



The DUNTROON DIGGER

November edition 2018

Editor: Mike Gray

Duntroon Pharmacy Report

Thanks to those people who came along to the Vanished World Centre on October 20th to participate in the presentation of the plans for the former Morris's Pharmacy. We were delighted to see you all there. The DDDA were thrilled to have Peter and Beth Daniel come all the way from Outram to be with us. Peter and Beth bought the building in 1959 after the National Bank had been using it and converted (vandalised it according to Peter) into a mechanics workshop. Operating as P J Daniel, the building was sold about 1963 to Johnston's, then latterly, Tait's Transport.

Unfortunately David Ridout was unable to attend the presentation, but his model of the pharmacy as he envisaged that it may be restored, was unveiled and our other special guests, Alister and Cara Duncan were enthralled by the detail of David's work.

Cara has been a chemist and had worked in Wellington and Twizel. She and Alister have offered the project some paraphernalia from her profession, which we hope to put on display in the building in due course. It was a pleasure to meet them.



After a cup of tea and a good chin wag, a visit to the building was in order. What a step back in time it was for the Daniel's. Owen King showed them the cover he and John Hore had installed over the pit that had been put there by Peter all those years earlier.

Sara McCunnie looked the part in her Victorian costume and watching her explain the structural history of the

building as she deduced it from lines in the ceiling etc made me think of "Duntroon CSI".

For those that missed the presentation, you can view the model in the window of the old building. It represents our goal for the future.



Karan Lawrence

AGM x2

Friends of Vanished World AGM 8.00 pm.

Vanished World Inc AGM 8.30 pm

Wednesday Nov 7th @ 17 Perth St. Oamaru.

Mike Gray: 03 434 2565. tokarahi@xtra.co.nz

Next DDDA Committee Meeting:

Thursday 15th November, 2018 at 6:00 pm at Vanished World Centre.

Next Wetland Working Bee:

10 am Saturday Nov 24th 2018. More plantings at southern end to be done. General plant release and dealing to some watercress. Please bring along grubbers, spade, gloves.



**You are invited to join our local Community and Volunteers
at a combined “End Of Year” barbeque.**

on Friday December 7th, from 6pm

To be held in Duntroon Hall or On Village Green
Barbeque food will be provided - Please bring a salad or dessert to share.
Bring your own DRINKS and UTENSILS (plates, cutlery, cups..)

Nicol’s Blacksmith Shop, DUNTROON

Working Blacksmith 10 a m – 3 pm Sat 3 & Sun 4 November

Tool Sharpening on Sunday 4th :

Bring knives + gardening tools. More details: www.blacksmith.net.nz

Happy 18th Birthday Vanished World

Vanished World was recently recognised in the Trustpower Regional Awards by being named as a “Regional Award Winner 2018” in the Waitaki District. This award was given in the same month that Vanished World celebrated 18 years since incorporation as a Charitable Society.

It is interesting to reflect on the actual foundation of this Society. If you examine the addresses of the 15 founding members you find that 12 lived at rural addresses around Oamaru, two people resided in Oamaru and one (Professor Ewan Fordyce) was located in Dunedin.

It was truly a ‘rural organisation’ created by people who had their awareness of their farming environment broadened by an energetic ‘fossil hunter’ from the University of Otago Geology Department. His enthusiasm and ability to engage the locals resulted in lifelong friendships and a strong desire to share the fossil treasures with the rest of the community. This led to the formation of Vanished World Inc on 11th October 2000. This is when the work really began for the community. Over the years the collection grew and plans were developed to create a Trail as well as a Centre in Duntroon. All this required enormous input from Ewan on the professional side of preparing displays, interpretation panels at fossil sites , a “VW Trail Brochure”. Meanwhile other members were creating access tracks and erecting signage. Others were raising funds in the community and using these funds to leverage further support from Alexander McMillan Trust, Waitaki District Council, Meridian Energy Waitaki Community Fund, Network Waitaki, Otago Community Trust, Lotteries NZ, and other community groups, businesses and private individuals.

With great foresight, a lease of the former 4 Square Store in Duntroon meant that the exhibits and story could be told from what became known as the Vanished World Centre.

You will notice that only Prof Ewan Fordyce has been mentioned in this story to date. That is simply to recognise the continuous and dedicated contribution that this professional academic has given to our community project. Without him, it would never have happened.

There are numerous other very significant community members who likewise deserve acknowledgement for their contributions over the years. But this article is big enough to do justice to their wide variety of skills, to the passion and continuous service that they have given to our Society over the last 18 years or so. Their story will reveal many community ‘characters’ and bring back many memories and stories that need to be recorded and shared.

Right now we have an immediate task, and that is to hold our AGM, where we report back to our members on the last 12 months of what has been a very exciting year. A year where we have joined forces with the Waitaki District Council in seeking to awaken the whole Waitaki District to the assets, achievements and wonders that make up this unique landscape that we all proudly call ‘home’ – we have spent 12 months looking at what we have to be proud of and how Vanished World can successfully evolve into a district wide Waitaki Whitestone Geopark. Our goal is to become New Zealand’s first member of the UNESCO Global Geopark Network, which has over 140 members worldwide.

Mike Gray, Chairman Vanished World Inc. 03 434 2565 tokarahi@xtra.co.nz

Tell Us Your Story

Tokarahi Rural Women invite you to come and enjoy an evening & hear
Katie Milne First Women National President Federated Farmers.

Wednesday 14th November at 6 pm

Loan & Merc, Harbour St, Oamaru

Complimentary 1st drink & light meal with Sally-Anne's special canapes

Cash bar

\$30 per ticket - Tickets from Farmlands

Proceeds to NZ Rural Women Adverse Events Fund

Enquiries to Evelyn Taylor ph 034312789 0274600167

Last month's question: Where in the UK
was this photograph taken?

Correctly answered by Neil Thorpe:

"Bridge St – 'The Rows' Chester UK"



A Community Help Day

**for residents in the Duntroon
village area, on Nov 28th .**

Drop into the Duntroon school
office to get a flyer and fill it in if
you want the students to do a job.

More information will be on the
form.

Phone Holly, Rico or Mrs Smith at
Duntroon School 03 431 2829.

Waitaki Valley Singers - Christmas Service.

Join in at St. Martin's Church, Duntroon
at 7 pm on Sun 16th December.