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**Newsletter December 2013**

**The broad bay community centre committee would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas and relaxing holiday time.**

**Broad Bay Methodist Church’s Future**

The future use of the Broad Bay Methodist Church in Greig St is under discussion. It has low numbers attending with the majority of those at fortnightly services coming from outside Broad Bay. The church is struggling to pay its fixed costs even though it is hired regularly by four community groups and in spite of some financial help from the wider church. At this stage the church is considering future options including whether there is anyone interested in leasing the building, and if there are any ideas in the community for a different use for the building. If anyone in the community has ideas or would like to know more please contact Jenny Winter (4780 491) or Elspeth McLean (4780 547).

**Matariki Street news**

Matariki Street folk gathered for a lovely morning tea recently to farewell long time street resident Margaret Weatherall.  Margaret and Brian lived in Matariki Street for 45 years and with the tragic loss of Brian earlier this year, Margaret decided it is time to move back to her roots and nearer family in the Mosgiel area.  Thanks to those who came - Margaret did appreciate your support.

We have had 4 members of the street help at the Special Olympics held in Dunedin at the end of November.  Several others are off to Stewart island to help with DOC work over there.  Also 2-3 folk regularly work at Styles Creek and the Slip Site taking care of weeds and the tracks.

**Host Families Wanted for AFS students**

AFS is a volunteer based, non government, not-for-profit organization.   A local Peninsula high school student is now on an AFS exchange in Iceland and two Broad Bay families recently hosted AFS students from Spain and France.

We are currently looking for host families. AFS host families come in all shapes and sizes - you don't have to have a teenager in your family to host an AFS student. When you host an AFS student, they become a member of your family, they are your sons and daughters, not a guest. They are willing to help with chores, share rooms and take part in the family, the school and the community.

We have AFS students in other parts of the world waiting for news of their host family. Can you help? For further details about hosting an AFS exchange student for 2-12 months contact Ange at AFS Otago 027 231 8516 or [hosting@afsotago.org.nz](mailto:hosting@afsotago.org.nz)

**Broad Bay community centre committee booking and contact details on website**

**Bookings Christine ph 4780584 Newsletter contributions Lynley ph 4780829**

**Reminder: "1st Friday Take-Aways" @ BBCC Hall from TexOtago: 5-7 pm on 3 Jan & 7 Feb, 2014.  Pre-orders or Questions?  Contact** [**texotago@gmail.com**](mailto:texotago@gmail.com)

**Broad Bay yoga recommences 6.30 4 February 2014 at Broad church. More info ph 4780829**

Cake Decorating ph Christine Obbeek phone 4780584

**Otago Peninsula Community Board Update**

**Introducing the new Board**

We have a strong team in place for the next three years with a diverse range of skills and it is my privilege to lead them. Members of the Board are: Christine Garey (Chairperson), Lox Kellas, Hoani Langsbury, Christine Neill, Paul Pope (Deputy Chairperson), Edna Stevenson.

**The Board’s Role**

The Board’s role is to advocate on behalf of the Otago Peninsula community. Since the election we have been working on:

* the Portobello/Harington Point Road Safety Improvement Project (‘the Peninsula Cycleway’) – the resource consent is due to be lodged before Christmas**. There will be opportunities for the community to submit again on the detailed plans prior to each stage of the road improvements being constructed.**
* the Peninsula bus service which is under review by the ORC. They are seeking community feedback to ensure the service better serves the needs of the community; starting with the Portobello/Harington Pt section of the service. **Early next year we understand that the ORC will be seeking feedback on the routes and timetables through the wider Peninsula**.
* slip repairs - your patience with the traffic lights on Portobello Rd near Moerangi St is much appreciated. Council staff have been working hard in the background on a long term fix for the slip and to secure the required funding. **They are making good progress but the exact timing of the repairs is unknown at this time.**
* reviewing the Boards’ grant application processes to ensure greater accountability from successful applicants
* reopening of the McTaggert St track (locals report the new layout is an improvement)
* replenishment of sand at Broad Bay beach
* Safer Speeds Project- the Peninsula is a national demonstration area

**Grant awarded to**: Peninsula Toy Library $368

**Letters of Support written for**: Peninsula Toy Library & the Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group

Our congratulations to Dr Sue Bidrose, the Council’s new CEO. Sue is a very able professional and has all the skills to lead our city. She is very approachable and we are very much looking forward to working with her in her new role as Chief Executive of Dunedin City Council.

Best wishes for the festive season and holidays. Safe travels!

*Christine Garey*

Chairperson Otago Peninsula Community Board

[chrisg.opcb@clear.net.nz](mailto:chrisg.opcb@clear.net.nz) or ph 478 1133

**Next OPCB meeting : 30 January 2014 10am Portobello Gallery**

**STOP News**

Save The Otago Peninsula Inc Soc, (more commonly known by our acronym, STOP),

has been involved with the new District Plan in an effort to make sure the Peninsula – both its landscape and its biodiversity values – are protected. As well we have been busy with a number of revegetation and enhancement projects over the past few months. Appreciative thanks to all the volunteers who have helped with:

* **Smiths Creek** at the end of Bacon St, over the stile on the dog leg bend of the Bacon St track. The fenced part of the creek has had another 547 native trees, shrubs, flaxes and sedges planted this year. The senior pupils of Broad Bay School grew on some plants with the assistance of the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust and they came along to plant these, as well as some funded by the Honda Fund and the Bendigo Valley Foundation. Weed mats (biodegradable jute sacks) were provided free of charge by Cerebos Greggs and most of the plants have been protected by cages from browsing rabbits, hares and the now greatly reduced numbers of possums.

STOP volunteers and the DCC’s Task Force Green workers and Community Volunteers have now removed what proved to be rather more gorse and broom than was originally estimated. Look over the fence and see the small seedlings replacing them. We meet every Tuesday morning to maintain the plants and the area. All welcome.

There is an area to the left of the track going through that is the traditional picnic area known as the Glen. A Sustainability Course held in Macandrew Bay donated part of their koha to purchase some fruit trees, which have been planted around this picnic area.

More good news is that the Speights Environmental Fund is going to pay for a small bridge across the creek on the walking track – no more muddy walking the plank.

* **Peggys Hill** at the top of the Harbour Cone Block and also in a private conservation covenant adjoining have been the site of two more plantings, funded by Telecom and the Foodstuffs Community Trust (nominated by Pak ‘n Save) respectively, plus some broom removal.
* **Portobello Creek** behind the Pub also used Honda Funds to do the last of the planting there, and a small group meets on Thursday mornings to maintain those plantings on the slopes that used to be covered in blackberry and tradescantia.
* **NGL Reserve** has had regular Thursday morning working bees, and we would welcome more assistants here. There is work for all capabilities and transport is available. More kanuka has been planted on the outer slopes with funding from Forest and Bird and Setpoint.
* **Setpoint** money has also been used to assist private landowners with enhancing their native bush as a wildlife food source.
* **Macandrew Bay School** has picked up on the theme of freshwater catchment enhancement and a STOP member has been assisting them with that revegetation project.
* **Allans Beach** has now got native pikao on either side of the track to the beach, replacing the marram. This is a Portobello School project assisted by STOP who applied successfully for funding from Foodstuffs Community Trust (nominated by the Gardens New World).

STOP is always looking for volunteers. Even an hour or two is appreciated. Contact Lala in the first instance if you would like to become involved. Phone 478 0339 or email

<lala.frazer@gmail.com>.

**Community Garden Working Bee**

**Where:** Community Garden, 3 Clearwater St

**When:** Sunday 15 Dec 2013

**What:** 1. Assemble some more raised beds where the bus has been removed   2. lower the hedge

**Bring:** shovels to move soil, loppers etc for hedge 

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 Reminder… please do keep dogs off the Broad Bay Beach. ****

**Carol Services *BROAD BAY METHODIST CHURCH***

**Invite you to join them at their**

**Annual Christmas service with carols**

**6 p.m. Sunday 15 December 2013**

**Broad Bay Methodist Church, Greig Street**

**Followed by Christmas supper**

**Bring a small gift or non-perishable food item for Anglican Family Care food bank**

**All welcome!**

**Polish church Portobello Road Carol service 17 December 7.00pm**

**Broad Bay School news**

The 2013 school year has flown by as usual.

This term has been full on with the usual school learning plus swimming and athletic events. Yachting also has been held every Friday afternoon for the Year 7 and 8 children. Special thanks to the Broad Bay Boating Club, Korena Paterson, Pete McGrouther and their helpers for giving the children the opportunity to participate in yachting. We are now in the process of purchasing 4 Optimist yachts for the school to use. Our thanks go to the New Zealand Community Trust and Lion Foundation who have given grants towards the yachts.

Bendigo Valley Sports and Charity Foundation gave grants towards our swimming costs. This is much appreciated. The children go by bus to swimming at Moana Pool once a week for 8 weeks.

The senior students are away to their annual December summer camp, out at Warrington this year. Thanks to all our helpers at the camp.

We have had Paula Cross teach our junior children in Room 2 from 9.30am – 12.30pm Monday to Thursday. This has been very successful and we plan to continue with this again in 2014.

Our thanks to Annie Villiers who has helped with Poetry and some children attended the Caselburg Poetry Awards recently.

FOBBS have been a busy group again this year with lots of fundraising going on. The Car Boot Sale was most successful with good weather included. They have tea towels for sale $12 each or 3 for $30. These can be purchased from the school office. The recent raffle was won by Lindsay Greenwood, with Romana Paget getting 2nd prize and Lucy Tate 3rd. Many thanks for your support.

To all those who have contributed to our school – be it in a small way or large way – it all helps and we do appreciate it.

Final assembly to farewell our Year 8 Pupils and prize giving will be held at the Community Centre on Thursday 19 December at 1.45pm. The community are warmly invited to attend. Thanks to the Otago Peninsula Kilwinning Lodge for donating $100 towards our prize giving.

We wish all members of the community a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

**A reminder to Broad Bay residence that the BBCC website is available to submit items**

**onto between newsletters.**(<http://www.broadbaycommunitycentre.co.nz>)