

# Southshore Beacon

*Looking after local people and interests*



## SUMMER IS HERE AGAIN

I guess we each live here for a reason. Although the winter has its charms, with its angry seas, and winter feasts, I guess for many of us the penetrating cold winds are not amongst those reasons. Summer on the other hand is indisputably one of those reasons with beer/wine in the sun, paddle-boarding/surfing and gentle cooling breezes.

The garden is growing, we again have a hedgehog routing around outside, and all seems good in the world. The elections have happened, new and old Community Board members and Councillors are settling into their roles. Some of the ex-Community Board members are again rediscovering their reasons for living here, without the endless meetings that have characterised their lives. To both past and present Community Board and Councillors, thank you for being prepared to work for us.

Our area has had an awful lot of activity in the recent past, but it seems at last the earthquake repairs to the estuary-edge are being done or planned. In the future we will need to address the coastal hazards chapter part of the District Plan, and adaptation to the effects of climate change. However, for now, let's just enjoy the hiatus, appreciate again why we live here, enjoy our family and

friends and welcome in Christmas. We hope you enjoy this festive edition of the Beacon, wherever you read it.

One late breaking item concerns the new QV rating valuation notices. It appears that Southshore QV values on average are falling (by a few percent). Our understanding is that these are NOT controlled by Council, but instead are carried out by an Australian company and are carried out remotely, i.e. it is a numbers exercise. In our case our land value has fallen but our house value has increased. I understand that the Association will be writing to QV about this because on the face of it there are many new and expensive houses being built here. We wonder whether the overall numbers are being skewed by the 'as is, where is' sales...watch this space.

We (Nettie and Simon), as your editors will do our best to ensure that The Beacon continues to support our community. We need you to tell us about events, and if there are matters you would like to be discussed, or articles you want to contribute, please contact us.

Good luck to us all!

**Simon** 021859270 & **Nettie** 0273183936 | Email: [sfwatts@hotmail.com](mailto:sfwatts@hotmail.com) & [1annettebolton@gmail.com](mailto:1annettebolton@gmail.com)

## *About the Southshore Beacon*

The Beacon is published by the Southshore Residents Association. Letters and articles are welcome - send to: [ssrabeacon@gmail.com](mailto:ssrabeacon@gmail.com). For advertising, email or contact Simon Watts 021859270 or [sfwatts@hotmail.com](mailto:sfwatts@hotmail.com)

The next issue will be distributed early February 2020. The deadline for articles and advertisements is 26 January.

Sign up for Southshore's email newsletter. This is a regular digest of coming community events. You can enrol by sending a request to: [ssra.org.nz@gmail.com](mailto:ssra.org.nz@gmail.com)

## Keep In Touch

Tell your committee about your concerns and ideas for Southshore. Visit our Facebook site, send us an email or call a committee member.

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/southshorebeacon](http://www.facebook.com/southshorebeacon)

**Email:** [ssra.org.nz@gmail.com](mailto:ssra.org.nz@gmail.com)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### Chair

Lynda Burdekin 0274 388 155

#### Vice Chair

Simon Brown 388 9168

#### Secretary

Sally Urwin 022 3528 415

#### Treasurer

Denise George 388 7094

#### Committee

Sue Carbines 388 3696

Chay Froggatt 021 947 045

Tim Sintes 388 4927

Nick Yuki 382 5093

Meg Roulston 021 142 0500

#### Community Board Rep

Our Coastal Ward councilor is James Daniels (027 532 6599) and our Community Board Rep is Jo Zervos. (021 077 6604)

Our next SSRA Committee Meetings Dates are:

- Thursday 12 December 7.30pm
- Thursday 13 February 7.30pm

Feel free to come along: call our Chair or Secretary for the venue of the meeting.

## DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATION



In the case of an emergency, an AED/Defibrillator is available to Southshore and South New Brighton residents at the South Brighton Holiday Park, Beatty St.

Simple instructions for the use of the defibrillator are included in the kit.

The AED is available 24/7 and is located on the wall outside the main office building. The vehicle gate is closed at 8pm but there is pedestrian access to the office for after hours availability.



LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY AND HAVE SOME SPARE TIME TO OFFER?

The association has 3 sub committees which would love to have a list of volunteers that would help out from time to time.

**Events:** We need people to help organise, set up, assist on the day and pack up at events we are planning.

**Environment:** We need people who would like to assist organise planting days and help keep the planted corners looking neat.

**Estuary Edge Protection:** We are looking for people who have relevant qualifications/expertise to assist with discussions.

**>> If you feel you could help out occasionally in any area please ring Lynda on 027 438 8155**

## MENTAL ILLNESS

A lot has been said recently about this type of illness that so many people struggle with, both here in New Zealand, as well as world-wide. I am writing this as an attempt to help others. Please do call if you have questions.

It took me a long time to come to terms with myself, I felt ashamed and trusted very few people. I did not tell my children, family or friends. I found my moods swung between very high and very low, and my sleeping was disrupted. My G.P. organized for me to go to Sunnyside Hospital (now called Hillmorton Hospital), where nurses and doctors worked with me and my G.P. and family. I and the other outpatients there regularly talk about our situations, and I also have my own case manager. I found this system very helpful, and I remain an outpatient there.

We are learning that we are people with a mental illness but are loved by our family and friends and also that we are not idiots. We must try not to struggle, e.g. thinking about suicide. It would be wrong to put our families (or brothers, sisters, mum and dad, grandparents) through the pain of losing a loved one. Instead, we should love (unconditionally) those love us unconditionally. They deserve it, and we must not be selfish but look after them and ourselves. I do not have to be ashamed to be kind and trust people again.

*Jeanette Ph: 03 382 1108*

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## ESTUARY EDGE UPDATE

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Many thanks to those of you that took time to respond to the recent survey regarding the appointment of a Technical Expert for Southshore for the Earthquake Legacy Project / Estuary Edge protection. The outcome of the survey was as follows;

The number of households in Southshore are 485. We had 150 responses - 31% of the community. 149 nominated Gary Teear as our Technical Expert, 1 disagreed.

This means that over 99.99% of the community backed Gary Teear.

On this basis we confirm support from the Southshore community for the SSRA proposal to nominate Gary Teear. We have advised CCC and Gary Teear of the outcome, and activity is underway towards commencing the project in earnest in early 2020.

Thankyou,  
Simon Brown

Vice Chair  
SSRA

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## BRIGHTON OBSERVATORY NEWS



The Observatory is a contributing organization to the 10 New Insights in Climate Science 2019, particularly Insight 9 on social equity. It was released at the COP25 meeting yesterday and has been circulated to all delegates there by UNFCCC (The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). The Report is available at: <https://futureearth.org/publications/science-insights/10-new-insights-in-climate-science-2019/>

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The  
**BRIDGE**  
*'where tapere-where community gather'*

Funky Café

Art classes

Movie Nights

Music concerts

Barn Dances

Yoga

Pilates

Drama Club

Cooking classes

Therapies

Community Choir

Radio Station

Chillax !

## Let's turn this ... into this !



## BRIDGE STREET COMMUNITY HUB

Progress on the Bridge has developed at pace in 2019. Building consent was granted in January, RATA funding was released & further funding has been sought. The flat roof is being repaired and therefore is finally water tight. For public engagement we held a Nearly Spring Soiree in the old surf club which was attended by over 80 locals and raised over \$1000, we had a garage sale inside the future café area which had over 200 people inside and raised over \$700. Information stands were held at the Rock-a-Billy market and the South Brighton Primary School and our funky logo stickers are selling for \$5 at the South Shore Challenge service station and

The Bridge Street Dairy. Currently sold 50 of the first 200 print run. [www.thebridgehub.org.nz](http://www.thebridgehub.org.nz) is live and features the best photos of our area from our photo comp. Under support your community is a link to our give-a-little page. Donations are greatly appreciated. We look forward to 2020 where more repair work is happening, more vital fundraising to come and public events to keep you informed plus attracting the different users who will provide activities and sessions to fill our community centre Interested? Steve 0226505440 [thebridgehub@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgehub@gmail.com). FB @thebridgesouthbrighton



# Sing and Rant

## DOG CONTROL IN SOUTHSHORE



As an addendum to the October Beacon where the issue of dogs which are not under effective control was raised in the (Southshore Spit) reserve. [N.B. We see many dog-owners who are responsible and do have their dogs on a lead on the reserve].

Events in the last few weeks have expanded this concern. We had an elderly chicken in our garden and a dog entered our property from Rocking Horse Road on November 28th and killed our chicken. It seems that we have neighbours who have chickens on the beachside

of Rocking Horse Road. Dog(s) apparently enter the back garden of these neighbours via the dunes, and then kill chickens. We have observed people who bring dog(s) to the reserve in a car, and then simply open the door of the car and the group of dogs bound out into the reserve. This does not seem to comply with the requirement to keep dogs under effective control at all times in the Reserve. We cycle frequently down the estuary edge and often owners seen unable to restrain their unleashed dogs from chasing and snapping at us and other cyclists.

It seems to us that these incidents raise two issues:

- For the reserve, is it appropriate that dog owners should see this as a place to walk dogs at all?
- For other public places is it ever appropriate for dog-owners to allow their dogs to enter other people's property?

There is a regular opportunity soon to review the dog rules on the reserve. We have asked SSRA to pursue these matters.



## BLUE AWARENESS DART DAY (BADD)

Thank you to the Southshore Community and friends who all attended the Dart Day to raise funds for Prostate Cancer.

It was a very hot 31 degree day and the competition was hot as well. We raised a grand total of \$650 from the people who participated in the darts competition and also from others who dropped off their donation.

A big thank you to Pierside Bar and Cafe and the South of India for supporting the fundraiser by donating the meal vouchers.

Thank you also to those that helped on the day to make this a huge success.

Owen

## RELIABLE, SAFE AND LOCAL *Brighton Passengers*



+64 21 666 921

Text Franc a day or two in advance if you have longer taxi trips to do -  
e.g. bottom of RHR to the airport \$40.

(If you are either departing or arriving by plane, give her the flight number)

## CHICKENS: IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM, EAT 'EM

*This is a version of a light-hearted, tongue-in-cheek article by Lynda Hallinan under her Self-Sufficiently Lynda column series in the Dominion Post (Wellington), 2008-2010*

If the battery chicken-farming industry needs a public relations spokeswoman, let me be the first to volunteer. Let me state publicly that I fully support locking up hens in small cages that they cannot escape from...especially my hens.

When I moved into the country this year, keeping chooks was as high on my list as keeping my man. I wasn't allowed to have chooks in the city: my section was too small, my street too sub-divided to meet the bylaw requirements: (they must be housed in a chook run at least 10m from any dwelling and at least 3m from a boundary.

My country chooks have no such space restrictions. They range free through paddocks by day, before returning to their run at night. They're happy hens, healthy hens, clucky contented hens....unlike their caged cousins.

Or at least that's the theory, but don't believe everything you're told by animal activists. Free-range hens aren't the imperturbable, blithe birds you might think they are...they're bitches, cunning crafty, callous, ruthless, vegetable garden-raiding bitches. They're such bitches that, whenever I cuss them, they actually think I'm calling them by name. They come running.

Give free-range hens an inch and they'll take a hectare. This week my seven red shavers shredded my peony poppies, reducing them to mangled stumps. They pecked the petals off my Prospero roses, scoffed two dozen sunflower seedlings and ate a row of Cos lettuces. They nibbled my dwarf peas and demolished the rhubarb, again. Rhubarb leaves are toxic, but clearly someone forgot to tell my chooks. They have cast-iron constitutions as well as questionable morals.

I blame the rooster for leading them astray. He taught them how to fly the coop. So, we clipped their wings. Then he taught them how to jump through the small gap between the top two wooden fence railings.

It was the final straw. I bought a \$179.90 roll of chicken wire and transformed the chook run into Fort Knox. The chicken wire's so high, they can't get over it. Its so low, they can't get under it. And if they do? I'll eat the bitches. You can buy a lot of eggs for \$179.90.

## Upcoming Events

### EASTSIDE MAH JONG GROUP

Would you be interested in joining our Mah Jong Group?

We are looking for new members to join us next year on Monday afternoon to play Mah Jong and enjoy afternoon tea with us afterwards.

If you have never played before – not a problem – we have an experienced player to teach you and continue to coach you until you feel confident.

We play from 1pm to 3pm then stay for afternoon tea.

**Where:** South Brighton Community Centre,  
Beatty St.

**When:** Starting Monday 13 January at 12.45pm

**Cost:** \$4 per visit.

If you would like to know more please ring Sue Porter on 388 6938 or pop in and see us on any Monday.



*Farewell*  
to the Godwits



Sunday 8 March  
Southshore Spit Reserve

# December Tides Timetable

	TIME	M		TIME	M		TIME	M
<b>1</b>	0244	0.4		<b>9</b>	0304 2.0		<b>21</b>	0038 2.2
	0902	2.3			0917 0.7			0649 0.4
Su	1517	0.5	Mo	1520	2.0	Sa	1305	2.3
	2129	2.1		2134	0.6		1920	0.3
<b>2</b>	0333	0.5		<b>10</b>	0349 2.1		<b>22</b>	0135 2.3
	0952	2.2			1003 0.6			0749 0.4
Mo	1608	0.5	Tu	1603	2.0	Su	1401	2.3
	2220	2.0		2217	0.5		2016	0.3
<b>3</b>	0422	0.5		<b>11</b>	0433 2.1		<b>23</b>	0233 2.3
	1040	2.1			1048 0.6			0849 0.4
Tu	1658	0.6	We	1647	2.0	Mo	1457	2.3
	2309	2.0		2301	0.5		2111	0.3
<b>4</b>	0511	0.6		<b>12</b>	0518 2.2		<b>24</b>	0330 2.3
	1129	2.1			1133 0.5			0946 0.4
We	1747	0.6	Th	1732	2.1	Tu	1552	2.2
	2358	2.0		2346	0.5		2205	0.3
<b>5</b>	0600	0.6		<b>13</b>	0603 2.2		<b>25</b>	0425 2.3
	1217	2.1			1219 0.5			1041 0.4
Th	1834	0.6	Fr	1820	2.1	We	1645	2.2
<b>6</b>	0045	2.0		<b>14</b>	0033 0.4			2259 0.3
	0650	0.7			0650 2.3		<b>26</b>	0519 2.3
Fr	1305	2.0	Sa	1307	0.5	Th	1738	2.2
	1921	0.6		1911	2.1		2350	0.3
<b>7</b>	0132	2.0		<b>15</b>	0122 0.4		<b>27</b>	0610 2.3
	0740	0.7			0739 2.3			1223 0.4
Sa	1351	2.0	Su	1356	0.4	Fr	1830	2.2
	2006	0.6		2003	2.1			
<b>8</b>	0219	2.0		<b>16</b>	0212 0.4		<b>28</b>	0040 0.4
	0829	0.7			0830 2.3			0659 2.3
Su	1436	2.0	Mo	1448	0.4	Sa	1312	0.4
	2050	0.6		2057	2.1		1921	2.1
<b>9</b>	0304	2.0		<b>17</b>	0304 0.4		<b>29</b>	0128 0.4
	0917	0.7			0922 2.3			0746 2.3
Mo	1520	2.0	Tu	1541	0.4	Su	1400	0.5
	2134	0.6		2151	2.2		2010	2.1
<b>10</b>	0349	2.1		<b>18</b>	0358 0.4		<b>30</b>	0215 0.5
	1003	0.6			1016 2.3			0833 2.2
Tu	1603	2.0	We	1635	0.4	Mo	1447	0.5
	2217	0.5		2246	2.2		2058	2.0
<b>11</b>	0433	2.1		<b>19</b>	0453 0.4		<b>31</b>	0301 0.5
	1048	0.6			1112 2.3			0918 2.2
We	1647	2.0	Th	1730	0.4	Tu	1534	0.5
	2301	0.5		2342	2.2		2145	2.0
<b>12</b>	0518	2.2		<b>20</b>	0550 0.4			
	1133	0.5			1208 2.3			
Th	1732	2.1	Fr	1825	0.4			
	2346	0.5						

## Regular events in Southshore

### MAHJONG CLUB

Every Monday 1.00 - 3.00pm followed with a cuppa at the South New Brighton Community Centre in Beatty Street. For more details call Sue Porter 388 6938.

### DEPRESSION SUPPORT

Janet Robson of Depression Support Network is available if you are finding life tough and need to talk with someone. Call 027 487 6269 or email [janet@dsn.org.nz](mailto:janet@dsn.org.nz)

### VEGE CO-OP

On Tuesdays 3.00 - 6.30pm you can collect your fruit and vege packs from Flat 1 at 14 Heron Street. These packs cost \$10 each. Phone Jeanette on 382 1108.

### WELCOME PACK

If you have new neighbours who have moved to Southshore recently give them one of our welcome packs. These packs are free and contain an Estuary Field guide, an Introduction to Southshore booklet and a list of local organisations. If you would like one of these contact Sue on 388 6938 or email [ssra.org.nz@gmail.com](mailto:ssra.org.nz@gmail.com)



Do you still have problems finalising your insurance claim, repair/rebuild scope?

We can provide independent estimates, rebuild/repair strategies and professional construction advice.

For a free no obligation chat please call Greg on 021 261 6692  
[www.synergypm.co.nz](http://www.synergypm.co.nz)

## STREET CORNER PLANTINGS

Thank you to those of you who offered to be the street corner caretakers. There are still some corners on Tern St that need tender loving care so any further offers will certainly be appreciated.

**>> Please contact Lynda Burdekin if you are able to help on 027 388 155.**

## TRAILER HIRE

Residents are now able to hire the SSRA trailer.

Charges are: \$20 for 4hrs or \$30 for 8hrs.

There will be a \$10 charge if the trailer is brought back dirty.

**>> To book, please phone or text Owen on: 021 328 924.**

## NEED GEAR FOR YOUR FAMILY OR NEIGHBOURHOOD EVENTS?

The Southshore Residents Association has equipment that can be rented out by Southshore residents for family and neighbourhood events.

This equipment is available to subscribing members of the Residents Association (\$20 per household) and the hirer is responsible for the cost of any damage.

### Daily rates:

Two Gazebos: \$20 each

Six Outdoor Tables: \$10 each

24 Outdoor Chairs: \$15 (for 12)

Hot water Urn: \$10

Plus \$5 for the extension cord if required

BBQ: \$20 plus \$10 for gas

**>> If you would like to hire these, or know more, call Lynda 027 439 8155.**

## NEW RESIDENTS TO SOUTHSHORE

On behalf of the Southshore Residents Association and the community of Southshore, we extend a very warm welcome to new residents who have recently settled in Southshore. We're sure you will quickly discover that Southshore is nothing short of 'paradise'.

Throughout the year, the SSRA will be holding a variety of events which will be advertised in the Beacon. We hope you will attend some, if not all of the events so we have the opportunity to meet with you and offer support where needed.



### GRAPHIC DESIGN

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## CHRISTMAS COLOUR



Euphorbias are an intriguing group of plants with the common name spurge. It's the largest plant genus with over 2000 species and many more varieties. Some are weeds but many are very desirable plants. Most display chartreuse (bright yellow-green) colour around the flowers but a few are orange or red. Their floral displays last well because they have modified leaves called bracts rather than delicate petals to attract pollinators to the tiny flowers. Poinsettia is the best known of all, its bright red colour making great decoration at Christmas, but there are many that are nothing like these. Most grow easily outside, unlike poinsettia which is tender and fussy. I love the ones with beautiful glaucous (blue-green) foliage. Many have milky sap that burns and blisters the skin and causes painful temporary blindness. The common weed called spurge has this nasty



white sap. If sap enters the eye irrigate with water for 15 minutes and get medical attention. Gloves, long sleeves and glasses are wise precautions. Just a few drops of sap in a pond will kill fish and other pond life. So beware the sap but realise that it is what keeps them looking lush and is why not many creatures chew them. Always clean secateurs thoroughly after pruning them because the sap sticks the blades together and dried sap retains its toxicity. They include short-lived species, perennials, shrubs and succulent species resembling cacti. The most common shrubby one goes by two names. *E. characias* is the legitimate name but they were also named *E. wulfenii* for a time until it was realised they are the same. The bluish foliage is lovely and the variegated forms are particularly attractive. *E. mellifera* has interesting green leaves and orangey flowers

that smell strongly of honey. Those two shrubby types grow very well in our harsh conditions but there is an even tougher one which is more of a ground cover. *E. cyparissias* or Cypress Spurge is a recent discovery for me. I bought one from the Friends of the Botanic Gardens plant stand. When I looked it up I found it is so drought tolerant it can thrive in pure sand. It dies down in winter in our climate so you wouldn't give it pride of place but when it shoots away in spring its leaves have a lovely purple tinge followed by bright yellow flowers. Because it is short and has fine leaves incorrect advice has been given that it makes a good rockery plant but its spreading nature means this is very bad advice which has sullied its reputation. It is very suitable for large areas providing colour for much longer than other euphorbias. *E. glauca* is the silver-blue native one used in coastal landscaping projects such as along the estuary edge at the Ebbside St entrance to South Brighton domain. Where there is more shelter the following are useful and attractive: *E. polychroma*, *E. griffithii* 'Fireglow' (stunning but needs moisture and good soil to do well) and *E. martinii* which has gorgeous purple tones. Whether or not you buy a poinsettia pre-Christmas or stick to proper outdoor euphorbias I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer break.

## STREET CORNER WATERING

We would also appreciate any help you can give with watering the street corner plantings - especially the small Pohutakawa trees. Thank you.