

8. HOLIDAY PROGRAMME REPORT (CHILDREN AND YOUTH) – AUGUST 2003 TO JULY 2004

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of school holiday programmes delivered in the Spreydon/Heathcote community by community groups, in conjunction with Community and Recreation and Arts Team staff, for the 2003-2004 financial year.

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

School holiday programmes provide quality, fun and safe recreation experiences for children and youth and an opportunity to develop new skills, relax and enjoy themselves. Children who participate in recreation programmes learn and improve skills, while having fun and socialising with their friends. Holiday programmes are also an important community service to Christchurch families, particularly working families who require quality recreation and care for their children.

NAMES, VENUES AND DATES OF PROGRAMMES

In the September/October school holiday period the Recreation and Arts Team assisted in the delivery of three programmes (Hoon Hay youth camp, Hoon Hay children's camp, and Waltham Youth Trust children's programme) that were funded in part by the Board's Project Fund. A fourth programme, the Hillmorton Youth Sport Programme, was funded in part by the Board's Discretionary Fund.

In the December/January Holiday period the Recreation and Arts Team assisted in the delivery of one programme, the Waltham Youth Trust Camp, which was funded in part by the Board's Project Fund.

In the April holiday period the Recreation and Arts Team assisted in the funding and delivery of two programmes – Rowley OSCAR and a new programme, the PAC camp at St James Church. Another new programme based at Manning Intermediate school (Hoon Hay Youth Adventures) was established, which helped to fill the gap in programme provision in the Rowley/Hoon Hay area due to the closure of the Hoon Hay Youth Centre. This programme and The Waltham Youth Trust Holiday Programme were funded in part by the Board's Project Fund.

In the July holiday period the Rowley OSCAR programme was once again assisted in funding by the Recreation and Arts Team. Programmes supported by the Board's Project Fund included Waltham Youth Trust and Hoon Hay Youth Adventures.

The Recreation and Arts Team provided four local programmes with funding for equipment for holiday programmes, particularly physical recreation equipment, eg scooters, portable goals. These were: SHARP, Waltham Youth Trust, WOOSH and Rowley OSCAR.

Most programmes included one or two outings per week to enable the children to enjoy such leisure experiences as Quail Island, swimming, the Botanical Gardens and the Art Gallery. "Home-based" included activities such as games, craft and art. Three programmes involved the children/youth in a camp experience and one programme was focused on sporting activities. Details of all programmes are as follows:

Rowley OSCAR Holiday Programme

Based at Rowley Avenue School.

A one-week programme held September/October 2003, December 2003/January 2004, April and July 2004.

This programme catered for 20 children (aged 5-12 years) per day in September/October and December/January. These programmes were fully booked and, on some days, overbooked. Since that time the programme has increased its numbers to 30 per day.

Cost: \$1 per child per day (gold coin donation).

Managed and implemented by Rowley OSCAR.

All children attending came from the local community, with the majority of children coming from Rowley Avenue School.

Funded by the Ministry of Social Development and in part by the Recreation and Arts Team in the 2003-2004 financial year. This programme is to be funded in part by the Board's Project Fund in the 2004-2005 financial year.

Waltham Youth Trust Children's Programme and Youth Camps

Based at Waltham Youth Trust Headquarters.

September/October programme: One-week programme catering for 37 children per day aged 8-12 years, with 185 attendances. Cost per child per week: \$20. Expenditure less fees: \$3,038.

December Camp: Four-day camp for 24 children/youth aged ten years and over, with 96 attendances for 96 possible spaces. Eight leaders also attended, allowing for a 1:3 ratio. Cost per child for the four-day camp: \$20. Expenditure less fees: \$4,148.

April Holiday Programme: One-week programme catering for 34 children aged 8-12 years, with 170 attendances. Cost per child per week: \$20. Expenditure less fees: \$3,516.

July Holiday programme: One-week programme catering for 38 children aged 8-12 years, with 190 attendances. Cost per child per week: \$20. Expenditure less fees: approximately \$3,537.

Managed and implemented by Waltham Youth Trust.

Almost all children attending came from the Opawa/Waltham area, with the majority coming from Waltham School.

Assisted by Board Project Funding of \$3,700 for children's holiday programmes and \$4,000 for youth camps and recreational activities for the 2003-2004 financial year.

Hillmorton Sports Holiday programme

A pilot programme in conjunction with Sport Canterbury and Hoon Hay Youth Trust, this programme targeted youth who were interested in sport.

Sport Canterbury were contracted to plan, promote and manage the programme. Hoon Hay Youth Centre gave advice on programme planning and promoted the programme to local youth. They also provided a youth worker to assist throughout the entire programme.

Venue: Hillmorton High School.

Format: Three afternoon sessions featuring basketball, cricket and rugby league.

Ages: 12-15 years.

Cost: \$10 with community services card (CSC) for the three-day programme, \$8 per day without CSC. Expenditure less fees: \$1,285.

Attendances were disappointingly low, particularly on the first day. Five youths came on the first day, and 12 came on each of the next two days. The Hoon Hay Youth Centre Co-ordinator provided transport for the youths on the second and third days, which boosted the numbers considerably.

Sport Canterbury were pleased with the feedback they received from the participants and from the programme staff, who felt that those who attended had gained in skills and confidence, and enjoyed themselves immensely. The youths enjoyed a very physically active and competitive game based on basketball, and received lots of praise for their skills. It was clearly a quality programme with a positive, energy-charged atmosphere.

Without the co-operation of the Hoon Hay Youth Centre the programme would not have gone ahead. Any future sports-based programmes would need to work in conjunction with a local youth centre or youth group in order to get buy-in from the youth, as it is difficult to entice young people along to programmes by advertising alone. Sport Canterbury is at this stage uncertain as to their time commitment or financial commitment to possible future programmes.

Managed and implemented by Sport Canterbury with input from the Hoon Hay Youth Trust and the Community Recreation Adviser.

All youth attending came from the Rowley/Hoon Hay area.

The Board contributed \$1,000 from its 2003/04 Discretionary Fund towards this programme.

Hoon Hay Youth Centre Holiday Programme and Camps

Programmes held September/October 2003, based at the Hoon Hay Youth Centre.

A children's camp was held during one week, and a youth camp at Hanmer Springs held during the second week. All children attending came from the local area.

The Community Recreation Adviser assisted with Health and Safety information, and saw an excited group of approximately 15 children on to the bus.

No written reports were received, but verbal reports suggested that approximately 30 children and youth, many of whom had never visited Hanmer Springs previously, enjoyed a very busy, enjoyable and incident-free time at Hanmer Forest Camp. The closure of the Hoon Hay Youth Centre meant that it was impossible to retrieve the reports requested. No programmes were provided in December 2003 or January 2004.

The Board allocated \$3,000 from its Project Fund for Children's Holiday Programmes and \$4,000 for Youth Holiday Programmes in Hoon Hay for the 2003-2004 financial year. A total of \$4,750 was spent in the September/October period, leaving \$2,250 remaining to fund a new holiday programme in the Hoon Hay area (Hoon Hay Youth Adventures), beginning in April 2004.

Hoon Hay Youth Adventures

A new programme based at Manning Intermediate School focusing on outdoor and cultural experiences and sporting activities.

One-week programme catering for up to 20 students per day aged 11-14 years.

Managed and implemented by the Recreation and Arts Team Holiday Programme Manager, with input from the school principal and the Community Recreation Adviser.

Advertised through Manning Intermediate School.

Cost: \$5 per day per child.

April Programme: Four-day programme with 57 attendances for a possible 80 spaces. These were pleasing numbers for the first time the programme had been held. Expenditure less fees: \$2,138.

July Programme: Five-day programme with 87 attendances for a possible 90 spaces. This programme was fully booked. Expenditure less fees: \$2,300.

The majority of the students participating attend Manning Intermediate School.

Managed and assisted in funding in part by the Recreation and Arts Team. Assisted also by the Board's Project Fund of \$2,250 for holiday programmes in Hoon Hay. This programme is to be funded by the Community and Recreation Unit in the 2004-2005 financial year.

St James PAC Holiday programme

A new programme based at St James Church, Spreydon. Developed by St James Church with assistance from the Community Recreation Adviser.

One-week programme catering for over 40 children aged 8-12 years, which was managed by St James Church and implemented by Peninsula Adventures Trust.

April programme: One-week programme with 42 enrolled each day (210 attendances) and 16 camp leaders, many of them volunteers.

Cost per child per week: \$70. Expenditure less fees: \$1,735.

The programme was not held in the July school holidays.

Assisted in funding by \$1,000 from the Recreation and Arts Team.

COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND CHILDREN

Evaluation forms were distributed to parents and children on some of the holiday programmes, with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Parents were very positive regarding the programme supervisors, staff, and the activities provided for their children and the excellent care which their children received.

Some examples of the many comments received from children are as follows:

"It's fun and I've got lots of friends"

"I liked the Lyttelton Ferry"

"Please can I come back next time?"

"I didn't like having to do lots of walking"

Some examples of comments from parents are as follows:

"I would recommend it to anyone and think the staff are doing a great job. Thank you."

"Thank you, she thoroughly enjoyed it and it is good for her self-esteem."

"The holiday programme is excellent as it keeps the children busy and keeps them from being bored."

"I am impressed by what I have seen."

"Rowley OSCAR is a big help to some people as we work."

COMMENTS

This has once again been an excellent year with good patronage on all programmes. Programme numbers have increased since last year, and most programmes hold waiting lists. The Community Recreation Adviser has been very impressed with the skills and dedication of the staff, many of them volunteers.

The inability of the Hoon Hay Youth Centre to provide programmes in December 2003 and January 2004 saw some gaps in the coverage of youth and children's programmes, which has since resulted in some new programmes being put in place.

Other holiday programmes in the area include SHARP at Spreydon Baptist Church, Pioneer Holiday Programme at Pioneer Leisure Centre, Kidsfun at St Mark's Methodist Church, CASPA at Landsdowne Community Centre and WOOSH at Waltham Primary School. With the exception of SHARP, these programmes cost approximately \$20 per day per child.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.