When the Christmas Pudding Went Ballistic

At age twelve I spent Christmas with my aunt who lived in Walsall, near Birmingham, where she was a matron at the local hospital. So on Christmas Day, after getting the dinner ready, we went off to the hospital to spread some Christmas cheer amongst the patients who were confined to the wards. Contrived cheerfulness wasn’t going to cut it. My two daughters and I were assigned to different duties – kitchen volunteers, but as we were assailed by a ghastly burning smell, and rushed to the kitchen. Alas! My aunt had forgotten to remove the Christmas pudding from the stove, and it had boiled dry. All that remained was a large black ball that looked just like just the thing to shoot from a cannon!

Luckily, the rest of the Christmas dinner had not suffered a similar fate and after polishing it off, we wondered if the pudding was perhaps only burnt on the outside and that there might be something edible within. But how to get at it? My aunt seized a large hammer and smashed the cannon ball open… and right in the middle we found a tiny bit of salvageable pudding… about enough for a teaspoon each – which we smothered with generous dollops of brandy sauce.

A Doggone Good One

Christmas is not just for people – dogs love big family gatherings, where there are lots of folk to pat and fuss over them. Wiz (aka the Woozle) has always loved Christmas best of all. Apart from the attention, there are plenty of people to cadge titbits from… especially the kids, with stockings full of sweet treats. He has elevated the soulful, deserving-doggy look to an art form, and if that fails to deliver there is always the accidental nudge at the critical moment, resulting in food on floor… but not for long! So it was a bit of a surprise, some Christmases ago – during his wayward youth – when the Christmas cake and other delicious dessert dishes were eaten at leisure, and in peace… with nary a Woozle in sight. However, when the table was cleared and the dishes taken to the kitchen, the Woozle was discovered, perched on the chair, polishing off the remains of the Christmas turkey – a good half of it – which had been destined for the following days’ lunch.

Of course the Woozle has always been fond of fowl, and an enthusiastic advocate of free-ranging, having slowly and surreptitiously eaten his way through the henhouse – two dozen chooks – over the previous two years.

I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas

It was our first winter’s Christmas Eve. The grey, bleak, bone-chilling cold of the afternoon was quickly forgotten as we were welcomed into the centrally-heated home of the Bavarian family. A light evening meal was followed by the opening of presents and a traditional puppet show which thrilled both young and old. Early the next morning we were awoken by an unexpected ray of bright sunlight edging through a crack in the curtains. We leapt out of bed, threw open the drapes and gaped in amazement at the scene before us. At that moment church bells rang out across the village which spread down the hill to the valley floor below us. The roof of every house was heavily laden with glistening snow, save for a dark circle at the base of each gently smoking chimney. Here and there, a few people, wrapped up like Eskimos despite the brilliant sunshine and blue skies, moved carefully along the frozen pavements. A quick breakfast and we were out into the snow with our hosts for our first cross-country skiing experience, half gliding, half walking across pristine white gently rolling fields, before heading back to the house a couple of hours later, ravenous for the traditional Bavarian Christmas dinner of kloese (potato-based dumpling), turkey and sauerkraut.

Elaine B
PICK OF THE PICS FROM DIAMOND HARBOUR CAMERA CLUB

This month’s pics are from Benita Dale McMillen.

LILYSTONE: FUN WITH FURNITURE

Looking for a brocade Union Jack, an uber–fluffy, butterfly-adorned bedroom chair, or a reversible polka dot nest of tables? There is no need to leave the village! Lilystone is re-launching in a new format. Fiona O’Neill and I are having fun with furniture. We are up-cycling ordinary pieces that have lived long and useful lives by embellishing them with new paint, fabric, mosaic, stencilling – sometimes all of the above.

Some of our pieces are for the more courageous decorator, but all of it is designed to be both beautiful and useful. Rustic opulence (shabby chic’s less conventional sister) is our overriding theme.

We are also happy to enhance furniture to order, or create custom made pieces, like room dividers and bean buttons, - your fabric or ours.

Lilystone has just celebrated its fourth birthday, and it has been a fantastic time; but now it is on to greater things. Having said that, antique hunting is far too much fun and addictive, to give up completely – so I'll still be hunting for quality pieces to sell in the shop. Also, the almost-iconic Lilystone Jewellery Drawers will remain stocked and ready for your fossicking pleasure.

I am so grateful for all the support the shop has had over the years from local customers – many of you regular purchasers – thank you! Huge thanks also to Pauline Croft, my right hand woman, Annie Baxter, Sheryl Schoentfeld and others who have helped out with selling and styling. I have had a wonderful time socially, gained an education, and now own two small buildings – one already a useful guest house.

So on with new life and creating under our new label: The Things We Do. Fiona, as many of you know, does fabulous things with textiles, and she is the one who does anything requiring patience or technological know-how. Our ideas and abilities are complementary and we will constantly be creating ways to make Lilystone an asset to the village.

Please view our website www.thethingswedo.co.nz and sign up for a regular newsletter. Trudi Cameron-Agnew

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Would you like to grow your own fresh, healthy, organic vegetables? Plots are now available at the Community Gardens in Purau. There is no charge and gardening tools are available. Beginners are welcome. Please contact Joy on 329 4119.

Spot the Spot...

Have you taken time out lately to admire the many wild flowers and colourful gardens around our area. Can you identify this spot?
EDITORIAL SCOOP?

Local Body election over, the votes cast and counted, and the successful candidates announced; so who better to be my person of the month than Diamond Harbour’s newest council rep., Adrian Te Patu. Barely had I settled on this idea, when I discovered that the interview had already been done, and the copy was at that moment being prepared for the Herald. While true paparazzi might have found this somewhat annoying, I was delighted. I am always keen to have other people contributing to our paper, and in this case I actually felt quite honoured. After all, I reckon not many journalists or even, as in my case, pseudo-journalists, can claim to have been scooped by a twelve-year-old, which is what George van Beynen has done to me.

Thus I happily switched my focus to investigating just what Adrian has taken on, and who better to inform me, than Paula Smith, who coincidentally is George’s mother. But first, over to George……

5 MINUTES WITH ADRIAN TE PATU

Adrian Te Patu is one of two newly elected members of the Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board. Adrian was excited and proud when he was elected. He ran for the Community Board because he felt the time was right to offer his skills to our community. While on the Community Board he would like to get more members of our community involved. I am going to encourage more people to be actively involved in this community, he said. I hope to make a difference by linking the various parts of our community.

Thus I happily switched my focus to investigating just what Adrian has taken on, and who better to inform me, than Paula Smith, who coincidentally is George’s mother. But first, over to George……

ADRIAN TE PATU favourite politician is Aung San Suu Kyi, because she is a pro-democratic leader in Burma and she is strong to her views.

WHO AND WHAT— THE LYTTELTON-MT HERBERT COMMUNITY BOARD

Local Body elections held recently decided who shall represent the people of New Zealand on local issues. These elections are, of course, quite separate from the General Elections by which the nation’s government is determined, although both are held at three year intervals. The next Local Body elections will be in 2013, while the next General election will be in 2011.

For the purposes of Local Body governance, New Zealand is geographically divided into Councils, which are either District or City Councils, depending largely on the population distribution. The councils are sub-divided into wards. There are seven wards in the Christchurch City Council. The six metropolitan wards each have their own Community Board, but the rural Banks Peninsula ward has two, Akaroa-Waiwera and Lyttelton-Mt Herbert. Residents in each ward vote for their own City Councillors and five Community Board members.

The one or two city councillors of each ward are also appointed community board members, thus Claudia Reid, the long-standing City Councillor for Banks Peninsula is also on the two community boards. Paula Smith has been the chairperson of the Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board for the last three years and has been re-elected for a further term. Adrian Te Patu’s recent election success means that three of the six Lyttelton-Mt Herbert board members currently live on this side of the Harbour.

Our community board effectively speaks on local issues for the 6000 residents of Lyttelton Harbour and Port Levy, so it is important that there is good communication with Residents’ Associations of the various communities around the harbour. Community Board members attend most meetings of these groups as well as facilitating consultation on specific matters with individuals within the community. Anyone may attend monthly meetings of the Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board, held in the Lyttelton Service Centre. Speaking rights for up to ten minutes can be arranged in advance of the meeting by contacting Paula personally or Community Board Adviser Liz Carter on 941 5682.

Decision-making powers on things specific to the area are delegated to the board by the City Council. Local roading matters, requests for tree-felling in public places, and facilities in parks are examples of things which are first researched by council officers who then present a report to a Community Board meeting for a decision. In making its decision, the board is expected to gauge, and then reflect, public opinion. In this regard, an area of concern for Paula is the difficulty of maintaining effective communication with city workers living in the community and with rural residents.

In its other role, the board advocates on the community’s behalf, advising the council of community concerns and aspirations. What can be achieved, Paula admits, is limited by a number of factors, in particular that all of Banks Peninsula has just one voice, Claudia’s, at council meetings and also that the council necessarily maintains and adheres strictly to the budget in the 10-year plan, the LTCCP, which is set every three years with only minor amendments annually.

Paula’s message to everyone is, We need your input to ensure that our community progresses and develops in a controlled and sustainable way. Please express your opinion!
Living Springs wish to hold a residential camp for all St Paul’s year 4, 5 and 6 students on December 14 and 15. The cost per student is $65 and Living Springs are seeking financial support, such as sponsoring a child, or the provision of goods or services.

St. Paul’s Principal, Chris Callaghan, says, Our children have faced a very traumatic few weeks. In the space of a fortnight, they lost their priest, their church, their school and for many, their homes. As we settle ourselves into the temporary site at the Cathedral, we face many more challenges.

As space is very limited, we have not been able to gather as a whole school. This camp will be a tremendous boost for the year 4-6 children, to have the opportunity to gather as a group for a series of fun activities.

It will be a wonderful unexpected treat, an experience that will give them the chance to forget about the difficulties they face both at home and school. What better way to end the school year!

As a fund raiser for the St Paul’s camp, Diamond Harbour School will have morning tea on December 7, provided by Living Springs, and students will bring a gold coin donation (or more) to support the camp for the St Paul’s students.

The Living Springs Team would be most thankful for help with this project. For enquiries, please contact Lina Leitane Ph 329 9788 or go to www.livingsprings.co.nz.
**Lost But Not Forgotten?**

In today’s busy world, it all too often seems that many of the good old fashioned values by which we once lived, have disappeared. Whatever happened to things like respect, responsibility, independence and honesty? Nothing, says Ellen Ramer, they are as important now as they have ever been. She does concede however that the pressures of life in this ever-changing 21st century can make it harder for many people to develop these vital skills. But help is at hand.

Ellen and her husband Sheldon are Virtues Project Master Facilitators, and Ellen has been the administrator for the project since it came to Canterbury in 1996 and helped to establish it locally as a Charitable Trust. Together the Ramers have applied the strategies of The Virtues Project to a wide variety of situations, working initially in the area of parenting, then staff trainings at numerous local schools, as well as schools and other organisations in several Pacific Island communities. They have also done Virtue intensive work with couples, youth and children. The Ramers are passionate about the potential for positive change inherent in working with virtues, so now they are bringing the program back to this area — they did one here back in January of 1997 — on the weekend of January 29-30, 2011. It is open to anyone interested in improving their quality of life. See page 10 for details.

Grandparents, says Ellen, are one group who can really benefit from this process. The Virtues Project gives them the confidence and language to mentor their grandchildren in a positive and effective way.

The Virtues Project is a grassroots, global movement that exists on the voluntary efforts and support of individuals and organisations, and is primarily spread by word of mouth. In its short life, it is already being applied in more than 95 countries. The apparent reason for its worldwide appeal and success is its ability to transcend diverse cultural values and speak directly to human nature. It is an approach to bring out the best in all people, with simple strategies to help them live by their highest ideals. It offers programmes and materials which help parents to raise morally responsible children, and teachers to address spiritual and moral education. It is not about the practices or beliefs of any particular religion. It is based on the simple wisdom of the world’s diverse sacred traditions. Virtues are universally valued by all cultures as the basis of our character and as qualities of the human spirit. Virtues such as honour, trustworthiness, creativity and compassion are our true names.

The January workshop will be followed by another in February which will train those wishing to become leaders and facilitators of The Virtues Project. In addition, on the fourth Sunday morning of each month a Virtues Connection group meets at the Diamond Harbour Bowling Club for a less formal discussion on a different virtue each month followed by a shared lunch. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to be on the email list to be reminded of this meeting and which virtue will be discussed at it, just email virtues4you@gmail.com and let Ellen know. 

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**Have Your Say**

If you wish to have your say on the Stoddart Point and Coastal Cliff Reserves draft management plan you need to get your submission in by 5pm on Thursday 9 December. The plan sets out a vision for the future development, protection and enhancement of Stoddart Point and the Coastal Cliffs Reserves in Diamond Harbour.

The Coastal Cliff stretches from Purau Bay through to Church Bay and around Black Point to Hays Bay. The Coastal Cliff walkway links the community and provides a recreational asset for the people of Diamond Harbour. Council Asset and Network Planning Manager Terry Howes says this is a great opportunity for people who live, or have an interest, in the area to be able to give their feedback on the plan:

The Diamond Harbour community have been involved in caring for the area for almost a century. With this plan, we are building on this commitment to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy the area and help protect it.

People who make a submission will have the opportunity to speak to their submission before a hearings panel, which will be held in February/March 2011. The hearings panel will consider all written and oral submissions made in order to make a recommendation to Council on the plan. Council will then decide whether to proceed with the recommendations in the plan.

For more information, contact Communications Adviser Rachel Solotti on 941 5220.
**Gaffers’ Gossip**

**G.S.T**

What do you reckon on this Government Swindling Tax then?

Yeah, that’s about right. Still they got to get their hands on the filthy lucre somehow. Well, why not call it Filthy Lucre Tax? Don’t make much difference what they call it, mate. You still got to pay it.

Yeah, but I reckon they should stick to the good old fashioned Income Tax. Least you knew where you stood then. Income equals X. Tax equals Y. X-Y equals precious little but at least it’s yours until the Council and Ecán and the electricity and the insurance come knocking.

Simple, eh? This way I got to take me calculator down to the store every time an’ how do I know what’s 15% of what in the first place?

Blimey, you don’t trust no one, do you? What about all your tax cuts then?

You mean like Death of a Thousand Cuts? Oh yeah, that bought me an ice cream last week.

Cor, you’re a miserable old twit, aren’t you?

Look, all I’m saying is why don’t they call a spade a blooming shovel? This way I’m subsidizing all God’s children every time I dip my hand in my pocket and then they claim it all back from the Government.

You’re lucky they don’t have a Moaning Minnie Tax.

Tony

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**Letters**

Dear Ed,

Is it time to register and microchip cats? Law insists dogs must be registered. Neutering, especially found strays, is a good improvement but trying to preserve wild life — our native birds and lizards — here on the Peninsula is difficult enough without stray and owned cats making it harder.

In any case, it would be a pity to cut off huge branches of this already well-decorated tree, bring them indoors, and load them with superfluous ornaments. I prefer to arrange smaller branches in a big flower vase with long stems of the (non-native) Christmas lily, *Lilium regale*. This gives a good showing of the Christmas colours of red, white, and green — and a lovely scent as well.

For my native Christmas tree, I cut a long, thick branch of the tree which flowers prolifically at Christmas time in these parts, dusting itself and the hillsides where it grows in white blossom.

A branch of kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) in flower can be easily propped up with rocks or wood in a tall flowerpot. Decorated with a few red or red tartan bows or paper chains, the classic red/green/white Christmas combination is achieved with very little trouble and expense. (Perhaps also with more beauty — and certainly more originality — than *Pinus Radiata* plus blinking electric lights.)

Kanuka is an under-appreciated tree in my view, for lots of reasons, including its important role in stabilising hillsides and providing a nursery for regenerating the grand trees of the New Zealand forests, such as totara and matai. So why not express some appreciation, and get to know it better, by giving it a special place in the house once a year?  

Christine Dann

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**ACUPUNCTURE**

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

Acupuncture could help these problems

Enquiries & appointments ring

Vida Watson Ph. 329 4663
Registered acupuncturist ACC approved

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**Tree and Garden Services**

**Tree Surgery**

**Hedge Cutting**

**Garden Clearance**

Dave Hammond
ND in Amenity Horticulture

Phone 329 4270

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- Sports injuries
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- Back and neck problems
- Exercise programs
- Post operative rehabilitation
- and for fitness programs or weight loss

Hours: Monday to Friday 9am - 7pm
Can make appointments to suit ferry times - Gold cardholders travel free

ACC Endorsed Provider
No Doctor’s referral necessary

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953 Page 6
No 141 December 2010
**RECIPE**

**Meal on a budget...before the Christmas feast**

I have baked my own bread for years and we love it. But sometimes, by the end of the week, it becomes too dry. Recently, we ended up with a large chunk of whole grain bread almost a week old, so I decided to make a pudding. It may not look exciting but it is delicious!!

**Ingredients**

1 tbsp butter, plus more for buttering the pan  
4 cups cubed stale bread  
1/4 cup macadamia nuts or walnuts (optional)  
4 sour apples  
2 cups milk  
3/4 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tbsp vanilla  
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon  
Pinch freshly grated nutmeg

**Method**

Peel, core, and roughly chop the apples. Melt 1 tbsp butter in a small sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add the apple and cook 2-3 mins or until tender. Transfer to a small bowl and set aside.

Preheat oven to 350°C and butter a 13x9 baking pan. In a large bowl, whisk together the milk, sugar, eggs, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg, apples, and nuts. Add the bread cubes and toss to coat. Soak 15-20 mins, tossing occasionally. Pour the mixture into the prepared pan and bake 35-40 mins or until firm and a knife inserted into the center comes out clean.

**Maple Syrup Sauce**

1 egg  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup melted butter  
1/4 cup maple syrup  
1/4 cup bourbon

In a heat-proof bowl, whisk the egg and sugar until light. Set bowl over a saucepan of slowly simmering water. Whisk constantly until warm and fluffy. Whisk in the sugar until light. Set bowl over a saucepan of slowly simmering water. Whisk constantly until warm and fluffy. Whisk in the maple syrup and the bourbon and serve immediately.

Once I was in a hurry and instead of Maple Syrup sauce I whipped up plain yogurt, slightly sweetened and flavoured with vanilla. It went very well with the pudding. Enjoy!

Franziska
PURAU LONG LUNCH AND BARN DANCE

Thanks also to the Christchurch City Council for their donation towards the hiring of the marquee and to those who gave time and donations to help fund the event.

Finally to all of you, our neighbours and friends – thank you for coming and bringing delicious food to share. Your participation and enthusiasm certainly made the whole event a wonderful success.

Annie Baxter

What a day we had – filled with fun and laughter.

A very big thank you to the band, Bantam of the Opera, for the fantastic music.

I would like to thank Rick and Aileen Ginders for allowing us to use the fantastic facilities and equipment at Purau Camping Ground.
For latest details of all church news, visit...
www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx

Christmas Services
December 24th
  5:00pm Carols
  5:30pm Catholic Mass
  11:30pm Christmas Communion
December 25th
  9:30am Christmas Communion

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

Christmas Services
December 24th
  5:00pm Carols
  5:30pm Catholic Mass
  11:30pm Christmas Communion
December 25th
  9:30am Christmas Communion

Womens Breakfast
Saturday March 5, 8:15-10:00am at the Diamond Harbour
Church Hall.
Russell and Marion Lienert will speak on life in
Afghanistan and Tajikistan (Russell is an eye-doctor).
Cooked Breakfast provided. Koha towards costs is
welcome.
RSVP for catering purposes to Margaret Somerville 329
4713 or the Church office 329 4790.

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 on 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 for dates and other
information.

End of Year Picnic
December 7, 2:30pm Orton Bradley
Park. All Welcome. Please ring Wendy Coles 329 4483 for
further information.

City Mission Basket
The church has a basket for non-perishable food and
grocery items for the City Mission.
Many families are dependent on the support of agencies
like the City Mission as jobs dwindle and money fails to
stretch to meet basic outgoings. We also collect Small
Change for the Small Room, with the coins being spent on
toiletries and personal hygiene items which are
distributed by the City Mission and St Vincent de Paul.

Mount Herbert Parish Magazine
Please email contributions for the February/March 2011
issue to mt.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz by January 21.
Read the current issue of the magazine at
www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx
YOU CAN COME TOO— LOCAL EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Church Bay Neighbourhood Association
Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the association will be held in the Charteris Bay Yacht Club at 10.30am on Sunday, December 5, 2010.

**Agenda**

1. To consider a recommendation of the Committee that the Association become an Incorporated Society.
2. If agreed, to complete the Application for incorporation as the Church Bay Neighbourhood Association Incorporated.

Signed: Lynne England, Secretary.

Following completion of the formal business, there will be an opportunity to discuss the City Council's Draft Management Plan for Stoddart Point and Reserves, as that Plan affects the Church Bay area.

Diamond Harbour Rugby Club

Clubroom Bar Open Friday Evenings from 5pm

Watch the Touch games from the balcony!

In keeping with the terms of our licence, people wishing to attend more than once must be members of the club. Social membership for the year ending 30th September 2011 costs only $10. Once-only visitors must sign in at the door or bar on entry. Alcohol is sold at club prices—cheaper than at hotels—and food is available for sale. Please note that we do not have Eft-pos and cannot accept bar tabs.

Closing time is at the discretion of the bar manager. Members and visitors are requested to leave quietly so as not to disturb nearby residents.

Diamond Harbour Ballet presents...

**A Trip to the Circus**

10.30-11.30am
Sunday 12 December
Diamond Harbour Community Hall
Gold coin donation

Your moral support will be welcomed

Community Carols

at Stoddart’s Cottage
19th Dec at 5.30pm

Bring a picnic to eat on the lawn at 5.30pm

Diamond Harbour Singers & Children’s Activity Carols at 6.30pm

Everyone Welcome!

Tea and Coffee - gold coin

More information 329 4779

What a great way to start the year!

Long-time Purau residents Ellen & Sheldon Ramer are offering a 2-day Virtues Project workshop right here at our beautiful Diamond Harbour Rugby Club

**29 & 30 January 2011**

9am-5pm both days

**INTRODUCTION TO THE VIRTUES PROJECT**

Awakening the Gifts of Character

$245

Primarily directed toward parents and grandparents, this Virtues experience also works for teachers, counsellors and personal development.

Come join us for a great two days of practical knowledge, interactive exercises and lovely teas and lunches.

For more information and/or to register, ring Ellen at 3294 380 or email virtues4you@gmail.com

Computer Problems?

Need help with your PC, laptop, server or network?

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

Call Geoff Brewer Systems on (03) 329 4083 or (027) 280 7859
STODDART’S COTTAGE EVENTS — BACK IN ACTION!

Sunday Dec 5, 1-4pm
Jo Ewing (Botanical Artist)
Annie’s Victorian Afternoon Teas
Come along and view Jo’s special Christmas collection of beautiful 2011 Botanical Calendars along with stationary and other small items decorated with a botanical motif. These would make wonderful Christmas gifts. The long wait is over... treat yourself to one of Annie’s mouth-watering Victorian Afternoon Teas.

Sunday December 19, 1-4pm
Jo Ewing (Botanical Artist)
Annie’s Victorian Afternoon Christmas Tea
If you missed Jo’s special Christmas collection on the 5th, or are looking for that last minute gift, you have another chance. Annie will be offering a special Victorian Afternoon Tea with a Christmas theme.

Sunday December 19, 5.30pm onwards:
Community Carols at Stoddart’s Cottage
Stoddart’s Cottage extends a welcome to the whole community to come along to Christmas Carols on the Lawn.

5.30 – Picnic tea: Bring your picnic tea to eat on the lawn. Tea and coffee provided (gold coin donation).
6:30 – Community Carols: Including the Diamond Harbour Singers and children’s activity.

www.stoddartscottage.co.nz

VETERINARY SERVICES

NOW IN DIAMOND HARBOUR

Vetlife will be holding weekly clinics in the Community Center from 2pm on Wednesday afternoons.
We look forward to seeing you and your pet!
Large animal calls and house calls can also be arranged.

Please phone 3251006 to book an appointment.
Community Association News


Civil Defence/Neighbourhood Watch: Paula said the Community Association has been asked to prepare lists of cells and leaders for the database. Purau, Charteris Bay, Port Levy, and Church Bay are asked to prepare for those areas. It was agreed to have a working session next week after John Barry has been approached on the specific needs.

Treasurer’s Report: We are holding funds granted for the Purau Long Lunch. $500 has been provided from the $600 grant and more money requested to cover food. A very successful event was held at the Purau Camping Ground.

Hall Report: The gardens surrounding the Hall are very weedy. Paula will submit a Request for Service. The landscaping of these areas will be given special emphasis in the Community Association submissions on the Stoddart’s Point Plan.

Submissions: Richard outlined the drafted submissions he has prepared. A meeting will be held on November 16 for further ideas and training in submitting submissions. Stoddart’s Cottage Committee and the Rugby Club will also be attending. Waste Water has been before the Environment Court. Mediation will be held. Richard will advise the date and several people are likely to support him. DOC and Rapaki groups are also pressing for an early completion of the work. Our present position is 8 years as the maximum delay rather than the original 13 years.

Community Board Report: Graffiti has appeared at the jetty and other places. Paula noted that colour and surface type need to be specified when submitting a Request for Service so that the correct paint can be provided. No information yet on the future of Godley House. Stoddart’s Cottage has been cleared for use. The first formal meeting of the board will be December 12. Paula was congratulated on her re-election as Chair.

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 several Timms traps which are available to anyone wishing to deal with a current or potential possum problem. Maybe you walk or run an area regularly and could help out by monitoring set traps, or have one down the garden ready.

Ring Dave Hammond on 329 4270.

Christmas Ideas at Our Library

Christmas is coming and the Diamond Harbour Library may be able to help...

We have:
- Recipe books to help you with Christmas Dinner, Christmas Cakes and other fancy treats
- Books on how to make Christmas decorations, Christmas cards and gifts
- Books of Christmas Carols, Christmas stories, poems and plays for children

All you need is your library card. Remember that it doesn’t cost anything to join the library. If there is anything we don’t have you can reserve it from town.

Christine Rochford
**CLASSIFIEDS**

**Firewood for Sale**

**Bee Swarms Wanted**
Will collect from your property. Ph 329 3005.

** Experienced Nanny/Childcare Worker Available**
Flexible days/ hours. Available over Xmas/New Year. Ph Delwyn 329 4686 or 027 266 8441.

**Ski Biscuit for Sale**
In good order. $70. Ph 329 4116.

**Found on Cliff Track**
Light blue sleeveless polo fleece jacket found on track just below Te Ara Reserve. Ph 329 3032.

**Seeking Lawyers and/or Law Students**
I have an LLB and have been admitted to the Bar as a barrister and solicitor. I would like to meet with lawyers and law students for discussions and coffee. Ph Neville 329 4706.

**Yoga Classes**
7pm Mon, Stage Room. 10am Tue-Thu, 10 Te Ra Cres. Personal and group programs by arrangement. Ph Adrian 329 3395 or email diamondyoga@slingshot.co.nz.

**Lifestyle Farm Services**
Shearing, crutching, worm treatment, foot-trimming, fly treatment. Ph Lance Barnes 021 0265 4888.

**Hairdressing**
Experienced hairdresser and Reiki practitioner working from home. If you have mobility problems, I can come to you. Ph 329 4224 or 021 152 3937; or email indigo-barb@hotmail.com.

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

**Baches to Let**
Hanmer 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.

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**HERALD CALENDAR**

**Annies Victorian Teas:** Sun Dec 5 & 19. See Page 11

**Art Group:** Weds 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall

**Ballet:** Sun Dec 12, 10.30am. Community Hall. See p10

**Bridge Club:** Weds 7pm, DH Bowling Clubrooms

**Carol Concert:** Dec 19. Picnic tea on lawn 5.30pm

Carol 6.30pm. Stoddarts Cottage. See p10

**Church Activities:** See p9

**Church Bay Neighbourhood Assn Meeting:** Sun Dec 5, p10

**Community Association:** Mon, Dec 13, 7.30pm, Com Rm

**DH School Morning Tea:** In support of St Paul’s. See p4

**Diamond Harbour Singers:** Weds 7.45pm Stage Room

**Film Society:** Thus, 7.45pm Stage Room

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

**Ladies Probus:** Mon Dec 13, 10am, CB Golf Club

**Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Comm. Board:** Sun Dec 12

**Mens Probus:** Thu Dec 2, 10am, CB Golf Club

**Purau Produce Market:** Sat Dec 4 & 18, Jan 8 & 22. See p10

**Stoddart’s Cottage:** Sun Dec 5 & 19. See Page 11

**Stoddart Point Reserve Submissions:** Close Dec 9. See p5

**Tai Chi:** Starts Thu Jan 20. 10.30 - Qi Gong; 11.15 - Tai Chi; 11.45 - Advanced Yang. Community Hall.

**Tennis Club:** Weds 6.30pm, Suns 9.30am Waipapa Courts

**Toy Library:** Saturdays 10am-11am, Community Hall

**Virtues project Workshop:** Jan 29 & 30. See p5

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**Tai Chi Classes in Diamond Harbour in 2011**

Tai Chi continues with funding available until June 2011.

Fees ($25) collected from participants go back into the community, presently towards the ECG Medical fund.

Enquiries Chris Rudin Jones 328 8414

Wendy and Vicki wish to thank the community for your continued support and custom.
We wish you all a very Happy & Safe Christmas and hope to see you in the New Year.

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**Amy Adams**

MP FOR SELWYN

Constituency clinics held regularly in Akaroa and Diamond Harbour.

If you would like to meet with me please phone my office 03 344 0418 or email selwynoffice@parliament.govt.nz

To sign up to my newsletter visit www.amyadams.co.nz

A strong voice for our communities

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