

The Burkes Pass Heritage Trust Newsletter

September 2009



Work Day- Saturday 10 October

Meet at Musterer's Hut 9.30 am. All welcome to come and make a difference to our village. Plant a mountain beech grove, help put up the second Burkes Pass Township sign, mend an old hut, help with gardening, dusting, making a cup of tea or just coming and having a yarn, it would be great to see you there. A short and sweet meeting will happen over morning tea.

Please consider a contribution for materials especially if you are unable to attend the work day. See contact details below.

'Slow Down, You're Going Too Fast'

A traffic speed indicator will be installed at the entrance to the village from the Tekapo end to assist in slowing vehicles entering town. This downhill straight that suddenly confronts drivers finding themselves in the township and on a corner with little warning, has been a cause for concern for years.

Opus have agreed to install the base for the expensive but user 'friendly' indicator that is shared by a number of townships around South Canterbury that each take a turn for a month at a time. It is solar powered and by telling motorists what speed they are doing, gives them the opportunity to slow down.



Mountain Beech Trees



Mountain beech, *Nothofagus solandri*

Trees for Canterbury kindly donated these beautiful native trees to the Trust about a year ago. They have now doubled in size and are ready to plant. They will be used in various places to add to the collection of old established trees that Burkes Pass is famous for. Many are destined to go in a newly fenced area just up hill from the Church. John and Barbara Corcoran have kindly fenced an area of their paddock next to the 80 km sign ready for them. As well as creating a wonderful grove of trees it is anticipated that when they grow up they will accentuate the effect of apparent road narrowing at the entrance to town and by doing so improve traffic behaviour entering town.

Mackenzie District Council Support for Heritage Home Owners

The round of submissions in June on the Long Term Council Plan led to another significant step in Council support for owners of buildings listed on their heritage schedule. The Council will now absorb the cost of resource consent for significant alterations. This means that the owner will not be disadvantaged by additional cost to have the benefit of heritage approval or advice from consultation with the NZ Historic Places Trust. It is good to see some recognition of owners who are doing the 'right thing' by their community.

A fund is also made available by the Council for owners of listed buildings to assist them with restoration projects. For those who qualify, don't forget to make use of it.

Oral History Recordings – Stage 2

A further round of interviews by our very professional and friendly interviewer, Jacqui Foley, is about to start again to add to the great resource created in the first project. The Trust is very grateful to those who agree to overcome their nerves and give their time and memories.

We are also very keen to receive any contributions of written or recorded stories of any sort that have a connection with the area. Your wishes as to how these might be stored or used will be paramount.

Jane Batchelor

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On line donations can be made to bank account 03 1718 0030625 00 Put your name in the reference box. Send email with address if you require a tax deductible receipt.