

Canterbury Community Life

Warm, inviting, Lamar House opens

Mayor Bob Parker and resident Terry Gibbons performed opening honours by cutting the ribbon to Hohepa Canterbury's newly-completed Lamar House.

Warm and inviting in the winter twilight, Lamar House is the result of a \$570,000 building development and capital fundraising campaign. It stands on the site of Kowhai Cottage, built 30 years ago for the children at Hohepa, and retains a key feature of the old home – the kitchen donated by Sheelagh Thompson, a loyal supporter of Hohepa Canterbury.

Residents Terry Gibbons, Edward Chapman, Stephen Closey, Neil Annan, Andrew Cameron and John Pike are excited at the prospect of moving into their new home, where they will each have a bedroom that is light, airy and has lots of storage. Terry has taken an active interest in the building project, his mission to ensure it stayed uppermost in our minds.

General Manager, Raymond Eberhard paid tribute to all those who supported Hohepa Canterbury's vision to provide facilities for fragile aging residents, with gifts of skills, time and talents. These include major donors to the new home, the Lamar Charitable Trust, along with the Canterbury Community Trust which has provided capital and operational funding, Worcester Trust, Mainland Foundation, Gendy Brown, Simon and Kate Martin, and many others.

Special credit was also given to site manager Barry Nuttridge who led the building team, architect Philip Kennedy, and to project manager Gary Spence and quantity surveyor Richard Hill – the latter two have donated their time to the project.

'The fundraising team worked hard to raise funds to complete this wonderful facility, with a fantastic donation from the Lamar Trust to get us started,' said Raymond Eberhard. 'Thank you to past chairman Brian Shackel who was instrumental in achieving this donation.'

Attending the opening along with fellow trustees Derek Howarth, Joanne Allen, Geoff Ellis and Richard Smith, chairman of the Lamar Charitable Trust, Brent Smith said: 'It gives the Board of Lamar great pleasure to be involved in helping with funding for the building of Lamar House. We would like to acknowledge the outstanding work the executive and staff at Hohepa do in our community. We thank you for allowing us to be part of this exciting project.'

The evening rounded off with presentations by resident Hayden Stephen to Brent Smith on behalf of the Lamar Trust, Mayor Bob Parker and Mayoress Joanna Nicholls-Parker, and to Gendy Brown who headed a small but very effective fundraising team comprising Simon Martin, Peter Phillips, Raymond Eberhard, Rachael Waugh, along with Joy Simpson and Su Marshall of Comptons.

'A very big thank-you to you all for making our vision a reality.'



St George and the Dragon – an autumn celebration

Performances of *St. George and the Dragon* have graced the stages at Hohepa several times over the past 40 years. This year the instigator was Michael George, a resident of River Cottage, who shares his name with the hero of the story. Michael also asked if he could play the role of St George.

So – pen to paper, to write a 2009 version of this story, this time with a harvest festival theme. Andrew Cameron opened the play by playing *Morning has Broken* on his recorder. Theresa King, a wonderful singer, ran in from the wings and joined him on the bench. Then, the villagers carrying fruits of the earth – pumpkins, apples and nuts in baskets – joined in the singing. Maryanne recited lines of a harvest poem. Anne-Odile struck a few chords on the piano and the lively production with its 16 performers began.

The dragon with the enormous head and three pairs of feet was terrorising the villagers. George comes to the rescue of the King and Queen, Princess and villagers, but his first attempt fails. He calls upon the heavenly help of St Michael and receives a sword forged in heaven. Villagers equipped with sickles, axes and forks join George in the fight and the battle is soon won. From henceforth all the world shall call you St. George.



New to the play this year were country dancing and ancient farming implements. Performers learned their lines during lunch breaks – Michael George remembered his lines from two years ago and, after just four rehearsals, colourful costumes, stage sets and, of course, our enthusiastic audience... it was truly dramatic.



West Coast holiday for Jade House residents

Not even a puncture discovered just 100 metres down the road could dampen the spirits of our determined holiday-makers. With the assistance of the AA and Tony's Tyre Service, the Jade House residents were finally on their way for a much anticipated five-day holiday to the West Coast.

Clare, Megan, Debbie, Chris, Gregor, Roslyn, and House Co-ordinators Ngaio and Bev certainly enjoyed their hearty roast of the day in their Greymouth hotel that evening, along with a visit to Shanty Town the next day, with a ride on the steam train and gold panning. After tea everyone had a relaxing soak in the spa pool.

A drive to Westport was next, with a stop at Cape Foulwind to see the well-populated seal colony, with numerous seal pups playing in the water and many larger seals sunbathing on the rocks. Two cheeky wekas joined the picnic lunch.

The Coaltown Museum at Westport with its displays on mining, logging and the railway proved interesting for the crew, with a stop at Punakaiki to view the pancake rocks and blowholes putting up some powerful spouts after.

Another glorious day for a drive to Hokitika to visit the National Kiwi Centre and Aquarium, where they saw live kiwis, and Megan, Clare, Gregor and Debbie fed huge 100 year old eels



with small slivers of liver. A unanimous choice, it was Subways for lunch then back to the motel for an afternoon of fun in the swimming pool and on the flying fox which was enjoyed by the residents. And another soak in the spa pool, a movie and bed.

All too soon Friday morning came around and it was time to pack up and head for home with a stop at the Bealey Hotel for lunch before

arriving home safe and sound.

Highlights were the spa pool (Clare), Shantytown (Megan), swimming pool (Debbie), feeding the eels (Gregor), the olden days at Shantytown (Roslyn), train ride at Shantytown (Chris), the group interaction and support given to each another (Ngaio), and the expression of interest, enjoyment and pleasure shown in all our activities (Bev).

Welcome

Hohepa Canterbury welcomes new residents Michael Stanley, Samantha Campbell, Joel Forman, Sarah Woods and John Pike, and our new Accountant, Catherine Coulter. We have also recently welcomed Tane Norton,

deputy mayor Norm Withers, city councillors Barry Corbett, Sue Wells and Ngaire Button, as well as Catherine McDonald from the Christchurch City Council, and David Carter MP as visitors to Hohepa Canterbury.



Lyn Drewett, a resident of Hohepa Canterbury, has felt so cosy since the installation of a new heat pump in her home, she felt inspired to write this note to general manager Raymond Eberhard. Thank you to everyone for supporting our heat pump campaign.

This year, readers are invited to help us turn our Day Base at Barrington Street into a warm and cosy space for the almost 60 residents who gather for activities each day.

Thank you to our wonderful supporters

- Lamar Charitable Trust
- Canterbury Community Trust
- Canterbury Masonic Charitable Trust
- Perry Foundation
- The Lion Foundation
- Pub Charity
- John Morrissey
- Jones Foundation
- Selwyn Robinson Foundation
- Eureka Trust
- Mainland Foundation
- Springhill/Frimley Foundation
- WHC Charitable Trust
- Maurice Carter Charitable Trust
- QSM Charitable Trust
- Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise
- Mrs Popes Charitable Trust
- Worcester Trust
- Pam Webb
- Sheelagh Thompson
- Southern Trust

City2Surfers

An idea that snowballed while two members of staff were on their lunchtime jog, before we knew it, the shirts were being ordered and support crew organised to assist residents who walked this year's City2Surf.

The warm autumn sun and no beastly easterly proved to be perfect conditions for the 6km walkers, who soon separated into small groups and went with the flow. Two walkers had to drop out but were quickly revived by our flying squad.

At the end of the event, everyone gathered under the shade of the big gazebo for lunch,

where our roving reporter gathered a sample of feedback from participants.

'I was sooo tired at the end!' (Debbie)

'I really enjoyed that, and I showed my certificate at Community Circle. Next year I'd like to do the 12 kilometres.' (Geoffrey)

'It was good fun. Dad pushed me fast all the way.' (Shaun)

'I was good with Danielle. We raced Martin at the end.' (Terry)

Nobody won the trip to Sydney but everyone departed with a sense of having done something



Staff member Ngaio Tuuta supports Clare Swain on the City2Surf

worthwhile. A link for our sponsors to the fundraising website drew a great response with over \$800 raised.

School bus stops here

Polar conditions are no deterrent to a day at school for Nicola Roper, Michael Stanley and John Lambie. The First Steps Literacy programme at the Hagley Adult Literacy Centre is a great reason to get out of bed in the morning, no matter the weather.

For four mornings each week, the trio travel by bus to the Centre for numeracy learning including money and shopping skills, number recognition, and how to solve simple written problems. Literacy skills are boosted by learning how to read and fill in forms, using a diary and calendar, reading and writing text, and increasing their vocabulary knowledge.

For Nicola, Michael and John, learning how to ask, understand and answer questions, process instructions, carry on conversations while articulating words correctly and clearly are also part of the curriculum.

Nicola's mother, Lady Roper says: 'Communications from Hagley have been very positive. When Nicola recently underwent cataract surgery, five of her classmates went to see her with beautifully illustrated cards. A niece on the staff at Hagley says it is a most impressive department. Nicola is enlightened and



Waiting for the Orbiter on a frozen winter's morning, Michael, Nicola and John are ready for the journey to school.

stimulated. When I first approached her about going to Hagley, she said it would be so nice to have something different in my life.'



Hohepa
creating opportunities...

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Website: www.hohepa.org.nz

Farm: Cnr Trices & Sabys Roads, Halswell. Telephone (03) 322 6139

Winter is here and time is right for heat pumps for our day base at Barrington Street. Please help us keep our residents warm and cosy with your donation.

Your name and address are important.
Please complete the details

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

PLEASE POST TO:
HOHEPA CANTERBURY
PO BOX 28101, BECKENHAM
CHRISTCHURCH 8242

- I can donate \$45 \$150 \$70 \$95 towards the purchase of a heat pump
- Enclosed is my cheque made out to Hohepa Canterbury
- Please phone me to talk about my donation
- Please send me information about making a gift to Hohepa Canterbury in my Will
- Please remove my name from your mailing list

For Direct Debit donations to Hohepa Canterbury –
Bank Account No. 031594 0032732 00
Please insert your name in the Ref. box

All donations above \$5 are eligible for a tax rebate up to the limit of your income.

CUT ALONG THE LINE

