Putting the Icing on the Cake

Bobbie Hooper decided she wanted to ice cakes, so once a week she made the 60 km round trip to Christchurch to attend classes. On completion of the course, students were required to enter an iced cake in the Canterbury A&P Show. Bobbie's effort took first prize, but typically she felt she needed more practice. She advertised in Diamond Harbour's Link, a forerunner of the present Herald, was besieged by orders, and subsequently baked and iced over fifty Christmas cakes for local residents that year.

Creditable as that may seem, it is even more amazing that at the same time Bobbie had three children under five, her husband was recuperating from a serious traffic accident, and they were in the process of renovating a large dilapidated building, setting it up as guest house.

On that Christmas day, Bobbie also served two sit down lunch followed by dinner for more than 30. The year was 1964 and the dilapidated building was Godley House.

It started when Bobbie decided their home locality in suburban Christchurch was not where she wanted to be, and she spotted an ad in the local paper – Guest House on Banks Peninsula to lease.

It sounded too good to be true – but it was. When Bobbie and then husband, Rick Hearn, made their first visit, the former stately residence, then owned by the Lyttelton Borough Council, was in a disgraceful condition. In the garden, ramshackle out-buildings sagged among missshapen trees and shrubs; the grass on what had been the bowling green and the array of resilient Arum lilies around it were taller than four feet. old house was plastered with filth, graffiti and mould. There were fifty-seven broken windows; the kitchen walls were coated with moss and gunge; and the water cylinder had collapsed through the ceiling. An old man was living illegally upstairs, moving from room to room as each became too filthy for him to bear.

Rick and Bobbie said, No thanks, and went home; but over the next few days they discussed what they would say, You know, it wouldn't take much to... If we were to... and The Council would pay for...

Soon, a deal was struck with the Council, the hermit was evicted and the couple cleaned two adjoining upstairs rooms and moved in. When Susan took her brothers, Stephen and Daniel, exploring on their trikes it was discovered that a large area behind the house was covered with sun-baked raw sewage from a ruptured tank.

With tradesmen doing the major structural work, Bobbie and Rick, often helped by family and friends, scrubbed, cleaned and painted the kitchen, dining room, lounge and foyer. While cutting the grass, they found the missing pieces of the wrought-iron tracery from below the eaves. A bonfire burned daily for weeks to dispose of rubbish and broken, filthy furniture. The weekly cake-decorating lessons must have been a welcome respite.

As news spread of the restoration, people began visiting, taking advantage of the newly raised road across Teddington flats which eliminated the previous hazard of high-tide flooding. It was late August when one visitor asked Bobbie's sister-in-law if Godley House would be open for Christmas, something which had not yet even been contemplated. Joyce flippantly said, Of course! The man immediately handed her a £100 note and said, I'll book a table for fourteen for Christmas lunch. Joyce took the money and reported to Bobbie, who gulped and then said, Why not?

In due course the out-buildings were removed - the disused stone-walled cool store had to be dynamited, the old well was filled in and the grounds tidied. Structural renovations were completed and the downstairs areas were sparkling and the grand Christmas Day Opening party was a great success, continuing until 4am.

Two young women - Julie Sims was one – were employed for the day to assist Bobbie and her mother, who was always on hand to help. Using the brand new dishwasher for the first time was a new experience. After carefully stacking the dishes in, they added a good measure of Lux-Liquid and turned it on. Within minutes the entire room was filled with millions of shimmering soap bubbles. Needless to say, the correct detergent was never used ever after.

In early January, a representative of the Charteris Bay Yacht Club asked the Hearns to provide accommodation for competitors in the NZ Finn Class Yachting Championships later in the month.

They just need a place to sleep – nothing fancy! he pleaded, told that upstairs was still a work in progress; so Bobbie agreed. The event proved a great boost for the business, with catering at the Yacht Club and happy boarders regularly bringing friends to Godley for meals.

Success followed success for the enterprising hardworking couple. Accommodation was well patronised, many people returning annually. Godley became a popular social and wedding venue – iced cake provided if required, of course. There was a steady demand for daily and weekend catering which eliminated the previous hazard of high-tide flooding. It was late August when one

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**Godley Wake**

By late morning on Sunday, September 11, it was hard to find a park at the village centre.

We all gathered at the Community Hall. Everyone had brought a plate so there was plenty of food. The walls were decorated with balloons and chains of red and white pennants. Heather Wilson had invited people to decorate the white ones any way they wanted, and young and old alike had taken up her offer.

Chairman of the Diamond Harbour Community Association and chief organiser of the event, Adrian Te Patu, was the MC.

There were various speakers and the Diamond Harbour Singers entertained us.

Several past tenants of Godley House were present, and lined up in order of their tenancies for a photo.

From left:
- Bobby Hooper, formerly Mrs Rick Hearn (1964-73) and daughter
- Gaye and Gordon Edwards (1988-94)
- Linda and Michael Fogarty (1998-2002) and daughter
- Neil Blunden (2002-08)
- Michelle Anderton and Richard Hawes (2009-11) and son.

After lunch we all walked down to Godley for one more look at what some 8000 earthquakes, aided by a couple of heavy snowfalls, had done in 12 months, to more than 130 years of history.

The lively band reminded us of what had been...

VIPs put on a brave face for the camera... people chatted... and Heather’s pennants were admired...

we just remembered those...

...but it wasn’t one of the happy times...
Looking Back on the Life of Godley House

In 1880, Harvey Hawkins, a prominent Lyttelton businessman, purchased land from Mark Stoddart and built the luxurious home, later to be known as Godley House. When Hawkins was declared bankrupt in 1894, a buyer for the house could not be found, so it reverted to the Stoddart family who occupied it for some years.

According to Spencer Barnard, (who only died a few weeks ago, aged 100) what little water Godley House had then came from dams far up the hill that fed into a reservoir, rainwater tanks and a well whose water was so loaded with sulphur and other minerals that it turned household silver black and was useless for anything save baths.

In 1918, the Spanish 'flu epidemic hit Lyttelton. People were dying like flies, often extremely fast. The tug came over to Diamond Harbour in a great rush to pick up all the beds and bedding for a new temporary hospital which an army of volunteers set up in a day.

Another significant event for Godley House (and the district) was the arrival in 1924 of Will and Edith Paine as tenants at Godley House. Others our community, along with many others, has much for which to thank Edith Paine: Her teaching skills, her relief work in an Otira tunnel disaster; she drove repeatedly up and down the coast from Clarence Bridge to Kekeranu, ensuring people were all right during that flu epidemic.

Edith not only ran Godley House under such difficulties as water shortages, but also fed campers and picnickers. Later on she ran the shop, the local telephone exchange and post office, and a taxi service, as well as becoming the district's historian. When times got really tough in the 1930s Depression, she is reputed to have sometimes brought in some highly illicit cargo for the men in the relief work gangs camped in Diamond Harbour and Purau, while they laboriously hewed the roads we all enjoy today.

Godley House got a new lease of life in the 1940s when the O'Connors became its tenants. Mrs O'Connor furnished it with style and good taste, and gave guests the very best she could provide. Godley House was extremely popular.

The school was not built until 1945, and the Hall ten years later; so Godley House was Diamond Harbour's premier building. Church services were held there, the school girls gave exhibitions of dancing on the lawn, children had their gym club on the veranda and a petrol pump stood outside on the road.

In the 1950s, the use of the house changed from a guest house to a private dwelling, and thence to one serving food. Bab's Foote started to supply fish and chips, and then to cater for local organisations, or in-house events; successive tenants continued this.

Memories are uncertain about which tenants took out some of the interior walls of several small bedrooms on the ground floor, to create much larger function spaces for entertaining and weddings. Mary Webb and her family made a special effort to celebrate Godley House's 100th birthday in 1980, and people of the district dressed up for various events that Mary arranged. The men played cricket in 1880s style, with 4 ball overs, and also took part with alacrity in a beard-growing competition. Many people turned up for a party on the lawns of Godley House, and a musical soirée was well attended too.

A significant change came about 1990, when it was pointed out to Gordon Edwards that thanks to a change in the liquor licensing regulations, the proprietors of Godley House could at last have a bar that was open to the public. This made a great difference to successive tenants, and brought many visitors to the district.

And then in September, 2010 came the earthquake and it was all over for our beloved Godley House.

Mary Stapylton-Smith

(* Photos reproduced from “Adderley to Bradley” M.S-S.)
Around 80 people came along to the Ideas Meeting to express their views about the future of the Godley House site. Ideas were recorded in writing and audio by Paula Smith and Adrian Te Patu for the Community Board and residents. They will be valuable in pressing our case for what we want to see replace Godley House.

The Council representative for the rebuild in our area said that insurance money from Godley House will go into a central fund that may be used for heritage buildings elsewhere in Christchurch.

However, the list of reasons we came up with in favour of the Godley House site as a venue was extensive. These included the creation of a vital attraction for locals and visitors, and the viability of The Black Cat ferry service.

Ideas for temporary activities included a pop-up café and wine bar; retaining parts of the House – such as steps and ironwork – for incorporating in the new development; picnic and entertainment areas for this summer.

In the longer term the some of the ideas were:
1. A marine-themed area, with a walkway from the jetty to the beach and salt-water pool or aquarium.
2. Showers for people swimming at the beach.
3. Linking Stoddart Cottage to the Godley House site via the village shops with a path below the car park area, running in front of the Hall, perhaps with interesting historic or art/sculpture stops along the way.
4. Rebuilding Godley House in the same style, using modern sustainable materials.
5. A completely different building designed to cater for eating, drinking and celebrating in Diamond Harbour.
6. An Arts and Crafts Studio on the site.

It was evident that we need to be actively involved in the planning, negotiating and possibly fund-raising, to get the best result.

One speaker pointed out that the building was gifted to the community and therefore belongs to the community. All the ideas and comments will be collated and posted on the DH website www.diamondharbour.info.

A summary report will appear in the Herald (hopefully the November issue) and printed copies will be available in the Library, and other locations.

The DH Community Association will be considering what needs to happen next. All those who are interested are invited to come to the Community Forum (at the Comm. Association meeting) at 7.30 on the third Monday of each month in the Committee Room.
DH Community Association — Meeting held September 19

Public Forum
Michelle Anderton and Jill Martin outlined their plans to open a café. It is intended to be a temporary venture, serving a need until Godley House is replaced. Their first choice is for a relocatable building in the space where the Garden Gallery and Lilystone used to be. If planning for this site takes too long, the café will be at The Old Exchange at 2 Waipapa Ave. The committee were in support of this proposal as it will fill a need and bring visitors back to Diamond Harbour, some using the ferry.

Neighbourhood Support
Elaine Bryson and Ron Dubin were thanked for the excellent work they have undertaken in developing the Neighbourhood Support system and database. They have each received a grant for printing expenses and the creation of the database respectively.

Community Consultation for Godley House
Planning for a two hour session to be held in the Hall was undertaken.

Community Board members along with Janine Selby, Earthquake Recovery for CCC, and Grant McLeod, Stoddart Point Redevelopment, will attend. Adrian and Paula will facilitate.

Godley House Wake
This was a well-attended and successful event. Thanks to Adrian, Eugenie Sage, Paula, McLeods and Heather Watson for preparation, setting up the Hall, and facilitating.

Next meeting
October 17 at 7.30pm. The Community Forum at the start of the meeting will discuss the results of the Community Consultation for Godley House. All welcome.

Karen

The School Report — Garden to Table Project
Over the last couple of months a small but enthusiastic group of parents have been busy applying for grants to get the Diamond Harbour School Garden to Table project up and running. The aim of the project is to involve the students in the production and preparation of enough school-grown vegetables and fruit to feed every student once a week.

Their garden could feed them all once a week.

Getting their hands dirty and having fun in the garden and kitchen will have educational benefits for the children. School kitchen gardens have been shown to:

• work within curriculum areas and can be successfully integrated into all subjects, including English, Maths, Te Reo, Science, PE, Technology
• be very successful with non-academic learners or children with learning or behavioral difficulties
• positively influence children’s food choices
• teach children about seasons and the cycles of nature
• encourage the development of the life skills of growing one’s own food and cooking nutritional food

Another benefit of the project is to increase local food security, which is important in a community that can be isolated as ours is at times.

In addition, the children will learn about food miles (the distance food is transported from the time of its production until it reaches the consumer) and will actively be engaged in reducing their own, as well as learning about the importance of good soil health and the symbiotic relationships between insects and plants.

There will also be opportunities for our knowledgeable wider community to impress the children with their gardening and culinary skills, because both during and after its establishment, the Garden to Table project will require the help of many volunteers. Surplus produce may be donated to Cholmondeley House in Governors Bay or sold along with seedlings for school fund-raising.

If the grant applications are successful, we aim to have the kitchen facilities and garden fully functioning within two years. For more information on the Garden to Table Trust...
To view the noticeboard go to www.diamondharbour.info on the
provided by the DH Community Association.

In response to community requests we have just added a
Recreational Water Status:

Check if it's safe to swim at local beaches (see page 16).

Community Noticeboard:

Lost a cat? Found a dog? Need a mower? Got something
identical? Well it is, because both are community services
PROS and CONS of our piece of paradise.

the Photo Gallery features some stunning work by local
photographers of our piece of paradise.

You will find up-to-date details of all the Community
Services and organisations; Clubs and Societies; Businesses; Accommodation and Attractions.

the DH Website and the
Community Watch and the Lyttelton Community Watch and the Lyttelton Harbour Network and look forward to bringing you more details of these groups at a later time.

Meanwhile, the Diamond Harbour Neighbourhood Support emailing system is now fully operational, with arrangements in place for messages to be relayed as appropriate by phone to those without email. Phoning of course involves a bit more time for both sender and receiver, so if you have email, but have not yet given your address to Neighbourhood Support, please email it to dhnshq@gmail.com. Be assured that all emails from Diamond Harbour Neighbourhood Support are clearly identified in the Subject line, are as infrequent as we can make them. Addresses are given only to the appropriate leaders for use only when all else fails. If you want to opt out at any time, just reply to any one of our emails and your address will immediately be permanently removed from all lists. Please help us help you.

One of the roles of Neighbourhood Support is to keep each other – and the police – informed about crime in our area. The value of this was illustrated last month when a resident came face to face with a man who had entered through an unlocked door. When confronted, the intruder muttered some excuse and left hurriedly. The startled resident contacted the police – who arrived within an hour – and informed nearby neighbours. Contractors doing earthquake repairs at another house arrived there to find the empty house had been broken into and an unusual article of clothing left behind. The workmen reported the incident to the police. At a third house, a resident went out to the patio one morning and noticed that a couple of items, including some clothing, were missing. Not being exactly sure when the articles disappeared and thinking a friend may have visited and taken them, this person did not contact the police for several days.

Individually, these three incidents might seem fairly insignificant, but it has since been discovered that all three happened on the same day in the same street, right here in Diamond Harbour, and are obviously linked. This serves to remind us that the smallest bit of information may be the key to solving a significant crime. Despite what some of us might feel, the police do not disregard reports they receive, so let them, and your neighbours, know as soon as possible of unusual or suspicious activity, and help keep our community safe.

In similar vein, if you have recently had a phone call or Skype contact from a man with a strong (Asian?) accent claiming to be from Microsoft and urging you to follow his instructions to repair your computer, be assured that a) you are not alone, and b) legitimate companies, including banks, NEVER do this or email to ask you to disclose personal information. The aim of this scammer, as usual, is to get access to your computer and so to personal information. At the first contact just say you are not interested and hang up. If in doubt about the authenticity, hang up and contact the company involved yourself. NEVER supply any personal information. If the same person, or another with the same story contacts you again, tell them something like “You are a scammer! Do not call again!” hang up immediately AND let friends, the named company and/or the police know about it. Together we CAN make a difference.

Don’t forget that Neighbourhood Week is Saturday October 29 to Sunday November 6. Tell your neighbours to bring a plate and drop in for a cuppa and a chat, or plan a bigger gathering with your block or sector leader. Elaine Stop Press: The stolen clothing etc in the story here, has been found discarded in bushes by a fourth resident who placed an ad for it in the Herald - we have contacted the owner. Together we CAN do it! Ed.
Diamond Harbour Rugby Club recently nominated community sports stalwart, Ian Boyd for the 2011 SPARC Sport Volunteer Awards. Finalists, including Ian, were selected from more 150 nominees from Canterbury and West Coast. They gathered in Christchurch recently for the final presentations, where just three awards were made. Our Ian was declared winner of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

His citation follows:

Ian Boyd has been involved in rugby all his life, playing for Christchurch Boys High School, Christchurch Old Boys and Zingarie (Timaru), and at Canterbury Representative Level as far back as 1949 (8st 7 Canterbury Team). He then went on to coach at both junior and senior levels at Christchurch Old Boys, where he was Club Captain in 1975, and Club President in 1982.

Despite moving house to Diamond Harbour in the early 1990s, he has maintained a close and active association with Christchurch Old Boys and is a life member of that club. He has also been awarded life membership of the Diamond Harbour Rugby Club and served as Club Captain 1992-95. He has been the Club Secretary since 1995 and Club Custodian since 1998.

As well as the usual duties of a Club Secretary, Ian is an enthusiastic Committee member who participates in all aspects of the Club including frequently travelling to away games to support both our senior and junior teams.

However his contribution as Club Custodian is most outstanding. Ian oversees all uses of the Clubrooms, a task which has taken on new meaning since the premises have been in great demand across the community since the earthquakes destroyed historic Godley House and temporarily damaged the Community Hall. Every time the rooms are used, be it for home games, meetings or hires to local groups or for private functions, Ian is on hand to personally set up the facilities appropriately, which frequently includes moving furniture, checking and preparing kitchen and toilet facilities, and then opening up. After the event, he checks security and locks up, returning as necessary to check equipment is replaced correctly and in working order, and to do all the cleaning, including the changing rooms.

The fact that the Diamond Harbour Clubrooms are always in immaculate condition and the envy of many other rugby clubs is very much due to Ian’s high standards and hard work.

In addition, for hires, he handles all aspects from preliminary inspections and bookings through to invoicing and receiving payment, and at club functions he regularly assists in the kitchen and/or bar, and collects, balances and banks all incoming monies.

And the Rugby Club is not the only community group which benefits from Ian’s involvement.

In 2000, he joined the Diamond Harbour and Bays Bowling Club. A keen and competitive player, he continues to have success at both club and interclub events, currently being a member of the Club’s champion fours team. He was vice-president in 2007 and president 2009-10 and currently is actively involved in maintaining the greens, and is regularly on hand to assist in any way needed at club events and gatherings.

Such is his attitude that he can on occasions be seen doing a spot of maintenance next door at the Diamond Harbour Croquet Club. He is also a member of the local indoor bowls club, and an active group leader in the district Neighbourhood Support Network.

Ian shows outstanding loyalty and dedication to duty in everything in which he is involved. He is always willing and enthusiastic to help others. Indicative of his modesty is the fact only a few people in the community realise that during the last year Ian has quietly celebrated both his 80th birthday, and, with wife, Rata, their 50th wedding anniversary. Elaine
Annie’s Opening in Oamaru

Annie Baxter held her Grand Opening in Oamaru on September 17, with 150-200 people in attendance – fifty of those being from Diamond Harbour and Christchurch.

She has asked us to print the following thank you:

Miss Annie Baxter, formerly of Stoddarts Cottage, Begs to thank all her fine supporters for the trouble they took in making the opening of the Victorian Tea Rooms, Oamaru a resounding success.

I was overwhelmed by the magnanimous support Shown by the Spring Getaway Group From Purau and Diamond Harbour A free cup of tea to all when passing through Oamaru!

Annie’s Victorian Tearooms

Annie’s Victorian Grocery Shop

Farmers Market On Again

After a break over the winter, we begin our fortnightly markets on Saturday October 8 (9am to noon). We are a small band of locals, and are looking to include more local produce in our markets.

We farewelled Annie Baxter, who was a founding member over six years ago, and wish her well in Oamaru.

Any locals (Charteris Bay through to Purau) who would like to become part of our team, please contact us at purauproducenz@gmail.com.

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Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953 Page 8 No 150 October 2011

Annie, chic in Victorianna
Vet-Spot  
Working from Home

Since March I’ve been working from home. Besides a short stint in England on my OE when I was self-employed, but mainly contracted to a greyhound track, it’s the first time in my career that I’ve done this. We have a cottage on our property in Little River where we lived for a few years after moving here, and since then have used it as accommodation for family and farm helpers. Heather has also used it as her craft studio. It has now become the clinic building for the Little River Vet Services.

This has a number of benefits, and a few frustrations as well. Since a lot of Peninsula residents are in a similar position, I thought I’d share my thoughts for what they’re worth. One of the first things that springs to mind is striking the correct work-life balance – I’m not sure that I’ve got this quite right yet. Family is really important, and we need to take sufficient quality time away from work to enjoy time with them. Unfortunately, it’s very easy to spend an extra few minutes (or longer) catching up on work matters.

On the plus side, I’m enjoying not commuting to work, but rather doing my driving during the day around our beautiful patch. I also find we can provide really good patient care to our hospitalised animals, having them so close by. I can stay open longer hours, and if necessary be in the comfort of my own home while waiting for animals to be collected after surgery – in some cases as late as 9.30pm! We have the phones set up to ring at home or work; so again, I can sometimes get to the office a little later in the morning without missing calls. We can keep prices competitive, since our overheads are low here.

Because we also run a small farm, it’s handy being around during the day, especially in Spring while our cows are calving. We are currently feeding four calves and two goat kids, so have a great farmyard for visitors. Our dog, Laddie, thinks every animal comes here just to play with him, and enjoys a good romp with our patients. He’s also good at after-care, and is now our official male nurse, especially concerned while patients recover from anaesthesia.

We also have a great view – I challenge any vet in the world to beat it! One frustration is that although we’re only 800m from the main road through Little River, we can’t be seen from the village. We also have a very steep driveway, although we’ll be sealing it soon. We’ve already done a lot of site work for parking outside the cottage. To try to make up for our low visibility, we’ve launched a website with an online store.

Another drawback is that we’ve now lost our spare room, hopefully we’ll get a container, or, even better, a caravan for visitors – which may just be pressed into service on a road trip.

So, for the time being, we plan to continue operating from home, and I’ll keep up my regular visits around the Peninsula – which make up over half my work.

Paul
The Girthquake Effect

Since the earthquake, many people have found they have been eating more, exercising less, and the kilos have been creeping on. Now Spring is here and shorts and t-shirts are being pulled out of the wardrobe, and naturally we all want to look our best.

Losing weight is not only about eating well and exercising regularly, but about ensuring that our minds are in the right space and fully supporting us, and this is the element of weight loss that tends to get ignored. So what steps can we take to ensure our minds are working for us in the best possible way?

Firstly, have a realistic, compelling goal. Consider what it is you want, rather than what you don’t want. Imagine someone who is 80kg who has a goal of 1 don’t want to be 80kg. As soon as they lose a couple of kilos, it’s likely their motivation will disappear as they have moved away from what they didn’t want, and their old habits will return. If, on the other hand, their goal is, I want to be 70kg, look great in my red dress, and be able to run two kilometres without stopping, their motivation is much more likely to stay high, and increase as they get closer and closer to their goal.

Secondly, find enjoyable activities to partake in. You can choose to find exercise a slog, or you can enjoy it. Which kinds of exercise do you enjoy? We live in a beautiful part of the country. We have fantastic scenery, great beaches, hills and walks, and an awesome community with lots of groups which combine exercise and socialising. Taking advantage of all the great opportunities here, will enable you not only to lose weight, but also to get fresh air, and meet great people.

Finally, plan ahead. Make sure you have the right foods around at the right times. Notice how good it feels to be eating foods that are great for your body and mind, foods which will make you look and feel good.

It is also useful to notice anything that is holding you back. Beliefs such as I don’t deserve to be thin or I’m not good at losing weight can hold people back from their true potential. If you are aware of anything that is holding you back, you may want to seek the help of a qualified practitioner, to help you release those beliefs, and leave you free to become your ideal weight.

Robyn Woodham, of Wealth of Mind brings us a new regular column...

T he Girthquake E ff ect

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Robyn Woodham, Neuro Linguistic Programming Practitioner
Phone: (03) 329 4694  Mobile: 022 996 5755
www.wealthofmind.co.nz

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Fit ‘n’ Well

Recovering from injury

Occasionally during activity our bodies may get injured. If this happens, it is good to know exactly how to deal with the injury so that the body can return to being pain-free as quickly as possible. Injuries can happen for a variety of reasons: not enough warming up, impact, tightness in muscles, increasing activity too much or too quickly, etc. Thankfully, if treated promptly and properly these injuries can have minimal impact on our bodies. The key is to treat the injury quickly!

The acronym RICE is still a very good start during the 24 hours after an injury (the acute phase). Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation can all make a big difference in recovery.

Start by stopping the activity and icing the area that is sore. Icing does have some contraindications (such as Raynaud’s disease, thin skin or circulation issues) so be careful to only ice if appropriate. Ice-cubes or a bag of peas wrapped in a towel both make good compressions. Ice for approximately 20 minutes but take the compression off and on a few times.

A compression bandage can also help speed up recovery and works well on ankles, knees, wrists and elbows. Finally, elevate the area when you are sitting or lying.

After 24 hours, injury management changes slightly (the chronic phase) as we want to improve circulation. Here, gentle massage into the area with anti-inflammatory cream can be helpful as well as elevating and then lowering the area can improve circulation, reducing the healing time. If in doubt, seek a medical opinion to treat your injury.

The best approach is to aim to stay injury free. Make sure you warm up well before activity, stretch afterwards and progressively increase exercise exertion. Joining a group session in your local park can be helpful in this.

Mike
A few months ago a small article in the Herald pointed out the detrimental effect that local cats, both pet and feral, are having on our native bird population. Murray Ball’s cartoon (printed here with his permission) hits the spot. While Horse, and all other cats, simply follow their natural instincts, Dog’s sentiments reflect the importance many of us around here place on trying to bring the native birds back to Diamond Harbour and the Peninsula in general.

**Bring Back the Birds**

The kowhai ngutu-kaka or kakabeak (Clianthus puniceus) is one of New Zealand’s brightest native flowers. A bush covered in flowers, as mine is at this time of year, really glows. It also buzzes with bee visitors. Like the pohutukawa, the kakabeak has bright red flowers and is native only to the northern parts of New Zealand, but there the similarities end. The kakabeak can tolerate much colder weather than the pohutakawa. One of the few wild populations left in New Zealand is on the hills above Lake Waikaremoana, where it snows most winters.

Despite being cold-hardy and able to grow in infertile soils, the kakabeak is now almost extinct in the wild. This is because it is very palatable to browsing animals, which had almost cleaned it out by the end of the nineteenth century. Luckily, although the plant itself is short-lived (15-20 years), its seeds are very long-lived. Even more luckily, it is such an attractive plant that humans have been propagating it and planting it near their houses for three centuries, if not longer.

As this plant is endemic to New Zealand, it would be sad to see it die out in the wild. The Department of Conservation, therefore, has a program of protecting the few known sites where there are good wild populations left by fencing them off. (Find out all about this and more about the kakabeak on DoC’s webpage: http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/native-plants/kakabeak).

The kakabeak, as its name suggests, has a flower shaped like the beak of one of our native parrots, the kaka. It is a member of the legume or pea family, and it has a close cousin in the floral emblem of South Australia, Sturt’s Desert Pea, which looks just like a kakabeak except for a little black cap on top of the red beak. The kakabeak bush in my garden, which has been there about ten years, is now well over two metres tall and equally wide. It starts flowering in August, keeps it up for at least two months, and draws lots of compliments from visitors, impressed at its vigour and gorgeous red flowers. There are also white and pink versions of the kakabeak, which are equally lovely. There are very few native plants which are more easily or better conserved in the home garden than the wild. How fortunate for us – as well as the kakabeak – that it fits this bill.

**Kakabeak – the parrot plant of springtime**

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**The Godwits are Back**

St Paul’s Anglican Church in Papanui has marked the arrival of the Godwits by ringing its Church bells, a role usually reserved for the Christchurch Cathedral.

Due to severe damage caused by the 22 February earthquake, the Cathedral was unable to make the announcement this year.

The Bar-tailed Godwits (Limosa lapponica), usually return to Christchurch in the second or third week of September. They head the list of 23 species of migrant birds that have been recorded using the Estuary as a sanctuary during the northern winter.

The species can also be found in other areas of Christchurch including Brooklands, Lyttelton Harbour, Lake Ellesmere and Lake Forsyth.

The Godwits’ arrival and departure, and those of other migrant species of wetland birds, is closely monitored by Council rangers and local bird watchers every year.

Sarah Gordon, City Environment Communications Unit
WINE SPEAK

I’m back and to make up for missing a column a couple of months ago, here’s a bumper selection for Spring to quaff as you enjoy the business end of the Rugby World Cup! The warmer weather means savvietime again – especially if it’s a chilled 2010 Blind River Sauvignon Blanc. With typical Marlborough passionfruit, tropical fruit and grass, it has added palate richness due to 10% fermentation, and my local was throwing it away for $10! Something sweeter, then try the 2010 Spy Valley Pinot Gris. Think honeyed pears with a rich oat texture, due to some malo fermentation it’s often discounted for under $20. At a similar price, the latest 2010 Reserve Mission Chardonnay is an excellent follow-up to last year’s vintage. This time it’s a touch more elegant with a citrus/mineral palate but the stone-fruit and almond meal flavours really emerge with food. To impress though, go for the 2009 Dog Point Chardonnay. Food is required to unleash the ripe fruit and biscuit lees from the tight mineral core and, it’s not cheap at over $35, but some cellar time will reward you with a richly elegant wine down the track.

To kick off reds, here are two Central Otago gems from the same vineyard. The 2010 Rua Akarua Pinot Noir offers sweet cherry, liquorice and spice against drying tannins on a savoury finish and an exceptional bargain for $22. The bigger brother, simply labelled the 2010 Akarua Pinot Noir is similar but more elegant; plush in the mouth with a lingering savoury herb finish and worth every cent of its $35 price tag. From Wallaby territory come three gems around the $20 mark. Firstly, the 2009 Saltram Pepperjack is a stunning Cabernet Merlot dominant Bordeaux blend from the Hawke’s Bay for around $30. Drinking way better than the much touted 2009, it’s a bright, yet subtle meld of plum, blackberry, liquorice and spice still with obvious cellaring potential. Cheers!

The Godfather

RECIPE

Family dinner on a budget - Onion/Leek Mince Dish

At this time of the year, when there are just carrots, potatoes, leeks and parsnips left in the garden, it can become a challenge finding creative variations for the family. This is a simple, inexpensive dish – particularly if you still have the vegetables in the garden.

Ingredients

- 5 onions or 3 large leeks sliced in fine rings
- 3 tbsp oil
- 400g beef mince
- 500g potatoes peeled and diced in 5mm cubes
- 350g carrots diced in 5mm cubes
- 400ml good stock
- 1 tsp curry
- 1 pinch cayenne pepper
- salt and pepper
- 150g frozen peas (half a can) or fresh snow peas
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- 2 tbsp parsley finely chopped
- 150g of sour cream or créme fraîche

Method

Warm up oil, add onions/leek and stir until soft (but not brown), add mince and cook until light brown. Add potatoes and carrots, gently cook for 3 mins, add stock and spices; cover with lid.

Simmer for 10 mins – longer is better (an hour or more). Add peas (defrosted if frozen) and tomato paste. Serve with parsley and sour cream on top.

Bon Apetit.

Franziska

TREE AND GARDEN SERVICES

Tree Surgery

Hedge Cutting  Garden Clearance

Dave Hammond

ND in Amenity Horticulture

Phone 329 4270

Lake Ellesmere Cleanup

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere is to be cleaned up with an $11.6 million plan involving Government, Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Fonterra, Selwyn District Council, Lincoln University and the local community. The largest lake in Canterbury, it is an important link in the chain of coastal lagoons and estuaries along the east coast of the South Island, but over the past 50 years the water quality of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere has become the most toxic (a combination of pollution levels and water clarity) of New Zealand’s 140 lakes.

While land-use changes in the catchment and clearing of wetlands have hastened the lake’s deterioration in water quality with high nutrients and sediments, major damage to weed beds in the lake dates back to the Wahine storm of 1968. Their limited regeneration and water bird populations also contributed to a decline in water quality. The $11.6 million committed to cleaning up the lake is made up of contributions of $6.1 million from the Government, $3.5 million from Environment Canterbury, $1.3 million from Fonterra, $500,000 from Ngāi Tahu and the balance from the Selwyn District Council, Waihora Ellesmere Trust and Lincoln University. There will also be a substantial commitment to the clean up from local volunteers.

This is the most significant fresh water clean up project New Zealand has undertaken, given the severity of the pollution and the size of the lake. It is part of a $94 million commitment of the government to water clean up over a four year period.

Amy Adams

Amy Adams

Constituency Office: 829 Main South Road, Templeton. If you would like to meet with me please phone my office 03 344 0418 or email selwynoffice@parliament.govt.nz
WEATHER—ONE STEP FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK?

So far we have not had too much of that long awaited warm weather. There have been hardly any of the customary spring nor’westers, while the easterlies have been making themselves felt rather more than we would like. At this time of year the weather is changeable because of the marked contrast between the tropical seas to the north, and the still cold sub-Antarctic and Antarctic seas to the south. The convergence between the systems spawns small and usually fast-moving depressions, bringing the changes between southerlies and northerlies and nor’westers that are typical of our spring. The occasional spread of an anticyclone across the country, although it gives us what the weather forecasters refer to a settled weather is nevertheless associated with change, chilly mornings alternating with warm afternoons.

August was a mixed month, very pleasant and unusually mild for the first half, and then very much colder for the second. September has seemed uncertain as to whether it should be mild or not, and all too often unsettled. September has seemed uncertain as to whether it should be mild or not, and all too often unsettled. Although it gives us what the weather forecasters refer to a settled weather is nevertheless associated with change, chilly mornings alternating with warm afternoons.

There can, however, be no doubt that it is spring. Daffodils have made a splendid display, and broad beans are flowering in the vegetable garden. As in the last few years, I have not seen many honey bees, but the bumble bees seem to be about, and they can handle the broad bean flowers. Black Boy peaches and early plums have been flowering beautifully, but one warm day of 18°C (20°C at the airport) saw the blossom fade — hopefully when the fruit has been set. Often, we seem to get gales just when the plums are at that fragile stage of setting, when it can be easily stripped off. There is a tricky balance to be found here — if no natural thinning of the crop occurs, then the fruit will be abundant but small; on the other hand, too much wind at exactly the wrong time and the harvest may be seriously reduced! Nothing we can do about it, except to hope that there will be warm sunny days and light but adequate rain at night.

LOCAL GROUPS WORK TOGETHER TO GENERATE EMERGENCY POWER

Over the past few months, Diamond Harbour Groups involved in emergency response have been working with a common goal to improve the community’s ability to cope in adverse circumstances. Their efforts, with help from outside the area, have resulted in the acquisition of three generators together capable of keeping all our essential services operational in any crisis.

Of the sparkling new appliances pictured, the large one has been purchased for the Diamond Harbour Fire Brigade from funds provided by Christchurch Central Rotary’s Earthquake Appeal. This generator is powerful enough to run all the operational and communications equipment in the station, including the usual lighting, phones, radios, television, fridges and stoves.

The two smaller generators were both provided by the Godley House Snow Relief Fund, aided in the case of the Civil Defence’s generator by a generous donation from the patrons of Patonga Beach Hotel, Australia.

Wendy Coles, head of Diamond Harbour Civil Defence, says, “The response to the recent earthquakes highlighted the potential for our being unable to meet the communities’ needs if there is a major power outage. Thanks to the generosity of the Godley House Snow Relief Trust and the people of Patonga, we now have the ability to provide power for our welfare centre. The generator is the property of the DH community, to be managed by the local Civil Defence, for the benefit of our community, in accordance with the Trust’s Deed.”

The Diamond Harbour and Districts Emergency and Relief Trust will manage the other one, making it available for any genuine emergency use in the wider community. Celebrating their cooperation are, from left, Fire Chief, Don Cameron, Linda Pickering-Hughey, representing the Patonga Beach Hotel’s contribution which was initiated by her brother, Wendy Coles, Civil Defence, and Gordon Edwards, chairman of Godley House Snow Relief Fund, which was originally established after the severe snow falls of 1992 in which the local farmers were particularly hard hit. The aid provided to them by other NZ farmers prompted the local community to take steps to improve their own emergency response to perhaps be in a better position to also help others in time of need. A huge Stress Relief party held at Godley House raised a substantial amount, which was invested and has since served to provide assistance not only in this case but also in several other projects which have met the Fund’s criteria.

Absent from the photograph is Peter Hughan, chairman of the Diamond Harbour and Districts Emergency and Relief Trust. This organisation was responsible for obtaining a Lotteries Grant for the building of the large room adjoining the east side of the fire station. The main purpose of this area is to provide secure storage for a range of tools and equipment to be available to communities across Banks Peninsula in an emergency. The trust has already procured a number of appropriate items in addition to the new generator.

Elaine

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953 Page 13 No 150 October 2011
Canterbury Award for LPC

Lyttelton Port Company has been recognised in the Champion Canterbury Awards for its performance through the Christchurch earthquakes and, in particular, its innovative response to earthquake recovery. Our thanks go to our customers and business partners for their support and patience through the difficult times after the major earthquakes, and to our staff and technical advisers, says Chief Executive, Peter Davie.

The Champion Canterbury Awards celebrate Canterbury business excellence, passion and success. LPC was selected in the exporting category, along with Elastomer Products and Kelford Cams. There were no winners this year and instead a number of businesses were recognised as examples of resilience, creativity, leadership, exporting and staff well-being in the face of the severe earthquakes.

Despite massive damage, the resilience of the Port and its people was demonstrated in quickly getting up and running again after each seismic event so that essential supplies and customers’ goods could get through. Our people worked in hazardous conditions, many coping with earthquake problems at home, Peter says. On the innovation side, the fact that we are managing to take most of the clean hard-fill from CBD demolitions out of the central city and put it into reclamation is a really good solution. It is providing an environmentally sensible disposal area for good hard-fill that would otherwise go to landfill. This solution is saving Christchurch people and businesses over $100 million in dumping fees, and is saving the Port many millions of dollars on quarrying and transporting rock.

The reclamation, in the eastern area of the Port, has now reached 1 hectare, or a tenth of its size under the current consents. It will provide much-needed additional cargo-handling space as earthquake-related repair works are rolled out through the Port over the next four to five years. With the continuing construction works, we have lost about a third of our normal cargo-handling area.

Bronwen Jones, Communications, LPC
Coastal Walking Track to Purau
The new section of coastal track to Purau is now complete and open to the public. It runs between the picnic tables near Rawhiti Gully Creek to just up the road from the Purau jetty (where there is a timber retaining wall). In one steep part, the route includes a well-constructed flight of steps, but in a couple of other places the track is not so easy to negotiate. People using the new track might like to take a plastic bag with them to collect some of the rubbish along the way, or to pull out any boneseed seedlings they see. More people using the track will help to keep it passable.

Paula Smith, Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board

Free Running Group
Sundays at 8am

Road Cycling Group
Weekly from Diamond Harbour
To join in either—or both—contact Mike 329 4647 or mikecatton@mac.com

Diamond Harbour Tennis Club
The clocks have changed so it’s all systems go for Tennis!

Open Day on Sunday October 9
Come and join us for tennis from 10am
Then we will adjourn to the BBQ – please bring your own meat and drinks, plus a salad to share. All are welcome, especially new members. Come and join in the fun!
For further details, ph 329 4544 or 021 032 7237. Melanie

Diamond Harbour Playcentre AGM
Sunday, October 9, 10-11am
at the Playcentre (20 Purau Ave)
Morning tea provided. Everyone is welcome. Sarah Pritchett

Celebrating International Older Persons’ Day
Health, Safety and Wellbeing Expo
10am – 2.30pm
Monday October 10
Papanui High School, Langdons Road, Papanui

• A positive day out which includes spot prizes and entertainment, including cooking demonstrations by Master Chef runner-up Jax Hamilton.
• Education for the community about issues relevant to older adults and the resources available to them.
• Advocacy for the needs of older adults.
• An avenue for information exchange and networking among elder service providers.

For more information please contact:
Dean Kilbride, Communications Adviser, Chch City Council, Mob: 027 428 0184
Email: dean.kilbride@ccc.govt.nz

Diamond Harbour Camera Club
The next meeting is on Tuesday October 18 in the Stage Room at 7pm (Please note earlier start).
Our guest speaker, Julie Riley, will talk about Life as a photojournalist and author. Guests $3 donation. All welcome.
Rouke Bakker

Diamond Harbour Toy Library
The Toy Library is enjoying a year of active membership and a great variety of toys. Exciting new toys include dress ups, wooden vehicles, shopping trolley, scooters.
We will again be at the Orton Bradley Spring Fair on Sunday October 23 with a bouncy castle and other toys.
The Toy Library is open every Saturday 10-11am at the Community Hall. New members are always welcome. For further details phone Kirsten 329 4093 or Sarah 329 4415.
Sarah Pritchett

Our Library
I have never known any distress that an hour’s reading did not relieve. (Charles de Montesquieu)
Did you know that the Library now has floating collections? This means that library stock stays at the library it is returned to. Consequently, we are constantly getting new and different titles on our shelves.
You are welcome to come down any time the library is open. Hours: Tue: 2-7, Thur: 10-2, Fri: 2-4, Sat: 10-12
Storytime at the Library - Bring your pre-schoolers to the Library at 2pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month for stories, rhymes and songs. The next Storytime is at 2pm on Tuesday October 18. All welcome.
Christine

Diamond Harbour Rugby Clubrooms
ALL FINALS MATCHES
QFs 1 & 2 QFs 3 & 4 QFs 3 & 4 QFs 3 & 4
-5.45pm & 8.15pm-
Semi Final 1 Semi Final 2
-8.45pm-
BRONZE FINAL GOLD FINAL
8.45pm 8.45pm
Diamond Harbour Rugby Club is open every Friday and Saturday night from 5pm & Sunday Oct 9th, from 5pm and Sundays Oct 16th and 23rd from 7.30pm. Come along and enjoy the atmosphere!
Orton Bradley Spring Fair

Labour Day Sunday October 23 10am-4pm
A wonderful day out for the whole family with stalls set amongst the park’s historical buildings.
A range of food vendors, coffee, plants, art and crafts, pony rides, etc and an outdoor café hosted by Wigram Brewery and Braided River Wines.
Live music all day - EFTPOS on site
Normal park entry fee applies.
For further information view www.ortonbradley.co.nz
The fair is made possible thanks to the generosity of Bell Lamb & Trotter, Lyttelton Port Company, Brendon Leech & Co and John Leech Architecture Ltd.

Support Orton Bradley Park Friends’
White Elephant Stall
For sale will be:
Walnuts
Orton Bradley Diary
Fabulous White Elephants
Baking
We would be grateful for any donations of baking, preserves and elephants.
Please deliver to the Park on the Monday before the Fair. No large items please or (broken) junk.
All proceeds towards the Park.
Enquiries: 329 4730

Lyttelton Petanque Club
Try something new, it’s fun, it’s easy to learn, it’s called Petanque the friendliest game in town!
Corner London and Canterbury Streets
Every Saturday in October 11am - 1pm
Petanque is easy to learn, all equipment and coaching is provided. Christchurch Petanque Club members will have you playing your first game after their famous one-minute coaching lesson. (no wallflowers allowed).
Bring your lunch and make an afternoon of it. It's free – all welcome!
Harbour Arts Collective

Sculpture on The Peninsula: November 4-6
The South Island’s largest outdoor sculpture exhibition returns with a stellar line-up of sculptors, the ever-popular auction of items by leading Peninsula artists, performances by the remarkably talented Loons Circus Theatre Company and a mouth-watering array of food from Crater Rim Caterers.
This year, the Lombardy Charitable Trust are offering a $10,000 prize for Sculpture, which will be judged by art critic and commentator, Dr Warren Feeney. There will also be the People’s Choice Award presented by The Loons Circus Theatre Coy. Over 40 sculptors are represented in the exhibition with nationally acclaimed artists Paul Dibble, Graham Bennett, Phil Price, Llew Summers, Hannah Kidd and Aaron Te Rangiaio joining emerging artists such as Greg Yee, Lisa Patterson, Daniel Patara Summers and Ben Foster. Auckland sculptor, Emily Pauling is the 2011 guest exhibitor. Lyttelton identity, Joe Bennett, leads the auction on the opening night, which this year features decorated saws by local artists.
Bring your friends and family over to picnic and wander around the picturesque grounds of Loudon Farm, enjoying the art and sculpture on display – a sure way to lift the earthquake blues.
For further information, please contact the event organizer, Gill Hay: 328 7402, 021 0227 1157 or gill@sculpturenz.co.nz or visit: www.sculpturenz.co.nz.
Grania Ormond

Diamond Harbour Ukulele Band
He who sings frightens away his ills
(Miguel de Cervantes, Don Quixote).
The Ukulele Band will be having their fun time strum-along sessions on Thursday October 13 and 27 at 7.30pm.
If you are interested in joining our band please phone Christine on 329 3033.
Christine

Healing Day
Shunyata – 10 Rawhiti St, Sunday October 9, 10am-4pm
I have just returned from overseas and after studying trauma and the results of the recent earthquake have decided to run a koha (donation) healing day for Diamond Harbour residents at my retreat, Shunyata.
It has been shown that now is the time that the trauma, if not treated, can cause harm to our bodies. After the recent Godley House Wake I spoke to a lady, very young, who had had a heart attack, another with rheumatoid arthritis, another with a stroke - people are trying to continue on, saying that there are people worse off. Yes there are but we must take care of our bodies.
Mostly it’s women playing martyr - have to be there for everyone else and certain ego types do this so well. Then they crash and are no good to anybody. Please, when you know things aren’t quite right - come and have a craniosacral session to calm the nervous system and release emotional trauma, a phobia cure for fears, a good old massage and some caring advice or an ozone sauna.
We will be handing out exercises for trauma also and I have on board top therapists to help: NLP, acupuncture, craniosacral, massage and reiki masters. Find the time, bring a friend, anyone who could do with it. Call to book a time, either an hour or half hour and we will work out with love what would truly benefit you.
If you can't make it in October - there will be another day with top New Zealand Maori and other healers on the other side of the harbour in mid-November for our Lyttelton neighbours. This is my give-back to the most beautiful place on earth, my love to my community.
Paru Clark
Email journeyessence@hotmail.com or phone 329 4773
You can come too

Diamond Harbour and Districts Historical Society
Next meeting: Tuesday October 11, 8pm.
Stage Room, Community Hall
Ralph Woodward will talk on Sixty Six Years in the Wool Trade and Too Thick to Get Out. This should prove to be informative and entertaining. All welcome. Peter Nuthall

Contra Dance
The Contra Dance in Lyttelton on Saturday, September 17 was a fantastic night. Thanks very much to those of you who made it. See you at the next one: Sunday October 30 at 7pm in the Trinity Hall at the Recreation Centre on Winchester Street. Email: harbourarts21@gmail.com to reserve your free ticket. Harbour Arts Collective

Governor’s Bay Margaret Mahy Poetry Competition
12 years and under; 7 years and under
For 2012 entry form, email mmypoetry@xtra.co.nz or governorsbaycommunity@gmail.com

All the Fun of the Fair!
Diamond Harbour Playcentre 40th Anniversary
When: November 27 from 2-4 pm
Where: Diamond Harbour Community Hall
Come along to the Domain to help the community celebrate Diamond Harbour Playcentre’s 40th anniversary.
Entry is free and there will be something for everyone
- bouncy castle
- fire engine display
- cake stalls
- food and coffee stalls
- car boot stalls
- music and much much more
There is a 70s theme on the day to celebrate the fact that Playcentre started in Diamond Harbour at the start of the 70s, so if you fancy dressing up in your platforms and flairs – this is the time to do it!
There will be spot prizes for the best dressed! This is a fundraising event for Diamond Harbour Playcentre.
Should you wish to book a site for $10 for a car boot sale, please contact Kathy on 329 4249.
Were you involved in Playcentre in 1971 and beyond?
If so, we would love to hear from you for interesting stories or snippets about this integral part of our community. Please contact Kathy on 329 4249.
Volunteers are also being sought to help out on the day and with some of the organising. If you can help, please contact Karen on 329 3254.

Church Notices
For latest details of all church news, visit...
www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx

Regular Services
Anglican - Methodist - Presbyterian:
Sunday 8am Communion, 1st and 3rd Sundays only.
Sunday 10:30am Communion.
Wednesday 9am Communion and Healing Service - a new weekly service commencing October 5.

Catholic Mass every Saturday at 6:30pm.

Ordination
Bishop Victoria has announced her intention to ordain Rev. Russell Pickersgill-Brown, Vicar Designate for Mt. Herbert Parish, to the Priesthood on Tuesday November 1, at 6pm at St Christopher's Anglican Church, Avonhead.

Sunday School
Primary School age children welcome. Sun 10.30-11.30am.

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).

Bible Discussion Group
Wednesday afternoon fortnightly at the Diamond Harbour Church Hall. Contact Anne Boyd 329 4444.

Rainbow Music
Weekly sessions at 9:30am each Friday during term time. All preschoolers are welcome. Rainbow Music is now being led by parents/caregivers on a roster basis. There is a single session commencing at 9:30am with morning tea at 10:15am when hospitality is offered by women of the church. $3 for one child or $4 per family. Inquiries can be made to the Parish office on 329 4790.
Oct 7 Rainbow Theme; Oct 28 (term 4 starts)

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.
Oct 4 & 18; Nov 1, 15 & 29; Dec 13 (end of year picnic)

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shopping van to South City mall runs on:
Oct 5 & 19; Nov 2, 16 & 30; Dec 14 & 28
The van does pick-ups from home around 9am and drops people back home around 1:30pm. 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 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 next issue to nth.herbertparish@xtra.co.nz.
You can read the current issue of the magazine and back copies at www.diamondharbour.info/church-notices.aspx
Great news for motor racing enthusiasts!

The announcement that the government is to release Christchurch earthquake funds to help communities establish sporting infrastructure must be welcome news to the growing number of motor sport competitors who reside in DH. Now is the time to apply for funding. Firstly, we would see road re-surfacing suitable for motor racing throughout the village, along the lines of Monty Carlo. Jobs would be created, race marshals with attractive tabards emblazoned with the official DHRC (Diamond Harbour Racing Club) logo. And lets not confine participants to boy racers and frantic young mums running late for school, here’s an ideal opportunity to encourage oldies to embrace life anew. Insurance premiums would likely cost less than the present day inflated house insurance for Canterbury residents. Marine Drive as we all know makes a superb race track with a RACING START at the garage, which could possibly accommodate the team pits, before charging past the school. What a spectacle for the youngsters and an early introduction into how to drive! The future sound of four wheel drifting tyres sliding around the village bends brings tears to the eyes and think of the noise those souped-up engines would produce ricocheting off the walls. The place would be buzzing and really put DH on the map. Alternatively, why not spend a fraction of the money in installing honesty thank you speed signs and road bumps that remove four inch exhaust pipes for free, and yes, while we’re at it, clean up the single footpath through the village. Before it’s too late for someone’s child, let’s all be sensible and PLEASE SLOW DOWN.

Please let me know if you agree that changes are needed.

Graham Duncan  329 4347  mduncannonz@yahoo.co.nz

Prepare for Water Restrictions

Christchurch City Council is urging Christchurch residents to start conserving water now in preparation for water restrictions due to start in October.

Mayor Bob Parker says The infrastructure required to pump water around the city on a peak-demand summer day, has been severely damaged by earthquakes over the last 12 months. If we don’t start conserving water now and reduce the high summer time outdoor water demand, watering bans will be imposed for the city - we have to be clever in how we use water this year.

Recreational Water Quality

ECAN are monitoring water quality at swimming spots around Christchurch and maintaining a status map at http://maps.ecan.govt.nz/WaterQuality which indicates whether locations are generally suitable for swimming, based on risk of faecal contamination.

Current Status of local beaches (as at October 2):

Charteris Bay: Good; Church Bay: Good; Purau: Fair

Diamond Harbour: Good; Port Levy: Good

Fair means: Generally satisfactory for swimming, though there are many potential sources of faecal material. Caution should be taken during periods of high rainfall, and swimming avoided if the water is discoloured.

Note: these grades do not include toxic algal blooms.

LPC Reclamation Site—Debris and Water Testing:

The ECAN status also excludes possible contamination from the LPC land reclamation site at Lyttleton, where the Cawthron Institute and LPC have been testing the water for specific issues related to the land reclamation project. A local kayaker reported encountering a good deal of floating debris on a recent paddle around the harbour. He commented that while the LPC are cleaning up the beaches there are many small pieces of plastic and other debris from the reclamation site floating all around the harbour. He expressed a concern that birds and mammals may very likely ingest some of it, both within the harbour, out at sea, and on wherever shores the floating rubbish eventually washes up.

The LPC Environmental Manager reports that the Cawthron Institute has some preliminary results back from the lab but they are still waiting on most of the water quality analysis. It is expected that the analysis will be completed in the coming week, and then Cawthron marine scientists will issue a report, which will be covered in the November Herald.

Latest updates on the status of local beaches can be found on the DH website, www.diamondharbour.info.

Look for the Recreational Water Status box on the right side of the home page.

Possum Traps

Birdsafe was formed to eliminate possums within the residential areas of the Lyttelton Harbour Basin. We have several Timms traps. 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. Ring Dave Hammond 329 4270.

Daffodil Day Success

Many thanks to those of you who gave so generously towards Daffodil Day collections, the raffle, and movie night. We raised $739.95 for the Cancer Society on Daffodil Day. We had a very successful time selling tickets for the raffle prizes and the film night was well attended and enjoyable.

The total amount for the film evening, raffle ticket sales and local donations came to $1400. This money will be held by the Cancer Support Group here in Diamond Harbour until a decision is made as to the next purchase by the Medical Centre. Thank you to all those who donated prizes and gave of their time to assist with the fundraising. We are fortunate to be part of a supportive caring community.

Joy Harding, Sec, DH Cancer Support

 Whats New at DH Postcentre?

We have a range of printed T Shirts - in a variety of designs and colours - for adults and children. Great for Christmas gifts! Cheap to post overseas! Come down and have a look.

Wendy
Part-time Gardener required
Competent person to weed garden, sweep and wash paths, keep garden shed tidy etc at Te Ara Cres. Approx 4 hours/week in summer. Ph Lois or Warren 329 3116 or email lois@regf.org.

Clarity Lessons
For all ages and experience. Adult beginners especially welcome. Ph Reina 329 4291 or 021 041 5762.

Primus shower for sale
12V, plug and draw, large cut glass bowl was left in the Hall. Ph Joy 329 4119.

A child's T-shirt was left in the Stage Room. A large cut out T-shirt was left in the Hall. Ph Joy 329 4119.

Stove and BBQ wanted
A free standing electric stove and a gas BBQ wanted – both in good condition. Ph 329 4577.

Mulcher for sale
Mulcher has not been used very much. Cost $700 would accept $150. Ph 329 4577.

Outdoor Fitness
Outdoor Boot Camp Fitness with Mike 6:30am Mon, Wed, Fri, all year round. Ph 329 4647 or mikecotton@mac.com.

Pharmacist Locum
Required for regular Mondays at the new Bells Pharmacy Lyttelton, 50 London St. Contact John on 328 8314 or email bellsparmacy@clear.net.nz.

Left behind after the Godley House Wake
A child's T-shirt was left in the Stage Room. A large cut glass bowl was left in the Hall. Ph Joy 329 4119.

New Avon Representative
I am a new Avon representative in the Diamond Harbour area. If you would like to see a catalogue please contact Jasmine. Ph 329 3234 or email jaz286@hotmail.com.

Yoga Classes
Mondays 7pm Stage Room. Ph Adrian 329 3395 or email diamondyoga@slingshot.co.nz.

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

To Let
Beachview Accommodation. Modern self-contained 1-2 bedroom unit in Church Bay. Fully furnished, private access. Available now for long or short term rental. Ph John Allen 329 4112 or 027 453 3307.

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
Hammer and Diamond Harbour holiday homes. Sleep 6-8. All mod cons. $80 per night. Ph Euan Godfrey 0800 212 272, ah 328 7556, fax 328 7569 or email casapropertymanagement@xtra.co.nz.

For Sale and Give Away
Cabinet with louvre doors, TV shelf etc $20; Corner lounge suite, 7 piece back/white fleck draylon, has 2 recliners and footstools with storage $200; Desk, 3 drawer, 1m wide, matches cabinet above, free; Letterbox, wooden with pole, free; Washing Machine, works well, free. All items in good condition. Ph 329 4041.

Found cnr Marine Dr & 16 Whero Ave
Green single quilt and single wool underlay (possibly taken from someone’s place). Ph 329 3177.
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