



# The Godley Beacon

The Godley Head Heritage Trust Newsletter no 7 September 2004

## AGM report

At the AGM in July, David Stock stood down from the Trust Board. Many thanks to David for his hard work in erecting signs up at the Head. David is of course still a Trust member and we will see him at work days. He is always of tower of strength.

Paul Wilkins has been elected to the board and will be our new treasurer. Pauls' profile can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Norm Webb, our previous treasurer has now taken over the role of funding and sponsorship facilitator.

Captain Brendan Wood was an entertaining speaker who gave an interesting presentation on his participation as part of the New Zealand team at the funeral of the Queen Mother.

## Ripapa Island workday

As part of the Conservation week events in August, the Department of Conservation organised a workday on Ripapa Island for staff and community groups. Ten Godley Head Trust members took up the challenge of working at another coastal defence site.

Although it was a cold day the group accomplished a great deal. Bill and Kevin Mooar worked on the heavy wooden and



steel doors at the entrance to Fort Jervis, as the facility was known.

They cleaned, scraped, painted and freed up rusted hinges.

Peter Wilkins, Norm Webb and Graeme Hines worked on a



variety of tasks ranging from painting to repairing downpipes, while Selwyn Frewin and Trevor Van Dijk cleared the old paths of overgrown weeds and grass. Lesley Van Dijk acted as cookie for the 30 strong team and brewed up a well received hot soup for lunch.



DOC staff, who are also Trust members, included Annette Hamblett, Ian Hill and Gnome Hannah-Brown. Ian and Peter gave a guided tour of the fort with its unique disappearing guns.

Photos top - Kevin Mooar working on the inside of the door, centre Bill Mooar works on the steel exterior.

Bottom - Peter Wilkins and Graeme Hines tidying up the downpipe.

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## Rogues Gallery



Patrick Lyons at the Canterbury Officer's Club

### **Patrick Lyons**

I have been the member of the Godley Head Heritage Trust Board since its inception.

My military background has not been in a serving capacity, but in a support role. My mother and late father have been

members of the Levin R.S.A. for nearly 60 years, with my father being President and life member, and my mother President of the women's division. Myself, brother and sister are also member's of the same branch.

My interest in things military is now more on the historical nature. What has gone before is an integral part of who and what we are today. Unless we make an effort to retain and restore what is still around, our future generations will have nothing to look back on. Not only that, but things of an historical nature fascinate me, with Godley Head being part of our heritage the decay in the buildings has to be halted now or there will be nothing left.

I am manager at the Canterbury Officer's Club, where the Trust holds its meetings. I also work for the Department of Corrections and have supervised gangs of workers on the head. One job we worked on was clearing the 60 pounder gun site at Taylor Battery. The workers enjoyed their involvement in this project and have asked 'when will we be going back there again'.



### **Paul Wilkins**

My background is one that is heavily into computers. A few years ago I worked for an internet cafe for a year, which had 20 computers at the time and took them up to a business with 100+ computers.

After supervising things for a few years over at Timezone, a gaming store, I helped a Family Trust in Aranui with the day to day administration of the business. As they were low on resources I learnt how to provide their computing needs on very low funds.

I have been involved with the PC Users Group for several years and was their Treasurer until last year when I stepped into the role of editing their Newsletter.

Its no co-incidence that Paul's surname is the same as that of Peter Wilkins, also on the Trust Board. Paul inherited his father's interest in militaria and with a keen technological bent has been the driver behind the Trust's website.

Keen to have a squiz?

Try <http://www.godleyhead.org.nz>

With his father, Paul has put in many hours setting up the website and maintaining it. He also prepared a computer generated package of what the museum could look like, with a 3D computer tour of the site.

### **We need you.**

If you can assist with gate duty, directing traffic, talking with the public, or cooking up sausages, please ring  
Gnome at DOC 3713 761.

### **Godley Head**

### **Open Day**

**Sunday 17 October**

**10am - 3pm**

As Paul is a whiz with figures, we are delighted to welcome him on the Trust board as our treasurer.

## From the past

Thought you might enjoy this gem -  
From the Jan 15, 1941 'Godley Gunner'

How to live on £1. 10.00 per week	
Beer	18/-
Groceries	on credit
Wife's beer	1/6
Canary seed	1/-
Insurance	1/9
Rent	Don't bother
Coal	Borrow neighbours
Firewood	ditto ditto
3.30 certainty	3/-
Five o'clock essential	2/-
Dog biscuits	2/-
More beer	2/3
Total	£1/11/06
1/6 overspent	
Cut out wife's beer	

## Coming up

### Mark this date on your calendar.

On **Sunday October 17th**, this year for Heritage Week the Trust and the Department of Conservation are holding an open day at Godley Head.

The theme for our Heritage Weekevent is 'Canterbury at War.' We will raise funds for the Trust by asking a gold coin admission to the Head and having a sausage sizzle.

No. 3 magazine will be opened to the public for the first time since the new lighting system has been installed.

With other interested groups, we will have displays in the Sergeants' Mess and show some of the great memorabilia we have collected.

Other groups will be joining us with displays.

We do need extra hands helping us on the day. If you are free to assist, even for a couple of hours or so, we need your help with gate duty, directing car parking, talking with the public in the display room, or assisting at the sausage sizzle. Please ring Gnome at DOC, on 3713 761.

If you just want to come out and enjoy the day - we welcome you.

## Fund Raising

For some of us older members, the 10th of July will always be remembered as the date decimal currency was introduced into New Zealand.(1967) The catchy jingle 'the 10th of July - next year' is ingrained in our brains. In 2004, for some of us the 10th July was a day to get up early and head off to the Mad Butcher in Sydenham to cook sausages. The Mad Butcher supports community groups' fund raising. He

provides the venue, the BBQ and the sausies.

The Trust provided the personnell to cook and serve, and the bread, onions and sauce. Selwyn Frewin organised the fund- raising day for the Trust and with his team of Trevor and

Lesley Van Dijk who had sliced kilos of onions, was on hand early to set everything up.

Although the day was grey and cold, it was good for selling hot sausies.

Trust leaflets were given out and Trust members were rostered on duing the day.

Thanks to their efforts, the Trust's coffers are richer by \$145.



Selwyn Frewin and Trevor Van Dijk, serving a customer outside the Mad Butcher.