

Lyttelton News

A Project Lyttelton initiative in association with The Akaroa Mail

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Check out our upgraded website! www.lyttelton.net.nz

Whakarauika o Whakaraupo

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Festival will light up Lyttelton again

The seventh Lyttelton Harbour Festival of Lights takes place on Friday June 17, with the annual Street Party on Lyttelton's London Street from 6pm to 10:30pm. An initiative of Project Lyttelton, the festival is sponsored by Christchurch City Council and Lyttelton Port of Christchurch, with support and sponsorship from other local businesses and organisations.

The combination of a masked parade, live Lyttelton bands and performers, the dazzling Lyttelton Port of Christchurch Fireworks - this year at 7:30pm - and fully choreographed to music, is guaranteed to bring local families out in their winter woollies to enjoy the unique atmosphere of London Street, lit up as a winter wonderland especially for the festival.

The Street Party begins at 6pm with an amazing masked parade, followed by local bands and musicians on the main stage, including the Harbour Union, a collaboration of Lyttelton musicians who have formed to benefit Lyttelton's earthquake recovery, and showcases local talent in the form of music, food and drink, and performing arts.

There will also be performances from belly dancers, hip hop dancers, experimental musicians, street performers and buskers.

"The Lyttelton Harbour Festival of Lights will be an exciting event again this year. The programme is a real celebration of local Lyttelton talent and our community's resilient attitude. It's great to be able to deliver this event, especially after all that has happened in recent months" Project Lyttelton event organizer Andrew Turner said.

"Our Festival of Lights has matured into a 'must see' Christchurch event and one that shows Lyttelton lit up at its midwinter best."

The event is managed by Project Lyttelton, with a strong focus on sustainability and community building.

Festival-goers are encouraged to use public transport and adopt the festival's Zero Waste approach, by taking any non-recyclable rubbish home.

The 2011 Lyttelton Harbour Festival of Lights is sponsored by Christchurch City Council, Lyttelton Port of Christchurch, More FM, Hang-Up Entertainment, Lyttelton Engineering, Fireworks Professionals, The Canterbury Community Trust, Lion Foundation, The Press, and The Southern Trust.

See www.lyttelton.net.nz for more information.

Volunteer for festival success

Individuals can help to make the festival a success by sharing their time with the organisers and having fun.

There is a mask making workshop on the afternoon of Sunday June 12, and Jan Jeans would like help in running this.

There are lots of ways you can help out on the night of the street party - as traffic marshal, at the Project Lyttelton stand selling hot drinks and food, face painting and handing out survey information.

Join in the parade in mask (and costume if you want). There are a small number of masks and costumes that can be lent out - contact Juliet 328 8558.

You can even stay in mask through the night! Possible volunteers can find out more by telephoning Sue-Ellen on 328 9243 or writing via email to office@lyttelton.net.nz



Historic lighthouse gets special treatment

Lyttelton's historic lighthouse has been removed temporarily to a safe place for rehabilitation. The two earthquakes left the lighthouse on a 15-degree lean as the timber roundhead structure that it sat on was pulled downwards by settlement of land near the wharf.

LPC's civil maintenance team relocated the lighthouse using the multi-purpose barge *Cooper*. It was carefully lifted from Z berth and transported to J7 where it will be restored. Once the land and wharf structure at Z berth have been remediated, it will be placed back there and go back into operation.

The lighthouse is a listed international navigational aid and while it is out of commission a temporary light has been installed in its place. It was built around 1878 and was originally sited on the on the hard fill of the breakwater itself, probably close to the end of the present cool store. It was shifted to the roundhead when that was built in the 1920s. The light colour was changed from its original red to green when New Zealand adopted a new international standard for buoys and beacons in the early 1980s.

The blue and orange boat behind the lighthouse in the photograph is a pilot vessel.

What is the future for Lyttelton Schools?

Survey seeks views

There has been a suggestion that the two primary schools in Lyttelton might merge in the future, and the Boards of Trustees of Lyttelton Main School and Lyttelton West School have decided to consult with the local community about the provision of primary school education in Lyttelton.

They are looking at the future and considering how the needs of the children can be best met, and how resources should be allocated to achieve this.

Feedback is being sought through the upcoming Lyttelton Schools' Survey.

By consulting with the community the schools intend to develop a shared vision for the future.

This will include asking whether the community favours two schools or one

merged school.

There is also an opportunity to express a view about running a bilingual education programme in Lyttelton.

The feedback from the survey will be used to help shape education in Lyttelton for decades to come.

There are currently 327 primary school age children living in Lyttelton.

Both Lyttelton Main and Lyttelton West schools have healthy rolls. The February school rolls were Lyttelton Main 147 and Lyttelton West 124.

In addition, there are about 70 primary age children who live in the Lyttelton area and attending school elsewhere.

Projections for the Lyttelton area indicate a growth in primary school aged children to between 350 and 370 children by 2016.

Lyttelton is a great place to live and bring up children.

Craig McGuigan, Chairperson of Lyttelton Main School believes that "the community consultation is an opportunity for the Lyttelton community to express their views on a wide range of educational issues.

"We are doing many things well but we know that we can improve and provide even greater opportunities for local children."

Anna Thorpe, Chairperson of Lyttelton West School has heard views of parents and others in the community for years about how primary school education might be best organised.

"It will be great to finally hear exactly how many people support a merger of some kind, or not, and then work towards responding to the

ideas that people have for our schools."

She is also interested in finding out about the interest in Maori education in Lyttelton.

"Given that we have such long-lived connections with whanau at Rapaki, we are hoping there will be enough interest to establish a bicultural education programme in Lyttelton."

Surveys will be distributed to each parent of students at Lyttelton Main and Lyttelton West in early June. They are also available to groups.

Two public meetings are being held to discuss the issues raised by the survey.

They are planned for Tuesday June 7 at 7 pm at Lyttelton Main School and Thursday June 9 at 2 pm at Lyttelton West.

Everyone is welcome to come to either meeting.

Information Centre returns to town

by Wendy Everingham

Wow it's so amazing how kind and generous people are when you strike adversity.

Community help has ensured that our Information Centre can re-open in a temporary building on London Street within the next week.

A knock on Mrs Fyfe's front door at 65 London Street meant that this generous Lyttelton resident would allow us to use her front yard free of charge to locate our new site office.

Then a conversation with Andre Goldsmith from Hang Up Entertainment Services gave us a contact for a portable building.

Our new home sourced from Portable Buildings New Zealand was supplied at a very discounted rate and then installed with the help of Hang Up Entertainment Services.

A further conversation saw Lynette Baird become the new Information Centre "Go To" person and now within the space of a few days we should be up and running.

We envisage that our main role for the near future will be disseminating community and earthquake information.



The new Lyttelton Information Centre arrives on site.

We already produce a community email newsletter and have an updated community website but we are also planning on introducing a hard copy newsletter plus daily notices.

At this stage we plan to be open from 11am to 3pm Monday to Friday.

That will change depending

on demand.

Please send us any news you have or contact us for information you may need.

As previously mentioned we are also there to help you source funding for your projects.

The Lyttelton Harbour Information is Located at 65 London St Lyttelton. We can

be contacted on 328 9093 or infocentre@lyttelton.net.nz www.lytteltonharbour.info alternatively you can pop in and see us.

Farmers Market will move to new site

With so much change in Lyttelton and so many voices with ideas for the township, the Project Lyttelton Board met recently to state its position on its vision for the Lyttelton Farmers Market.

The Farmers Market was set up by Project Lyttelton in 2005. We did this so that our local community would have access to fresh food, have a meeting place, stimulate local business, promote sustainability and help the local community in general.

Our partnership with Lyttelton Main School has been a key part of our vision.

The market has connected us to the school community, enabled us to give them a funding stream and created a nice synergy between the town centre, the school and wider community.

Our Board believes our partnership with the school is paramount. Project Lyttelton is committed to keep the market at Lyttelton Main School and keep the market at roughly the same size.

Unfortunately Lyttelton Main School has suffered quite a bit of damage to their buildings and grounds from the earthquakes.

Smaller grounds mean less space for the market and with a new school re-build planned Project Lyttelton has decided to move the market temporarily to a new site in Lyttelton.

Details of this will be announced shortly.

It is our firm intention to move the market back to Lyttelton Main School as soon as possible and continue the great partnership that we have created over the last few years.

Communal office space – a new direction for Lyttelton

A month ago when Jodi Rees posted an article about rethinking office space, she was tapping into a common urge for people post-earthquake to rethink the way they work and live.

Moreover, with businesses struggling to find new locations that can house their staff, the idea of working from home for at least part of the time has become a reality for many people.

There are lots of reasons why this reconnection between where you live and where you work might become more permanent.

For starters, people enjoy the experience of not having to factor lengthy travel into their daily schedule.

Being able to experience the 'daytime world' of where you live is another attraction – to shop in local shops, eat and meet in local cafes.

For some, job loss as a result of the earthquake has been the impetus to begin building new careers.

Running a start-up business from home is the easiest and cheapest option.

However, as the initial enthusiasm at not having to rush out the door at dawn passes, it can be that working from home isn't as much fun as you thought it might be.

It might be hard to clear the necessary space in your house, and its easy to be distracted.

You can feel you are missing out on social connections and the stimulating ideas that come from interacting with others.

So what are the options? It turns out that while virtual connections enable people to work from many locations, there still seems to be a strong pull for people to find ways of working together – and there

is a whole movement out there that is widely regarded as part of the new face of doing business.

"Co-working" is the term, and it has many different guises.

It basically means some form of shared office space that provides people with a desk, office equipment, and internet access.

It also offers a chance to work in a stimulating professional space, and reclaim the garage or spare room, without the cost or commitment of hiring your own office.

Over the past few years, co-working facilities—both grassroots, co-op-like versions and for-profit models—have started popping up across New Zealand and the world.

There is even a wiki (co-working wiki) that hosts pages for co-working initiatives.

In Lyttelton a small group of us are considering how to make this a possibility here.

We are currently registered with the Lyttelton business database for future building space and are looking into costing basic equipment.

We would like to hear from anyone curious about the potential for making this work for them.

If any or all of this applies to you:

- You work in your own business and would like to share office space

- Your employer encourages you to work from home

- You want part time, casual use of office space

then co-working could be for you.

We are still developing options and would love to hear your ideas so get in touch with Meg (328 8052, Kilvingtonm@slingshot.co.nz) or Jodi (mallotus@yahoo.com.au)



Community gardeners examine the card.

Port Waikato sends card and cheque

At one of the recent Wednesday Community Garden lunches, gardeners looked at the colourful card sent to Lyttelton from Port Waikato.

It came with a cheque. This small port town of 400 raised \$5000 for Lyttelton.

They did this by means of a large community dinner. They continue to support Lyttelton with other events.

It seems to be a two-way thing. As they think of us in Lyttelton they are beginning to gather as a community in a

way they haven't done much before. The card can be viewed at the library. It is filled with photos of the event and messages of good will to us.

There is the Waitaiti group, Blueskin Resilient Communities Trust that ran a fund raising event for us and have donated \$3329.

Meanwhile there are groups working overseas as well.

One in the UK – fund-raised by a rugby club, and another contacted ex-patriot New Zealanders in the Netherlands.

A note about scrap

Because of earthquake damage to Cashin Quay, the Lyttelton Port Company says that it is being forced to work some trades such as scrap metal for recycling in the inner harbour, although these exports are better worked away from residential areas.

In order to limit the impact on the community, recycled conveyer mats are used as pad-

ding on the wharves and stevedores are informed of the need to minimise noise.

The next scrap vessel is expected around 12 or 13 June and people can check the company's website for updated shipping schedules.

A proportion of the scrap metal being exported for recycling is from earthquake demolition.