vintage on Waiheke Island it features plum and blackberry and the spice predominantly black pepper. A hint of vanilla oak comes through with food. Also excellent from that one out of the box vintage in Hawkes Bay is the 2007 Paritua red. Close your eyes take a whiff and sit, and tell me it’s not from the Barossa! Coffee, mocha and ripe berry fruit it’s one of the nicest NZ Bordeaux blends I’ve enjoyed that beckons lamb to reward you with a lingering smoky finish. Both offer excellent value at $25 or less, so hunt them down. Cheers!

The Godfather

RECIPE

Irish Stew
I was invited to join Jill Rice to cook this famous Irish stew with her. This recipe is so heart-warming, just the right dinner for a pre-winter night.
750g chuck or round roast (we used good rump steak)
2 onions
2 tbsp flour
salt and pepper
2/3 cup Guinness

Cut meat into 1 inch chunks. Peel the onions and chop fairly small. Peel the carrots and slice into fine sticks. Place flour into a flat dish and mix in 1 tsp of salt and a sprinkle of pepper. Heat the oil in a pan, add onions, and cook until soft then transfer to a large shallow greased ovenproof dish. Dip the pieces of meat in the flour and brown in the pan then place on top of onions and arrange the carrots around them. Add a little more oil to pan and brown rest of four. Stir for a minute or so.
Add basil and Guinness. Allow to boil for a minute then add the honey and stock. Return to boil and pour over meat. Cover the dish with foil or lid and cook in oven at 180°C for 1 ½ hours. The dish can be prepared the day before and put into the oven for 45 min. This enhances the taste. If the gravy looks like thickening dissolve 1 tsp of corn starch with 2 tsp of cold water and stir into the gravy 15 min before the end of cooking.

We had an Irish side dish of Colcannon, mashed potatoes mixed with chopped and cooked cabbage and onions... a very tasty alternative to normal mashed potatoes. Slainte is Cheers in Irish. Enjoy!

Mr Talkative

In vet school we were taught about the vet-patient-owner triangle, and I’ve since come to realise that my job is as much or more about communicating with, and reassuring the owner, than actually treating the animal concerned. While practicing in Cape Town I had a foreign gentleman with an elderly cat and dog as a client. I’ll call him Mr Talkative. He was married, but unfortunately his wife suffered from a mental illness that resulted in her not being able to communicate with him, or sometimes even recognise him. He was her primary caregiver, and he only occasionally resorted to an outside nurse for relief. Because of his home circumstances Mr Talkative was desperate for any communication, and where better to find it than at his local vet clinic!

He was a good and regular client, so we felt bad about cutting his conversations short, however it did get to the stage where I’d signal my receptionist to phone from the office on our fax line, pretending to be a client needing to talk to me urgently, in order to give me an opportunity to withdraw gracefully. Mr Talkative also used to walk his dog around the blocks near his house, stopping to chat to all and sundry along the way. The bad news was that he lived only one street away from my house, and it did not take long for him to discover where that was – now he no longer had to call into the vet for his hour-long chats, he could simply walk the dog past my house when I was returning from work. This called for drastic measures, which included leopard crawling next to our waist high wall so as not to be seen, or running inside and refusing to answer the doorbell, or making my wife answer, and swear I wasn’t home (although my car was parked outside).

Eventually Mr Talkative’s dog died, so I no longer had to leopard crawl through my garden. But the cat was another story. She developed kidney failure, stopped eating, and had to be force fed in order to survive. About after a month with no improvement I expected to be asked to put her to sleep. But no… Mr talkative force fed her for over a year, and was still at it when I left to come to New Zealand. It just goes to show that we are all different when it comes to looking after our animals, and I feel privileged to deal with a whole range of different patients and clients.

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953 Page 8 No. 134 May 2010
Everything is going along nicely here at Godley House. We are now onto our winter hours -

Wednesday 4 - 9pm
Thursday - Sunday from 11am

We have a new autumn menu out -

Why don’t you come down and try it sometime?

Godley House is still a great destination when the weather is cooler as we have lots of indoor space and comfy couches, coffee tables and roaring fires - all still taking in the wonderful views.

Come and listen to Dr Sanchez and his Latin Guitar, May 2, 1pm - 4pm - just awesome!

Watch this space for more information about games nights and curry & a pint on Wednesday nights - more to come!

See you soon.

Cheers, Richard & Michelle

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Jann Meehan is a Holistic Business & Life Coach who practises what she preaches. Using life coaching techniques, she created a vision board of the sort of environment in which she and her husband wanted to live and within two months they had found the home of their dreams. Each day we are here, we just feel like the luckiest people in the world, says Jann. Where is here? Charteris Bay. How many people get to live in such a beautiful environment? Not too many! The bird life, the constant activity on the sea, and ever-changing light on the hills all make you glad to be alive. We look forward to getting to know the people here - it seems like an amazing community.

Jann is passionate about helping other people reach their potential and live the lives they always wanted. She is running workshops in Life Coaching right here in Charteris Bay to help people understand the process and how it can work for them. They will then be able to focus on what they want to improve in their lives and Jann, through her business, Holistic Business & Life Coaching, will help them achieve their goals.

Life Coaching can have amazing results according to Jann. It works especially well with people who want to achieve, but keep blocking or sabotaging themselves. Quite often it is just a matter of changing your perspective, the pattern of thinking that you have lived your life by. The good news is that it is easier to do than you might think. Life Coaching is becoming more and more popular. The best athletes now recognise that to achieve peak performance, they not only have to train their bodies, but also their minds. When you join a gym, explains Jann, you get your best results when you work with a personal trainer. A Life Coach is just like a personal trainer for the mind. A big work out for your mind and attitudes will take you places you never believed you could go.

Holistic refers to the wholeness of the coaching process. Just as a Holistic health practitioner looks beyond the symptoms to find out what is causing those symptoms, Jann looks beyond the problems to identify what is prohibiting success, helps her client put strategies in place to change these and then holds them accountable so that they keep on track to achieve what they want.

A special interest of Jann’s is in working with small business owners. With her husband she has owned a small business in Christchurch for 22 years, so knows first-hand how hard it is to be all things to all people. Small business owners find it incredibly hard to work ON the business; they are always too busy working IN the business. As a qualified accountant, Jann can work with business people to improve their profits, but if they are stuck in a negative mindset Life Coaching techniques are invaluable in recognising and putting an end to self-sabotaging patterns so allowing the business to move forward and create success previously only dreamed of.

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• Come to this workshop and find out what Life Coaching can do for you
• Cost is $25/person, fully refundable if you don’t feel you get $25 value from the day OR
• If you sign up for a 6 week course on the day, $25 is credited against your course!

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LIMITED TO 10 PEOPLE.....BOOK NOW!

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www.holisticbusinesscoaching.co.nz

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Servicing the Diamond Harbour Area
For latest details of all church news, visit...
www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx

Wednesday Study and Discussion Group
Meets in the Church Library at 3:30pm fortnightly on:
May 5 & 19; and June 2, 16 & 30.
Contact: Coral Kay 329 3228 or Anne Boyd 329 4444.

Home Groups
Two home groups meet on alternate Mondays 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 9:30am each Friday during term time.
All preschoolers are welcome. $3 for one child or $4 per family.
Inquiries can be made to the Parish office 329 4790.

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 329 4483 or Anne Boyd 329 4444.

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shopping van to South City mall will be running on:
May 12 & 26 and June 9 & 23
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 329 4341 or Wendy Coles 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 goings.
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.

REGULAR SERVICES
Catholic Mass every Saturday at 6:30pm.
Anglican - Methodist - Presbyterian: Sunday 8am and 10:30am Communion (no 8am service in January).

SeniorNet
A BEGINNERS course is being offered in May 2010 in the Diamond Harbour Church Hall, possibly to be followed by a WORD course. If you are interested please phone the course co-ordinators on 385 0902, or SeniorNet on 386 2140.

CHURCH NOTICES

Herald Subscribers to End of March
This list is of subscribers to the end of March. Acknowledgement of subsequent subscriptions will appear in later issues.

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Neighbourhood Support

A spate of thefts and break-ins over ANZAC weekend in the Ranui Crescent area serve to remind us that the days of Diamond Harbour being just far enough away from the crims may be numbered. The Neighbourhood Support system worked – inasmuch as the word was spread amongst neighbours and incidents reported to the Police. But being overburdened, their response is likely to be a request for some hard evidence that they can act on.

In this respect, in our own area, we must be the eyes and ears that the Police rely on. And for that reason for many years Neighbourhood Support was called Neighbourhood Watch.

Although fundamentally a grassroots organization, Neighbourhood Support does have a structure. Every eight to ten houses have a go to person – a Group Leader – who knows who is away, or why a neighbour’s furniture and carpets are being loaded into a van. There might be as many as eight such Group Leaders in a long street. To coordinate the flow of information from and to such Group Leaders, there is a Group Co-ordinator. These Group Co-ordinators report to the Area Co-ordinator.

While that primary function – of keeping an eye out for each other – remains, it has become apparent that such a valuable network could also be vital in a local emergency. Imagine how quickly the local grapevine would work if, in an emergency such as the recent tsunami scare, Civil Defence could warn Group Co-ordinators, who could warn Group Leaders, etc.

So, how well organised is our local Neighbourhood Support? You can imagine the mammoth task it is to keep address lists up to date. As old identities leave and new folk arrive, so gaps are left in the organisational structure. It has been many years since Neighbourhood Support records have been updated. But right now, two locals – Wendy Coles and John Barry – are attempting to do just that. With the assistance of Ron Dubin they are computerising the records so that amending them in future will be easier.

But first we need to gather accurate information. Some new Group Leaders and Group Co-ordinators are required; and an Area Co-ordinator chosen. The past clusters, each of some 8-10 addresses, need adjusting. A database program is being developed. All of this takes time because it is being done part-time by busy people.

Eventually, you may be asked to volunteer to fill one of the above posts. With the recent ANZAC Day reminders of service to one’s fellow man still in our minds, don’t ignore the call. The tasks are not onerous – in fact very congenial – just ordinary neighbourliness. Watch this space.

John Barry

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 notice:

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

New Community Church Service

We are now in the final stages of planning our new Sunday service which will incorporate a new worship style.

The focus will be on reaching out to our community, particularly to those not presently involved in the church, and also to parents who want to worship with their children in a family service.

We are fortunate to live in a beautiful and amazing area with a wonderful lifestyle, and we want to enhance this by creating a service featuring contemporary music and worship style.

This is a service for the community, and we would love you to come along, enjoy it and make it your service. We look forward to your company and invite you to share in this exciting new venture.

The final details are still to be confirmed, but if you would like more information please contact Eddie or Glenys 329 4267.

Eddie Wild

Piano Tuning

For skilled sensitive and prompt attention.

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A PLACE TO BELONG

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The final details are still to be confirmed, but if you would like more information please contact Eddie or Glenys 329 4267.

Eddie Wild
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Thank you to all parties who took part in producing such a valid & touching Service for the Community on Anzac Day – David for his leadership into our mourning, showing the Peace Candle circle, those involved with the relevant uniforms on show, the speakers’ input, the helpers at the Bowling Club, and as always, the local lads from the Fire Brigade who never stint on their time setting up. This made our Memorial Hall realise the meaning of the building and the special day to those gone before. If anyone can enlighten us on the families of the names on the board, we would be most grateful. We cannot do without the help behind the scenes - our grateful thanks to all.

Jean, Don & John, Service Convenors

Community Association News
The Diamond Harbour Community Association committee met on April 19. Richard reported on submissions to the CCC Annual Plan and the Waste Water consents. These were approved following email consultation. He also mentioned the couch and fires at the Diamond Harbour beach that have been reported to the CCC (see page 4). Adrian was congratulated on his recent amusing letter to the Press and has agreed to be the Community Association representative on the Stoddart’s Cottage Trust.

Paula suggested an exchange of minutes between community groups from Corsair Bay to Port Levy. These groups should be invited to send their minutes for posting on the Diamond Harbour website.

Karen expressed concern about the safety of the jetty and the possibility of renewing the white paint and the incorporation of a floating pontoon.

Other items included: the sealing of the western end of Bayview Road; the Stoddart Point Landscape Plan is due next month; and the coastal reserves have now been gazetted.

Diamond Harbour & Districts Historical Assn
The next meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11 May in the Stage Room. AGM followed by John Rimington whose talk is entitled A teenager in occupied Jersey. All welcome.

CALLING ALL POETS

The Herald has smiled upon a suggestion that each issue should include a contribution from a local poet. Local writers are encouraged to submit appropriate work preferably by email to the Herald (dhherald@gmail.com) and one poem will be selected from those submitted. Poems of all styles and persuasions will be considered – metrical, blank or free; lyrical, satirical, occasional, serious or comic. Preference may be given to work with a local flavour, but not necessarily.

Poems may be sent in the body of the email, but if a particular layout is important to the poem then it would be best to send it as an attachment in Word or RTF format. Please ensure that poems for consideration are sent at least a week before the deadline for each issue, which is the fourth Wednesday of each month.

James Norcliffe

SeniorNet
A BEGINNERS course is being offered in May 2010 in the DH Church Hall, possibly to be followed by a WORD course. If you are interested please phone the course co-ordinators on 385 0902, or SeniorNet on 386 2140.

Diamond Harbour Indoor Sports Club
The Diamond Harbour Indoor Sports Club would like to invite members of the community to join us. We have three sports to choose from:

- Badminton: 7.30pm Wednesdays in the Community Hall. Contact John Sims 329 4521
- Indoor Bowls: 2pm Thursdays in the Community Hall. Contact Ernie Jones 329 4541
- Table Tennis: 7.30pm Thursdays in the Church Hall. Contact Gerard Beentjes 329 4397

Dave Hammond 329 4270

Chipping Round: May 29 - 30
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 tangelo, 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.

Dave Hammond 329 4270

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Same day delivery from Christchurch if advised by 11am
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**Beachview Accommodation**
Self contained one bedroom unit in Church Bay. Modern bathroom and kitchen, private access. Long or short term. Ideal for visiting overseas relatives. Open to view. Ph John 027 453 3307, 329 4112 or email peninsula.electrical@yahoo.co.nz.

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

**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 03 329 4249 or email mike@getmefit.co.nz.

**Indulgence you Deserve**
Shunyata Winter Special for locals May/June (weekdays) - sublime ozone sauna followed by blissful body work 1½ hrs $80. Follow it by delectable dinner or lunch for $100. Ph 329 4773 or www.journeyessence.com.

**Cleaning Work Required**
15 years experience - confidential and reliable. References available. Ph Annie 027 236 5287.

**Firewood for Sale**
Proceeds towards maintenance of Orton Bradley Park. 1.5 m³ bins, Gum $100, Pine and park windfalls $75. Delivery in Harbour Basin by arrangement. Ph 027 242 9300 (prior to pick-up).

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**Herald Calendar**
Annie’s Victorian Teas: Sun May 9, 30 & June 6. See p2
Art Group: Weds, 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall
Biodiversity Forum: Diamond Harbour, June 27
Bridge Club: Weds, 7pm, DH Bowling Clubrooms
Camera Club: Tue June 15, 7.30pm, Stage Room
CCC grants applications: Close June 30
Church Events and Services: See p 10
Community Association: Mon May 17, 7.30pm, Com Rm
Diamond Harbour Singers: Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Historical Assn: Tues May 11, 8pm, Stage Room. See p12
Insight Meditation: Tues, 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave
Kitchen Garden Grp: May 14, 5.30pm, Stage Rm. See p4
Ladies Probus: Mon May 10, 10am, CB Golf Club
Mt Herbert U20 Trust: Fri & Sun evenings. See p2
Purau Produce Market: Sat May 8 & 22. See p7
Shopping Van: May 12 & 26 and June 9 & 23. See p10
Toy Library: Sat, 10-11am, Community Hall
Yoga: Daily at 10am and Mons, 7pm, 10 Te Ra Cres
Zumba Fitness: Fri May 7 & 21, 7-8pm, Com Hall

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