WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY AND HOW?

Living in the currently shakiest part of The Shaky Isles has undoubtedly made us more aware of our surroundings, our community and our general wellbeing, but it has also raised questions and perhaps some confusion about the interaction of various organisations in our area. Thus the Herald team have decided to present a profile of everything that is part of the south side of the Harbour. Over the next few issues we will endeavour to outline the roles of authorities, associations, groups and individuals who are on hand to contribute to our general well-being, our needs and interests, whatever they may be. The plan is to include emergency services, medical advice and assistance, fitness, recreation, sport and hobbies, education, religion, cultural and environmental groups, as well as all businesses based in or focusing on the area bounded roughly by Gebbies Pass Road in the east and Port Levy in the west – which is the Herald distribution area.

We need your help. If you or a group you are involved with offer a service of any sort that may benefit others in the area, please let us know some details and we will follow up as necessary. Our contact details are at the foot of this page. So let’s get to it......

Goverance — PART 1 OF Profiling Diamond Harbour Area

Since 2007, the south side of the Harbour has been included in the Selwyn Electorate.

Amy Adams (National) is the current MP for Selwyn and she is also is Minister of Internal Affairs, Minister for Communications and Information Technology and Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery. Amy lives in Templeton. See her advertisement and contact details on p5.

Two other current MPs, David Carter (National Minister for Primary Industries – incorporating agriculture, bio-security, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture) and Eugenie Sage (Greens), live locally.

When the Banks Peninsula District Council wound up in 2006, our area became part of Christchurch City Council. We are in the Banks Peninsula Ward and our elected representative is Claudia Reid, who also lives locally. Claudia can be contacted at: claudia.reid@ccc.govt.nz

In the Banks Peninsula Ward, there are two Community Boards, ours being the Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board. As our councillor, Claudia is automatically a member of this group.

Of the other five elected members of the Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board, Paula Smith and Adrian Te Patu both live in Diamond Harbour. Paula is the chairperson and can be contacted at famvanbeynen@snap.net.nz

It is also worth noting that Christchurch Mayor, Bob Parker, was formerly the Mayor of Banks Peninsula District Council.

Environment Canterbury Regional Council (ECAN, http://ecan.govt.nz) is a separate entity overseeing environmental issues throughout Canterbury, and including Banks Peninsula. Its present members have been appointed by the government, but it is planned to return to election of members from next year. Eugenie Sage is a former member of ECAN.

The recently established Banks Peninsula Zone Committee is a joint Ecan/CCC committee of appointed community and council members of whom Claudia Reid is one. Their brief is to advise both agencies about the management of our surface water (freshwater) resources, such as Purau Stream, Church Gully, the ephemeral streams, Teddington wetland, and storm water from gutters etc. For more information contact shelley.washington@ecan.govt.nz

Next Month: Our Community and Residents’ Associations
Local stalwart, Dennis Collins, is determined that future generations will have a reminder of Godley House. Using bricks from its demolition, he is paving a pathway through the Ashley Reserve between Ranui and Te Ara Crescents. Developing this reserve was the dream of Ron Arnold (first name, Ashley) and he worked hard at it until his death. Since moving into a house above the reserve Dennis has continued to build on Ron’s passion and the area is now a fascinating and peaceful oasis between Marine Drive and the Cliff Track, complete with pagoda, wishing well, a nine hole putting course and now a notice board retrieved from Godley House.

When complete, the paved path will traverse the stream via a brick pillared bridge. Already well worth a visit, the reserve is a work in progress for Dennis and we look forward to seeing the Godley Yellow (well, almost) Brick Road completed. Great effort, Dennis!

Elaine

Shannon Aram Painting
“A stroke ahead of the rest”
Servicing the Diamond Harbour area

Trade Qualified
All aspects of the painting trade
Call for a free, no obligation quote

Shannon Aram
Director
email: shannonarampainting@gmail.com
mobile: 021 206 3911

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 4063 or (027) 280 7859

Diamond Harbour on the Net
The Diamond Harbour Community Association set up the website to support local communities (from Charteris Bay through to Pt Levy).

Like the Herald, it is maintained by dedicated volunteers and the many local clubs, groups and individuals who provide the information which helps to keep us all connected.

If you have something to go up on the website email info@diamondharbour.info or ph 329 3032.

www.diamondharbour.info

Lyttel Beauty
NEW LOCATION
32 Voelas Road, Lyttelton
(Opp. Lyttelton West School).

Facials, Waxing,
Spray Tanning,
Eye Treatments,
Manicures, Pedicures.

For a range of services & prices call Emma on
03 328 7093
021 297 3885
www.lyttelbeauty.co.nz
Our veterinary correspondent, Paul Williams, sent us this story he recently received from a friend...

Ramped-up Rhino

The plight of the Black Rhinoceros is, of course, due mostly to the value of its horn and the ferocious poaching that this engenders. However, a contributory factor to the declining rhino population is the animal’s disorganized mating habits. It seems that the female rhino only becomes receptive to the male’s attentions every three years or so, while the male only becomes interested in her at the same intervals — a condition known quite appropriately as Must.

The problem is one of synchronization, for their amorous inclinations do not always coincide.

In the early sixties, I was invited, along with a host of journalists and other luminaries, to be present at an attempt by the Rhodesian Game and Tsetse Department to solve this problem of poor timing. The idea was to capture a male rhino and induce him to deliver up that which could be stored until that day in the distant future when his mate’s fancy turned lightly to thoughts of love. We departed from the Zambezi Valley in an impressive convoy of trucks and Land Rovers, counting in our midst none other than the Director of the game department in person, together with his minions, a veterinary surgeon, an electrician and sundry other technicians, all deemed necessary to make the harvest.

The local game scouts had been sent out to scout the bush for the largest, most virile rhino they could find. They had done their job to perfection and led us to a beast at least the size of a small granite koppie with a horn on his nose considerably longer than my arm. The beast at least the size of a small granite koppie with a horn on his nose considerably longer than my arm. The trick was to get this monster into a robust mobile pen, which had been constructed to accommodate him.

With the Director of the Game Department shouting frantic orders from the safety of the largest truck, the pursuit was on. The tumult and the shouting were apocalyptic. Clouds of dust flew in all directions, trees, with alacrity. This was the only occasion on which I have ever been passed by two journalists half way up a Mopane tree.

At this stage, the Director deemed it safe to emerge from the cab of his truck and he came amongst us resplendent in starched and immaculately ironed bush jacket with a colourful silk scarf at this throat. With an imperial gesture, he ordered the portable electric generator to be brought forward and positioned behind the captured animal. This was a machine, which was capable of lighting up a small city, and it was equipped with two wheels that made it resemble a Roman chariot.

The Director climbed up on the generator to better address us. We gathered around attentively while he explained what was to happen next.

It seemed that the only way to get what we had come for was to introduce an electrode into the rhino’s rear end, and to deliver a mild electric shock, no more than a few volts, which would be enough to pull his trigger for him.

The Director gave another order and the veterinary surgeon greased something that looked like an acoustic torpedo and which was attached to the generator with sturdy insulated wires. He then went up behind the somnolent beast and thrust it up him to a full arms length, at which the Rhino opened his eyes very wide indeed.

The veterinary and his two black assistants now moved into position with a large bucket and assumed expectant expressions. We, the audience, crowded closer so as not to miss a single detail of the drama. The Director, still mounted on the generator trailer, nodded to the electrician who threw the switch — and chaos reigned. In the subsequent departmental enquiry the blame was placed squarely on the shoulders of the electrician. It seems that in the heat of the moment his wits had deserted him and instead of connecting up his apparatus to deliver a gentle 5 volts, he had crossed his wires and the Rhino received a full 500 volts up his rear end.

His reaction was spectacular. Four tons of rhinoceros shot six feet straight up in the air. The cage, made of great timber baulks, exploded into its separate pieces and the rhinoceros now very much awake, took off at a gallop.

We, the audience, were no less sprightly. We took to the trees with alacrity. This was the only occasion on which I have ever been passed by two journalists half way up a Mopane tree.

From the top branches we beheld an amazing sight, for the chariot was still connected to the Rhinoceros per rectum, and the director of the game department was still mounted upon it, very much like Ben Hur, the charioteer.

As they disappeared from view, the rhinoceros was snorting and blowing like a steam locomotive and the Director was clinging to the front rail of his chariot and howling like the north wind, which only encouraged the beast to greater speed.

The story has a happy ending, for the following day after the director had returned hurriedly to his office in Salisbury, another male Rhinoceros was captured and caged and this time the electrician got his wiring right.

I can still see the Rhinoceros’s expression of surprised gratification as the switch was thrown. You could almost hear him think to himself. Oh Boy! I didn’t think this was going to happen to me for at least another three years!

Wilbur Smith
ECAN Respond to Enquiry About Ferry Services

On account of some talk in the area about the hours of the Diamond Harbour Ferry service being reduced, the Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board requested a briefing from Ecan who provided the following reassuring reply:

There are no plans to reduce the hours of operation, or indeed to make any changes to the Diamond Harbour ferry service. In the last couple of days we have become aware there has been some talk amongst ferry users about a reduction in the ferry service, but we are not sure where this has come from. In any case there is no truth to the gossip.

The only upcoming changes to the Metro network at present are the withdrawal of the two Airport commercial services (routes 10 and 29) by Red Bus. We are having to make changes to some of our contracted services to accommodate the withdrawal of these routes, but none of these changes affect any of the services to Lyttelton.

The Diamond Harbour Ferry is a contracted service. Since the earthquakes, the contract has been changed from a net contract to a gross contract. This means that Environment Canterbury pay Black Cat a fixed price to operate the service, and we receive all of the fares taken on the Ferry. Canterburty pay Black Cat a contract to a gross contract. This means that Environment Canterbury now carry the revenue risk.

Canterburty pay Black Cat a fixed price to operate the service, and we receive all of the fares taken on the Ferry. The contract has been changed from a net contract to a gross contract. This means that Environment Canterbury pay Black Cat a fixed price to operate the service, and we receive all of the fares taken on the Ferry. This means that the revenue risk is now carried by Ecan rather than Black Cat.

Edward Wright, Operations Planner Passenger Services, Environment Canterbury

Weather Watch

A Blip in the Record

Six weeks of dry and warm weather, brought a nasty change to a few days of cool temperatures and strong winds. It also brought welcome rain – I measured 12mm. It certainly went into the soil and saved a day or two’s watering, but at this time of year soil moisture is likely to disappear rapidly unless topped up frequently. Evaporation rates are high, measured between 5-6mm for a week at the airport. The gusty winds increased the evaporation rate, as well as lowering the sensible temperature. Another example of how it doesn’t pay in this climate to put the winter woollies out of reach!

The Farming section of The Press made much of the La Niña pattern which is currently affecting our weather. Apparently it is producing double bajillions of nor’easters, with their associated temperatures climbing into the high twenties, and southerly changes which, usually briefer, lower the temperatures and even bring a light rain. An absence of nor’wester has meant that temperatures this January have been somewhat less than the average for the last three weeks (764.5mm). During December rain became less frequent, but a couple of good falls gave a total of 67mm. Then, however, things changed. Coinciding with the restrictions on watering gardens, we entered a period of very little rain. Both day and night temperatures have been warm, so that evaporation rates have been making hand-held watering essentially ineffective – unless, that is, you have the patience to stand with the hose in your hand for a couple of hours at a time!

The consistently warm 24hr temperatures have been an unusual feature. The normal pattern for the summer months is for fluctuations between nor’wester, with their associated temperatures climbing into the high twenties, and southerly changes which, usually briefer, lower the temperatures and even bring a light rain. An absence of nor’wester has meant that temperatures this January have not risen above 25°C. With reference to evaporation, that the measured amount at the airport (5.5mm in the third week of the month) has been markedly greater than such rainfall as we have had. So we have an ever-increasing deficit of soil moisture. This is normal for the time of year. Temperatures for the first three weeks of the month were close to average for January. Over the last nine years the average has varied from its predecessors in that for the first three weeks average daily temperatures were consistently between 16°C and 19°C. In previous years there have been brief spells of cooler temperatures, and a number of much warmer days. The difference can be explained by the current La Niña conditions, even if we are not getting the benefit of increased rainfall!

Jane Soons

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.
Di Howard, who has lived in Diamond Harbour for ten years has now opened Peak Fitness in the lower section of her Waipapa Ave home. Great views and ample deck space for an outdoor workout make this a great venue to get into shape. Originally from the UK, where she was an avid competitor in a variety of team sports, Di is a qualified instructor having completed a 12 month part-time course at the Open Polytech. This involved both theory and practical work as well as work experience in gyms. Her former job in rehabilitation with ACC has given her valuable insight into the psychological aspects of improving fitness and the problems individuals may face. In addition and in spite of having her own gym, Di works out regularly at another local gym, so she maintains a useful awareness of what it is like to be a student as well as an instructor.

Newcomers to Peak Fitness begin by completing a health questionnaire, so that Di can assess their needs and ensure appropriate types and levels of exercise are adhered to. Mastering the right technique, she explains, is the key to safe effective training. Improving cardiovascular, flexibility and resistance abilities are the focus at Peak Fitness which is open Mondays to lunchtime Fridays for individuals or small groups.

Di Howard, Exercise Consultant
78 Waipapa Avenue
Diamond Harbour
Phone: 03 3293392 - Mobile: 0220 897940
Email: peakfitness@xtra.co.nz


---

**Peak Fitness is now open for business.**

Starting a fitness or exercise routine can be a daunting experience but my aim is to make sure it is enjoyable, fun and results based. Take care of your body and your body will take care of you!

As an Exercise Consultant I can support you with a programme to suit your needs be it endurance, strength, flexibility, general conditioning or just socialising. Why not train with a friend, share the cost and double the fun?

I can accommodate up to 4 clients at any one time and will also work one to one for those who require it.

I have a variety of exercise equipment and can provide a clean and professional environment catering for all ages and varying levels of health and fitness.

For further information or to book an appointment please use the contact details below.

**Di Howard, Exercise Consultant**
78 Waipapa Avenue
Diamond Harbour
Phone: 03 3293392 - Mobile: 0220 897940
Email: peakfitness@xtra.co.nz
**Wine speak**

Happy New Year readers! I enjoyed a trip to Hawkes Bay over the holiday season sampling some wine (of course!) that is among a host of gems you’ve just gotta try to kick off this first issue for 2012.

Bubbles to start on the deck, it’s hard to go past the NV Quartz Reef Methode Traditionnelle. From Central Otago at $25 you get citrus bite on entry, minerality through the palate then bready weight and crisp long finish that make it more-ish and great value at around $20. A few dollars more will get you the delicious 2011 Cragg Range Te Muna Road Vineyard Martinborough Riesling. Beautiful floral lift on the nose then a pure linear line of lime citrus, the acid and sugar perfectly balanced. Looking for something even more luxurious? Then try the 2011 Elephant Hill Pinot Gris. From Hawkes Bay and giving little change from $50 but offers a honeyed nose, bursts with pear and spice richness in the mouth then finishes in the dry end of the spectrum, lingering for ages. From the same region, here’s a heads up on the 2010 Church Road Cuve Chardonnay. A stunning elegant number with hazelnut meal toast and peach on a mineral core and expect it to be in the mid-$20 bracket when it hits the supermarket shelves so keep an eye out for it.

Now here are a couple of lighter-end reds for summer, again around that $25 mark. Best of the pack is the 2009 Mitre Rocks Pinot Noir from a great Central Otago vintage. Archetypal cherry plum and herb throughout but the wine has excellent concentration and a grunty earth element on a smooth palate. Finishing in Hawkes Bay, look out for the 2009 Church Road Cuve Merlot and be rewarded with sweet violet and plum aromas that follow into the rich supple palate. It still has some time in it yet so cellar a smidge and enjoy the rest with BBQ meat and veg at your place soon!

**Recipe**

**Marrakesh Vegetable Curry**

I have to confess something here. When pondering about what shall I cook tonight? these days, I sometimes Google recipes. It is interesting to see how the same kind of meal in cooked in different ways in different countries. Technology has its advantages, particularly when going back into kitchen with a printed recipe in my hands, and then re-arranging it to suit.

Today’s recipe came out of a desire to cook my vegetable curry differently. I came across this delicious Marrakesh Vegetable Curry, but had to adapt some of ingredients to what I have in my garden at the moment. In fact, you can take just about any vegetables you have spare to make this dish! Hope you enjoy it as much as my family did.

**Ingredients**

1 large broccoli or cauliflower broken into small roses
1 can chick peas (garbonzo beans) drained (or dried chick peas soaked over night)
2 kumara, peeled and cubed  a few zucchinis, cubed
2 large carrots, chopped 1 large onion, chopped
6 tbsp of good olive oil 3 cloves of garlic, minced
1 tsp ground turmeric 1 tsp curry powder
1 tsp ground cinnamon ¾ tsp sea salt
¼ cup chopped almonds 1 cup orange juice
¾ tsp cayenne pepper

**Method**

In a large dutch oven or cast iron pot place 3 tbsp oil, onions, sweet potatoes, cauliflower and carrots and sauté over medium heat for 8 min.
In a medium saucepan place 3 tbsp of oil, garlic, turmeric, curry, cinnamon, salt and pepper and sauté over medium heat for 3 min.
Pour garlic and spice mixture into vegetable pot. Add chick peas, almonds, zucchini, and orange juice and simmer covered for 20 min (or more).
If you wish, add 300g of spinach to the pot at the end and cook for another 5 min.
The secret of the nice spicy (but not overly hot) taste is roasting the spices before mixing them with vegetables - this makes all the difference. I served this dish with white rice. It would also be nice with new potatoes baked in the oven. Enjoy!

Franziska
Computer Helpdesk

The Best Place to Email

In the December column I looked at email addresses and the merits of using your Internet Service Provider (ISP) eg Xtra, TelstraClear, Vodafone, Slingshot, Snap etc as your email provider – as opposed to using an ISP-independent one such GMail, Hotmail, Yahoo, etc – and concluded that the latter option is best, as it will allow you to keep the same email address if you ever wish/need to switch to another ISP.

If your email provider is your ISP (eg Xtra) then your email address will be something like your.name@xtra.co.nz; whereas if you have an ISP-independent email provider (eg GMail) it will be something like your.name@gmail.com.

If your email provider is your ISP then you probably use an email client to read and write email. An email client is a program (such as Outlook, Outlook Express, Windows Mail, Windows Live Mail, Thunderbird, etc) which downloads messages from your email provider's mail server and saves them to your computer (where copies of messages you send are also stored).

However, if you have an ISP-independent email provider then you very likely use webmail to read and write email.

Webmail is an internet app provided by your email provider which you access with a web browser (eg Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome or Safari).

Regardless of whether your email provider is your ISP or is ISP-independent you can choose whether to use an email client or webmail to read and write email – and it can be an important choice!

Using an email client has a major downside: Your messages (both sent and received) plus the email addresses of your correspondents are stored locally on your computer. If it dies – or the hard drive becomes corrupted – you lose them all! (Note: depending upon your email client settings and the settings/policies of your email provider, copies of your old messages – or at least the most recent ones – may be saved on your email provider's mail server.)

Mishaps aside, at some point you will need to upgrade to a new computer, and while it is possible to move all the old messages and addresses to the new computer, it may not be a simple task. You will also need to configure the email client on the new computer to connect to your email provider with your specific details.

A further limitation is that an email client runs on a particular computer; so you cannot access your email messages if you are away from it – at work, on holiday or even using a different computer in the same house.

Webmail suffers none of these drawbacks. You can read and write your email messages from any computer – from home or at work – from any computer, including at internet cafés, anywhere in the world; and if you have a smartphone you can use an email app to access your email wherever you are.

With webmail, couples sharing an email address, but each with their own computer, can access email from both.

Switching to webmail is easy. In your web browser go to your email provider (if it is your ISP it will be www.xtra.co.nz, www.snap.net.nz, www.slingshot.co.nz, etc; if it is ISP-independent it will be www.gmail.com, www.hotmail.com, www.yahoo.com, etc). You may need to select mail or webmail before being prompted to enter your email username and password. Allow your browser to save them, so you do not need to type them in every time. Another useful trick is to set the webmail page as your browser's home page, so that it goes straight to your email whenever you open it.

The best and simplest email solution is to get a free GMail address (from Google) and use their webmail app to read and write email. GMail allows plenty of space for old messages (both sent and received) – not all email providers (particularly ISPs) are so generous. GMail’s webmail app is one of the best, offering features that those of other email providers (especially ISPs) often lack.

Ron

Living Well

Changing Jobs in the New Year

New Year is a great time to reflect on how things are going in your life and whether you wish to make any changes. For some, changing jobs may be something you’re keen to do this year, and it’s useful to connect with those things that make a job right for you so you can find a job you really enjoy.

A great place to start is considering what it is that is important to you in a job. Having structure or flexibility? Working with others or working alone? Working inside or out? Learning something new or using a skill that is already well developed? The possibilities are endless and there are many jobs which will meet these values.

It is also useful to consider jobs you’ve had in the past which you really enjoyed, and what it was about those jobs that you enjoyed so much – what it was that made those jobs so fulfilling.

You could then go on to consider the following questions, to really get in touch with what you love. What excites you? What do you really enjoy doing? What are you passionate about? What are you good at? What skills and abilities do you have? If you could do anything you wanted, what would it be?

Throughout this process it is really useful to turn off the internal critic—the one who comes up with objections—and simply brainstorm. It is also useful to write down your answers, as it commits you to fully considering the possible answers to each question.

Going through this kind of process is useful as it generates lots of ideas to choose from and gets you to consider your strengths, your passions, and what is really important to you. We spend a great deal of time in our jobs so it is really worthwhile being in one we love in order to really enjoy our lives.

Robyn Woodham
Poisons in the Pantry

Although dogs are omnivores and can eat many of the foods we can, we should not assume that everything we can eat is safe for them. Many of you will already know that chocolate, especially dark or cooking chocolate and cocoa powder is bad for dogs. The active ingredient is theobromine which is a cardiac stimulant and diuretic. As little as half a 250g bar of cooking chocolate or a quarter of a 250g bag of cocoa powder can seriously affect a small dog. My own dog, Laddie, who weighs about 6kg, regularly steals chocolate and so far has lived to tell the tale. Symptoms can take a few hours to set in but dogs can die, especially if they exert themselves after overindulging. I have even heard of geese dying after eating discarded chocolate at a dump - although I can think of worse ways to die than death by chocolate!

Onions and to a lesser degree garlic are also dangerous. They contain thiosulphates which cause a haemolytic anaemia, resulting in lethargy and breathlessness. As little as 600gm of onion can poison a small dog, or smaller quantities if eaten over a few days. Be careful of feeding foods that contain even small amounts of onions. Symptoms appear after a few days.

Macadamia nuts are another potential problem. The toxic ingredient is unknown, but as little as 6 nuts can poison a small dog, causing hindquarter weakness or paralysis. It can also be fairly painful. If you have a macadamia tree you should discourage your dog from foraging for fallen nuts. Even macadamia butter can be poisonous to dogs.

Other foods to avoid are: grapes and raisins; avocados; large amounts of broccoli; pear and apple pips or the stones of apricots, plums and peaches (which can cause cyanide poisoning); coffee and tea (caffeine acts as a stimulant a little like chocolate); potato peelings and green potatoes; mouldy or spoiled foods (so keep your dogs out of the compost heap - another of Laddie’s favourite places); alcohol, yeast dough or hops from home brewing; rhubarb leaves; and tomato plants (the fruits are OK).

Also beware of bones (especially soft ones from pork or chicken), cooked or sharp (chop) bones. These can splinter and cause constipation or intestinal perforation, sometimes also a bowel obstruction. Raw marrow bones are quite good for dogs, especially to keep their teeth clean, as long as they do not need to lose weight - the marrow is pure fat! Corn cobs are also dangerous, and I have had to remove several - they are just the right size to be swallowed, and then to lodge in the bowel.

Of course the best foods are those made especially for dogs. Your vet can advise you on what suits your pet the best.

Paul
**The Eco Gardener's Patch**

**Dancing in the garden**

There are many good reasons for gardening. Fun - and free food - are way up there as things that motivate me to get my hands dirty and my brow sweaty on a regular basis, but I must say I had never thought of adding dancing to the fun mix until I came across *The Dancing Gardener*, aka John Stansfield.

You can see him dancing across his deck (which is somewhere in Auckland) at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9WO6Tu-Mqcg.

He won't win any dancing medals any time soon, but he has my vote for the most entertaining gardening instruction video I have seen in a long while. It's also gardening instruction with a social conscience, because John's day job is Advocacy and Campaigns Director for Oxfam New Zealand, and in this capacity he directs Oxfam's GROW campaign — see: http://www.oxfam.org.nz/what-we-do/issues/grow for a future where everyone on the planet has enough to eat, always.

John is acutely aware that quality food is beyond the financial reach of too many families, in New Zealand as well as abroad, but he is determined to make a difference wherever he can, and that includes at home.

He has created a no-dig, no-weed home food garden using cheap or free resources, and in the video he shows how you can make plant pots for free by recycling supermarket fliers, and raise 100 seedlings from seed for the cost of one supermarket lettuce. All with lots of Kiwi humour, song and dance as well. I probably won't be doing the rumba with a cucumber any time soon, but at this time of year I am making advances to the apricots. Check out the offerings from the apricot altar at http://ecogardenernz.blogspot.com/2012/01/offerings-from-apricot-altar.html — they include a recipe for a delicious Apricot Streusel Torte. Christine Dann

---

**SUMMER GARDEN WORKSHOP**

**A Taste of Herbs**

Garden inspiration and information

with

The Eco Gardener

Christine Dann

Te Kaawa Valley Gardens

Port Levy

Sunday February 26, 2-5pm

Hands-on learning about growing and using culinary and medicinal herbs

plus herbal tea-tasting and herbal baking for afternoon tea, and herbs to take home

All for $30

More information and registration at http://ecogardenernz.blogspot.com or call Christine on 329 4588

Numbers limited to 12 - please register by February 19

---

**Beach Watch**

**Recreational Water Quality**

The ECAN status indicates whether locations are generally suitable for swimming, based on risk of faecal contamination.

Current Status of local beaches (as at January 29)

Charteris Bay: Good;  Church Bay: Good;  Diamond Harbour: Good;  Purau: Good;  Pt Levy: Good

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.

**Harbour and Beach Status**

Richard Suggate (of the Diamond Harbour Community Association) reported finding a great deal of plastic littering the Diamond Harbour beach when he went for a swim on January 18. There were also larger bits that had blown off the beach and into the bushes and around the toilets and changing sheds. Richard noted that community-minded locals had done some cleaning as the rubbish bin was full of plastic.

When he communicated this information to the LPC Environmental Manager, Kim Kelleher, and enquired as to the progress the LPC had made in getting a boom that was up to the job, she replied: *The boom is being replaced in sections. The changeover is mostly complete with only a few remaining lengths to be installed. Our target date for 100% completion is end of January - subject to the suppliers getting the sections to NZ on programme and the sea state permitting. Regular beach inspections are ongoing weekly.*

The LPC first promised at a presentation made to the DH Community Association in May last year — before reclamation work began — that their containment system would be 100% effective and that nothing would escape it. Since dumping began, the LPC have repeatedly reassured harbour residents that the problem of rubbish escaping the boom on a regular basis and washing up on our beaches (and also out to sea) would soon be solved... and they are still promising!

At a meeting in July last year, the LPC said that once the reclaimed area was large enough (which it has been for some months now), if further problems with the containment system arose (due to damage or weather/tidal conditions), they would be able to store any loads containing buoyant materials on the area already reclaimed, rather than dumping them into the harbour. Evidently, this is another promise that the LPC are unable to live up to.

While it is to be hoped that when the upgrade to the boom is completed, it will finally provide the total containment promised to harbour residents, it is becoming increasingly difficult to believe such reassurances.

If the LPC is unable to contain buoyant rubbish within their boom — in all weather and tidal conditions — then they should refrain from dumping and load that contains it.

---

**Chiropractic, Acupuncture & Nutritional Medicine**

**Truly integrated healthcare offered by caring practitioners with a wealth of training and over 40 years of clinical experience**

**Help with:**

- Digestive, circulatory and respiratory complaints
- Anxiety, stress, insomnia
- Food intolerances and more

Mark and Lou Warren

329 3254

6 Te Papau Crescent

Diamond Harbour
Did you know that the Diamond Harbour Library has a Storytime for Pre-school children on the third Tuesday of each month?

Come and join us for fun time stories, rhymes and songs. The next session will be on Tuesday February 21 at 2pm. Everyone is welcome.

Christine Rochford

---

**Fiona Pears and band in Concert**

Diamond Harbour
Community Hall
Waipapa Avenue, Diamond Harbour

Sunday 19th February 2012
4pm

Bookings
Diamond Harbour post office or from
Karyn Davis
03 329 4679/karyn@judiford.co.nz

Tickets $30 (2 for $50)
Children 12 and under - free
(please bring a cushion)

Featuring hot, sizzling Gypsy favorites,
beautiful classical and jazz ballads
& Fiona’s latest passionate compositions

“Pears’ Passion for music impossible to resist…”
- The Christchurch Press

---

**Organic Plant & Seed Swap**

**Bring your surplus seeds/ seedlings/plants: exchange & share information**

SUNDAY 19th FEBRUARY
10:30 - NOON - 30 WHERE AVE (D/H)

EMAIL: Carousel08@xtra.co.nz OR
PH RACHEL EVENINGS 329 4659
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THIS GROUP

---

**Purau Valley Produce Farmer’s Market**

DIAMOND HARBOUR VILLAGE CENTRE

**FEBRUARY 11th & 25th ~**

Produce & Baking
* All Fresh *
and locally grown

**MARCH 10th & 24th**

And every second Saturday morning from nine to noon thereafter
STREET GET TOGETHER
OUT THE FRONT OF:
32 WHERO AVE
B-Y-O REFRESHMENTS TO SHARE
AND A CHAIR
SATURDAY FEB 18 3PM (if fine)

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953                  Page 12                                           No 153 February 2012

Disclaimer – Views expressed in the Diamond Harbour Herald are not necessarily those of the Editor. While due care is taken to ensure the contents of the Herald are accurate the Editor and Printer cannot accept liability for omissions and errors.
Meeting held December 19 2011

Finance
Current balance is $5,754. There was a discussion about higher than usual power charges. Meridian will be contacted to find out why and a better deal organised if possible.

Sprig Report (See full report opposite)
Music is planned for every Sunday up to February 26. Al Park has helped to organise this. Sponsors are needed to cover the cost of the bands. Food vendors will pay to attend. There may be an opportunity for a Sunday Market by seasonal people excluded from the Lyttelton Market. The Fire Brigade are being asked to attend for First Aid. Charlie Hudson is the CERA liaison person.

First Aid Kit
The First Aid kit in the Hall has been replaced with a new one that is located in the foyer.

Herald Report
A mock up of an envelope to go out in March for Herald subscriptions and including subs for the other local groups was discussed and approved. Some modifications were suggested.

Directory
600 copies of the new directory have been printed. These are available for sale at the store and garage.

Submissions
Submission to the Lyttelton Plan on behalf of the association was circulated and approved.

AGM
The 2012 Annual meeting will be on March 19. The Financial Report for the 2011 year will be presented. There may also be a community consultation on the activities of SPRIG over the summer and ideas for the future.

Next Meeting Monday 20 February Karen

Poster Stealing CCCulprit Caught!
On Monday January 9, some time before 7pm most of the SPRIG posters were taken down and removed. These cost $600 and naturally the Community Association was eager that the vandals responsible should be apprehended. The police were contacted and requests for anyone with information to come forward were posted on our website. Fortunately, the culprit has now been positively identified... but remains at large. It seems that the Christchurch City Council have instructed their contractor, Fulton Hogan, to take down any posters and signs that are considered dangerous or inappropriate for their location.

Fulton Hogan have now returned the offending signs and SPRIG will attempt to put them up again - street-legally. If your house is in a prominent position and you would like to put one up on your fence or verge Fiona O’Neill would love to hear from you at info@sprig.org.nz or 329 4581 or 021 033 7157.

Ron

Stoddart Point/Godley House Developments
The Community Board led a community consultation re Stoddart Point/Godley House site and surrounds late last year where people could voice their ideas and a summary was produced by CCC. The report can be found in the Future Developments area of the DH website, www.diamondharbour.info.

SPRIG was formed as a subcommittee of the Diamond Harbour Community Association to summarise comments from the above meeting and to formulate an Inspiration Paper outlining the vision of the community for the area. This is almost completed.

We hope that the Lyttelton Mt Herbert Community Board will hold a public meeting to present the plan to the community and provide a forum for comment and further discussion.

Sublime Sounds At The Point
Thanks to all those who have already been supporting these great live music events! We’ve had 5 so far and apart from one which had to be held in the hall due to rain, we’ve had great weather and great numbers attending.

These events are free but a koha/donation is always welcome - to pay our bills and to help keep the heart of the Diamond and Bays alive. So pack a picnic lunch and a rug or two, grab your family and friends and head on down to the Diamond Harbour domain on Sundays from 12-3pm.

You will usually find Simone and Dale down there with their absolutely delicious cakes for sale; Matt with his fish and chip van; and The Coffee Guy ready to serve. Not forgetting, of course, the local DH Country Store with more food, drinks and ice cream.

The music has ranged from jazz to blues, funk to country, all great and easy on the ear! The line-up ahead is fantastic and a real coup for Diamond Harbour. Many of the artists have given us great cut price deals for which we are grateful.

See you there: The Eastern, Paul Ubana Jones and more from Mamajama and the DIY Duo are still to come.

Promo Signs (see opposite)
We are now looking for safe spots to put up our signs - fences and verges - if you have a prominent frontage and would like to host a sign until the end of February please contact Lou on 329 3254.

Future Events
SPRIG is keen to support any other local ideas for gathering and chilling, and getting together. One new event to keep us fit and entertained is the offer of Zumba and Tango lessons on a Friday night. If you are interested contact Lou on 329 3254.

For details of future developments, music and other SPRIG events check out the SPRIG and DH websites www.sprig.org.nz and www.diamondharbour.info.

Fiona O’Neill

Peninsula Electrical
179 Marine Dr - Church Bay
For all your electrical requirements
John Allen ph 329 4112 or 027 4533 307
Registered Electrician

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953  Page 13                                           No 153 February 2012
EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY!

As a quake-shaken community we are getting as hardened as battle veterans. But also as wary. A sudden wind gust, a passing cattle truck, a slamming door - these get our attention in a way they didn’t before. It’s Nature’s way of self-preservation, and a healthy sign.

It is also healthy to keep prepared. Just as we tend to be choosy about how far from tall buildings we park our car, so should we keep our guard up in relation to any further emergencies. For example: have you ever read the last page of the Yellow phone book, and have you still got a getaway container as suggested there with the recommended items in it? Does your family have an agreed escape plan in case of fire? Have you joined our local Neighbourhood Support group? Do you realise that the local Civil Defence has a dedicated cell phone number to be used in an emergency? (It’s on the front page of the local phone book.)

Keep alert. Keep safe. Your Civil Defence team

COMMUNITY NOTICES

New DH Service Directory and Phone Book

The Diamond Harbour Community Association has published a new Service Directory and Phone Book for 2011-2013. In addition to the phone listing, which covers Charteris Bay, Church Bay, Diamond Harbour, Purau and Port Levy, it contains a host of local information, including Local Services, Clubs and Organisations, Businesses, Religious Organisations, Maps, and the Ferry timetable.

Copies are available for $6 from the Post Office, the DH Country Store and Church Bay Services. Colin McLeod

Herald Subscriptions

The Herald subscription envelope will accompany the next issue, no 154 for March 2012. Your support is appreciated.

Diamond Harbour Playcentre Thanks You!

A big thank you to the community for supporting our fundraising fair back in November. We raised nearly $3500 for building a climbing structure at the Playcentre.

We would like to acknowledge the following groups and individuals who contributed to making the fair a success — we could not have done it without you.

Raffle Results: 1st Joan Gladwyn, 2nd Gavin Millar, 3rd Anke Richter, 4th Jane Broughton, 5th Michelle Howard (all prizes have been collected). Karen Broomhall

Profiling Diamond Harbour Area

Next month the Herald feature will be about our Community and Residents Associations. Following that we will look at organisations, groups and individuals who contribute to keeping us and our environment safe and healthy. To make this coverage as extensive as possible, please send any information to us at dhherald@gmail.com.

Elaine

Happy New Year Everyone!

It is now seven months since the major updating of the Neighbourhood Support Database began. Much more information than ever before is now readily available and an efficient communications network is working well. Consequently, Diamond Harbour Neighbourhood Support has been able to assist authorities on several occasions, both by disseminating information to members and by supplying helpful details to authorities in emergency situations.

Unfortunately, there has also been at least one occasion on which we did not have the needed information on hand. There are still a few groups which were not updated in 2011. I would urge their leaders to complete the updates urgently, or to advise if, for any reason, they are unable to do this.

Similarly, individual residents who do not know who their leader is, or with contact lists printed before June 2011, should get in touch as soon as possible if they wish to be included. The system is now established but it will always remain with individuals and group leaders to ensure the information is current. Updates can be done at any time and new lists printed if there are significant changes - just email dhnshq@gmail.com or ph 329 4512. If necessary I will also inform your group leader of changes. Meanwhile, keep safe, be prepared for the unexpected emergency and make sure you take time to smell the roses and to say hello to your neighbours!

Elaine

Wandering Dogs

Last month a large stray dog went onto a property in Purau Ave and killed three bantams before running off when the property owner tried to detain it. To report wandering dogs, you call CCC Dog Control at 941 8666 (go to after-hours service).

If you feel able to catch it and tie it up, or can identify its registration number, this would be helpful for the dog control staff.

Elaine

IN OUR HARBOUR FOR

ALL REAL ESTATE AND

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

ENQUIRIES

Coastal Real Estate Specialists

154 Marnie Dr, Church Bay Ph. (03) 329 4161
55 London St, Lyttelton Ph. (03) 328 7273

www.min.co.nz

Diamond Harbour Herald - Established 1953 Page 14 No 153 February 2012

A1 Carriers

Driver: Colin Craig

Deliveries Tuesdays and Thursdays

City, Lyttelton to Port Levy, Akaroa

Ph.3669 386 Fax.3660 565 Email: a1carriers@xtra.co.nz

DECCAN LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION LTD

beautiful, bespoke landscapes created through natural stone

Paul Rice

68 Purau-Port Levy Road, Diamond Harbour RD2

Christchurch, New Zealand 8972

T/F: 03 329 4754 | M: 021 521 660

info@deccan.co.nz | www.deccan.co.nz
Church Notices

Regular Services
Anglican - Methodist - Presbyterian: Sunday 10:30am
Communion: Wednesday 9am
Catholic Mass every Saturday at 6:30pm

Wednesday @ 9
Wednesday mornings 9-9:30am
This new service is relaxed and reflective. A great place to drop into after the kids are at school or for you to have your morning walk.
We would love to see you and offer a time of friendly fellowship and a mid-week breathing space.

Women’s Community Breakfast
Saturday Feb 11, 8.15-10am at St Andrews Church Hall.
Contact Ruth Willis 329 4243 or the Parish Office 329 4790.

Sunday School
For primary school age children. Sun 10.30 till 11.30 am.

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 Church Hall.
Contact Anne Boyd 329 4444.

Baby and Toddler Group
A baby group for infants 0-36 months and their care givers is held at the Diamond Harbour Church Hall on Tuesdays fortnightly 10 to 12 noon. Ring Wendy Coles 329 4483 - Babies or Kate Leech 329 4924 - Toddlers.

February 7 & 21
March 6 & 20
April 3 & 17
May 1, 15 & 29
June 12 & 26

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.
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.
February 3, 10, 17 & 24 (24 Favourite Dress Up)
March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 (30 Animals Theme)

City Shopping Van
The fortnightly shopping van to Barrington Mall will be running on:
February 8 & 22
March 7 & 21
April 4 & 18
May 2, 16 & 30
June 13 & 27
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 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
Contact Ruth Willis 329 4243 or the Parish Office 329 4790.

For latest Church Notices go to www.diamondharbour.info

Classifieds

Wanted to Rent
House in Herald area, medium to long-term by mature reliable couple with good local references. Please ph Liz 027 211 7157 or leave a message at 329 4659.

Flute Lessons
Aspiring local flutist looking to teach beginner flute to students in the Diamond Harbour area. I have ABRSM Grade 8 and am a member of the Pettman Junior Academy at UC. Ph Lianne Eveleens 329 4199.

Orton Bradley Firewood for Sale
3m3 pine delivered (Puruar to Governors Bay) $195. All proceeds to Park maintenance. Ph 329 4730.

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 lidding. Affordable rates. Ph Jim 328 8274 or 027 226 4548 or email jim.pearls@xtra.co.nz.

Free Electrical Gear
HP Scanjet 3300C scanner (for a computer). Cooler/ warmer box, 12V DC (fits 4 drink cans). Ph 329 3186.

Household Items for Sale
Double bedspread - $30. Two single blue bedspreads - $20 each. Small fridge, excellent condition - $100. 2 seater brown sofa - $200 ono. Ph 329 4723.

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

Yoga Classes
Contact Adrian 329 3395/diamondyoga@slingshot.co.nz

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

Yacht for sale

Herald Calendar

Art Group: Weds, 9.30am-12noon, Church Hall
Bridge Club: Weds, 7pm, DH Bowling Clubrooms
Camera Club: Tue Feb 21, 6pm. p12
Church Activities: See this page
Community Asso: Mon Feb 20, 7.30pm. p13
Croquet: Weds, 2pm. Purau Ave
Diamond Harbour Singers: Weds, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Film Society: Thus, 7.45pm, Stage Room
Fiona Pears in Concert: Sun Feb 19 4pm, Com Hall, p11
Historical Asso: Tue Feb 14, 6pm. See p12
Insight Meditation: Tues, 6.30pm, 7A Whero Ave
Ladies Probus: Mon Feb 13, 10am, Church Hall
Library Story Time: Tue Feb 21, 2pm. p11
Mens Probus: Thu Mar 1, 10am, CB Yacht Club
Organic Plant Swap: Sun Feb 19 10.30am, 30 Whero, p11
Puruar Farmers Market: Feb 11 & 25, Mar 10 & 24, p11
Rugby Club: Bar Open Fris & Sats from 5pm
Running Group: Sums, 8am. Ph 329 4647. p12
Shoppers Van: Weds, Feb 8 & 22, Mar 7 & 21. p15
SPRIG Concerts: Every Sun in Feb, 12noon. p11 & p13
String Players: Tues, 7pm, Ph 329 4536
Summer Garden Workshop: Sun Feb 26 2pm, PL. p12
Tai Chi: Thus, 11am; Suns, 5pm, Com Hall, p12
Tennis: Weds, 6.30pm. Waipapa Ave courts
Touch Rugby: Fris, Littlies 4pm; Others 5.30pm
Toy Library: Sats 10am-11am, Com Hall
Ukelele Band: Thu Feb 23. See p12
Whero Ave Get together: Sat Feb 18 3pm, 32 Whero. p12
Woolfun Day at Bergli: Sat Feb 11 10am. p12

For latest event updates go to www.diamondharbour.info

To view or place Community Notices go to www.diamondharbour.info

For latest Church Notices go to www.diamondharbour.info
Local Building, Maintenance and Services Directory
Use local skills and talent
Why pay for tradesmen to come from further afield? • All these services are available on your doorstep

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

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

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

Clinch Electrical
Domestic and commercial Installations, repairs and maintenance
Prompt service
Free quotes

Contact Grant on
Tel/Fax 329 4450
Mobile 0274 358 038

advancedglass
Setting the standard in glazing

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

Ph 383 9644 or 0272 336 007
www.advancedglass.co.nz
Servicing the Diamond Harbour Area

Bays Bins 2007 Ltd
Your local friendly rubbish removal company
weekly • fortnightly • monthly • casuals

• Bulk garden and household rubbish
• Weekend hire of truck
• You load and we dump

Phone Jude 385 9537 • Mobile 027 321 7071
Email baysbins@gmail.com

TEDDINGTON AUTOMOTIVE
Motor Vehicle Repairs and Servicing
Also ATV, Tractor and Farm Bike Servicing

W.O.F.
Courtesy Car Available
Graeme Hamilton
40 Years Experience

753 Gebbies Pass Road
1.2km from Wheatsheaf
Phone 329 9763
Mobile 0274 331 766 or Fax 329 9911

Affordable Man - Good at Everything!
Home Maintenance and Improvements
Decks and Fences
Windows and Doors
Roofs and Spouting
Bathroom renovations
Small plumbing jobs
Painting and Tiling
Trees Removed & Pruned
Gardening & Landscaping

Phone Ian on 329 9997 or 021 684 885

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