

10. BURWOOD/PEGASUS HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

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The purpose of this report is to inform Community Board members of holiday programmes delivered by the Christchurch City Council Leisure Unit during April, July and September 2002.

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

School holiday programmes provide quality, safe, recreational experiences for children and youth. This is an opportunity for all to relax and enjoy themselves after a long school term. Longer term, school holiday programmes teach children good, lifelong leisure habits and help them to learn about the activities and groups in their local communities. Holiday programmes are also an important community service for Christchurch families, particularly working parents who require care for their children.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES DELIVERED

The following programmes were delivered, either through being contracted to a community group or by hands-on provision. The programmes provide a maximum of 40 places per programme per day and are in significant demand across both wards. The Recreation and Arts Team aims to provide opportunities for all children, including those with disabilities, and those from different ethnic groups. Activities offered include art, sports and outings (for example, movies or bowling). The programmes also offer the opportunity for children to see what Christchurch has to offer in the form of recreation. For example, during the past three terms, programmes have travelled to Bottle Lake Forest Park, Spencerville Park, Halswell Quarry, and Victoria Park.

Wainoni Funnybones

This programme ran successfully for one week of the school holidays during April, July and September 2002, and was for children 5-12 years of age.

This programme has now been contracted to the Youth Alive Trust by the Recreation and Arts Team, providing an important link to the community with which this Trust is involved. The programme has also provided a partnership opportunity for Wainoni School and its community. Sponsorship opportunities have evolved for the school to be able to nominate pupils and families who are in need of time out, and/or wanting the opportunity to 'give it a go'. The school provides a deposit securing six places on the programme per week. Parents are then asked to pay the final payment.

This has been available now for the past 18 months and provides an ideal opportunity for both community, school, Youth Alive Trust and the Council to work closely together.

Aranui Fun Attack

This programme ran successfully for one week during April, July and September 2002, for children aged 5-12 years. A contract has been set up with Agape Street Ministries to provide this programme, again providing valuable partnerships with the community.

This programme is being staged in the new Aranui Primary School Hall and provides a wonderful array of activities linking in with Nga Hau E Wha Marae.

Parklands Pandemonium

This programme was staged successfully for two weeks during April, July and September 2002 for children aged 5-12 years. The programme was based at the old Parklands Baptist Church building. Because of recent developments at Parkview School, it is envisaged that the programme move to the school hall. This will ensure that the venue designated for the Youth Café trial and the library is left free to accommodate the new users, and also that a relationship can be secured with the school community. With the closing of the Parkview Holiday Programme, this has left a gap that can be overcome in the interim.



Parklands Pandemonium at the Groynes

YOUTH PROGRAMMES

The following programmes were either contracted to a community group, provided “hands-on”, or through a recreation facility for example, QEII Park. The programmes provide a maximum of 25 places per programme per day and are in significant demand across both wards. Activities offered provide a variety for youth; for example, horse riding, surfing, communications with radio and television, orienteering, mountain biking and much more.

At present the Recreation and Arts Team is developing a manual of Policies and Procedures to ensure that Health and Safety requirements are well met. These Policies will be approved by Child, Youth and Family and will then provide opportunities for parents/caregivers to access the OSCAR Subsidy as available on the children’s programmes.

EastZone

This programme was staged for one week during April, July and September 2002 at the Parklands Community Centre. It is a programme that offers challenging opportunities for 11-13 year olds.

The demand for youth programmes in the Parklands area is ever increasing, and discussions have begun with the Parklands Residents’ Association Youth Trust to look at this organisation staging this programme as a contract to Christchurch City Council Leisure.



Sailing with Lyttelton Yacht Club at Lake Rua

The Depot

This programme was staged for one week during July and September 2002 and is a contract programme initiated in partnership with the community, Crossroads Youth with a Future Trust and the Council. It is run from "The Depot" which is a youth venue based in the Hampshire Street shops. The programme includes some adventure based activities outside of the Aranui area. This gives the participants the opportunity to experience activities some have never had access to before such as jet boating and horse riding. The Aranui Renewal partnership with Housing New Zealand (HNZ) has enabled HNZ to buy places on the programme and via their tenancy managers offer the places to youth that they know would really benefit from the leisure experiences offered on The Depot Programme.

QEII Youth Programme

This programme was staged at QEII for one week during April, July and September 2002. It is based at QEII facilities and provides a wide range of activities, linking in with other providers in the area; for example, the golf driving range.

Places have also been made available for five pupils from Freeville School. The Principal and staff nominate these pupils and provide a perfect link for the Council to work with specific families. Again it is an opportunity to increase awareness to youth of what is available in the Burwood/Pegasus area, to provide "time out" for families and to enable participants to develop social skills and self confidence.

EVALUATION OF PROGRAMMES

It is important that the Recreation and Arts Team continue to provide a service that is not only fun, but safe and what the community needs. With this in mind the Team has put together an evaluation survey to be mailed out to all programme participants/parents and caregivers throughout the City. Information from the September holiday programmes will be gathered and assessed as to our current provision.

OBSERVATIONS

Across the city more and more parents/caregivers are wanting to place their children/youth on programmes during the school holidays. The need for quality care for children and youth has been exacerbated by the trend to both parents working, central government requirements that beneficiaries work and a decrease in family support structures (for example, available grandparents due to the high mobility of New Zealanders). The Team is experiencing more demand for programmes for young teens (11-14 years).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is important to acknowledge the people involved in providing holiday programmes to the community of Burwood/Pegasus. Without their generous time and commitment these programmes would not provide such an innovative array of activities.

Agape Street Ministries (Aranui Fun Attack)
Youth Alive Trust (Wainoni Funnybones)
Crossroads Youth with a Future Trust (The Depot)
Holiday Programme Volunteer leaders
Seido Karate (provided six one-hour sessions of demonstrations and fun)
Cansail Trust/Lyttelton Sailing Club
Bon Suter and the Art Park.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

Recommendations:

1. That the information be received.
2. That the Board thank Vanessa Taylor for her innovative work promoting children's programmes and leisure activities during her time with the Community Board.