



The DUNTROON DIGGER

September edition 2018

Editor: Mike Gray

Movie: A Year with Helen screened on Aug 4th to a full house. The Q/A session at the end of the movie was very enlightening. It must have been, because the audience stayed right through the movie and the Q and A session – despite the fact that the Crusaders were busy defeating the Lions!

Most people that I spoke with, indicated that they were dismayed at how powerful the Five Countries with Veto were in the selection of a UN Secretary General. They could give a negative vote to anyone they did not approve of. So a strong person who showed leadership and would stand up for principles, held little chance of selection. They wanted a person who would not challenge them. So Helen Clark was vetoed by USA (NZ anti nuclear stance?) France (NZ anti nuclear testing stance in Pacific ?) and China (NZ membership of “Five Eyes” ?)



The night was financially successful too! And getting Helen Clark to be a Patron of the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark was a real bonus too!

Dear Friends of the Duntroon community

DDDA (Duntroon District Development Association Inc) is holding its AGM soon.

DATE: 18th September 2018 7pm

PLACE : Duntroon Hall

SPEAKERS :

- Sara McCunnie will share our new Pharmacy concepts
- Damien McNamara will share his interest in Dark sky and the Waitaki district future ideas

RICHIE McCAW QUIZ NIGHT

Don't forget to register your team for the Richie McCaw Quiz Night, 31st August 2018 at 7.30 pm, Kurow Hotel.

To register, call the Kurow Information Centre 4360 950 or Ross at Kurow Hotel 4360 850

Support the team trying to make the Statue a reality which will benefit Kurow business' and the township in many ways.

At about this stage of preparing the September edition of the Duntroon Digger, it was time to pack our bags and for Lyn and I to head off on our overseas trip, flying 'bunny class', care of **Burns Pollock Airlines.**



WHAT'S TO BE WON AT THE RICHIE MCCAW QUIZ NIGHT?

Just some of the GREAT Raffle Prizes and Auction
Items up for grabs...

Team signed & framed 2015 World Cup Rugby Jersey

Signed All Black Rugby ball

Water Blaster

Milford Flights

Mt Cook Flights

Liquorland Vouchers

Silver Fern Farm Meat Vouchers

Richie McCaw 148 Pictorial Book

Twizel Pharmacy Gift Basket

Items from Feliz and Maudies

More details in the next Bugle

Register your Quiz Team

Information Centre 03 4360 950

Or

Ross at the Kurow Hotel 03 4360 850



The rest of this edition was prepared from outside Buckingham Palace and sent to you all by the marvels of the internet. Hence you are reading an electronic version as I could not afford the postage to send the usual paper version by Royal Mail and then Rural Delivery!

Next DDDA Meeting 6 September Vanished World Centre

- 6 pm Pharmacy meeting
- 7 pm Wetland Meeting

Working bees:

Saturday 29th September 10 am Wetland working bee.

More plant release work and mulching to do. Please bring along grubbers, spades, gloves and any buckets you have for carrying mulch.

Saturday 13 October 10 am Pharmacy working bee.

More general clean-up of grounds around building ready for the first Market day of the summer season. Please bring along spades, rakes and gloves.

Geopark Report

August 7th: I had a short interview with Jesse Mulligan on the RNZ Afternoon Programme, with a focus on the new Geopark.

August 8th. Project meeting to finalise preparations for the UNESCO Commissioners' visit on the Mon 13th and Tues 14th. A WWG flag has been made along with WWG 'Tear Drop' banners. A flag and two banners have been given to VW Centre.

Aug 10th : I gave a Powerpoint presentation to the environment group at Waitaki Girls' High School at their lunchtime meeting. They were impressed and have also given their support and commitment to perform as part of the UNESCO Global Geopark Junkjam Event to raise awareness of Environmental Issues. This will be held in October.

August 12th. The Visiting UNESCO team arrive and inspected Katiki Point with some Ngai Tahu representatives on the Sunday afternoon. They then dined at Fleur's Restaurant that evening.

Monday August 13th. The delegation met with WDC Councillors and WWG Project Team in the WDC Council Chambers. Following this meeting we boarded a small bus and Ewan and I were given the task of showing them around the inland section of the VW Trail. We met with Burns at Anatini (John and Margaret were away), then met with Norm and Di Mckenzie, Steve and Maylene Fenwick at Elephant Rocks. We lunched at Pasquale's Winery. Then back to Takiroa Maori Rock Art Site and on to VW Centre. Here Alison and Mayor Gary Kircher raised the new WWG flag up the flagpole.



Ewan explained the displays in the Centre, and people wandered through and got a really good grasp of the work already done by VW in setting up the Trail and Centre.





The delegation then wandered through the village and enjoyed seeing the forge in operation as well.

That evening saw a gathering of about 100 guests at the Ink Box for a chance to hear from members of the Commission and key people preparing our application. The evening finished with the signing of the WWG Trust document. The three signatories were: Mayor Gary Kircher for WDC, David Higgins, Ngai Tahu, and myself for Vanished World Inc. Up to four more Trustees will be appointed in due time. The day concluded with a very fine dinner and informal discussions at Cucina Restaurant.

Tuesday August 14th. An early start to the day with a visit to Parkside Quarries. Then back to town where I gave the delegation a tour of the Victorian Precinct. Then they met with Dr Mark Smith from OWCT. Then a trip to the airport where we were shown around the Heleventures site and then off to Clay Cliffs by helicopter, with Ewan on the microphone. What a really neat experience! We were met by landowners Andrew and Diedrie Sutherland. From here we flew to Sublime Wines for lunch and finally back to the Oamaru Blue Penguin Colony for a short day tour. The day ended with a de-brief back at the WDC.

The comments clearly showed that the Dlegation were delighted with the welcome and opportunity to get a first hand experience of what our WWG has to offer. They were impressed with the variety and quality of our sites and the stories that go with them. They are committed to supporting our application to Paris in November.

We did receive an email from Geoff Hicks shortly after outlining some aspects that he felt we should emphasise more and some aspects that needed further development.

My personal view was that it was a very well worthwhile visit all round. In fact it was a win – win – win for all concerned. We all got to benefit and appreciate Ewan's skills and expertise. The delegation got to see the reality of what was previously a written description. We got to meet and form a relationship with members of the NZ UNESCO Commission. The WDC Councillors got to hear from some 'outsiders' as to the strengths of our proposal and their delight at discovering the reality of what we so often take for granted.

Mike Gray, Chairman of Vanished World Inc.