



Newsletter

Friends of Waiuta

P O Box 493 Greymouth 7840 - www.waiuta.org.nz

March 2015

When we met informally in March for the first time after the death of Frances, Jim Staton requested that I, in my role of secretary write to Shane Hall to assure him of our continued existence - that we were not about to go out of existence and that presumably DOC would continue supporting us in the mutually beneficial relationship we have built up over the years. I didn't write that letter for I was not at all sure that this would happen. A few months, an AGM and another meeting this has all changed. The Friends of Waiuta group has turned a corner. We have an enthusiastic and committed group who have plenty of new ideas. The adage about '*out of adversity comes opportunity*' is certainly true here.

The care that many of us have towards Waiuta was also shown by the number of members who attended the meeting. They travelled from as far away as Fairlie, Ashburton and Christchurch. There were 26 of us who, after the AGM and elections faced the newly elected officeholders.

They are:

President / Chairwoman: Margaret Sadler

Vice President: Lyn Anderson

Vice President (2) Trevor Robertson

Treasurer: Aileen Morris

Secretary: Laurie Anisy

Newsletter: Graeme Farrant

Sometimes we Win - *continued*

In our last newsletter we mentioned our grant of \$4600 for some repairs and the securing of Gills Cottage.

Here is evidence of 'things happening.'



We have already found a local builder who has started work.



Margaret has had several signs made advertising our work at Gills Cottage.

DOC Developments

Jim Staton wasn't able to come but as usual submitted his always valued report.

Contaminated Ground Remediation - Work on the site has started with the setting up of contractors huts, specialized equipment and a weather station. An impoundment pit and a water treatment plant are being constructed. Obviously with work of this magnitude happening it is a dangerous place for the public to be. Hence Prohibition Road is now closed from Dingbat Flat until further notice.

- the Waiuta township entrance sign is due to be erected within a couple of weeks of the meeting.
- DOC are looking to re-pile the Barbers shop this financial year.
- A large hole appeared just up the road from the toilets - Blackwater shaft road area. The hole is in line with the Discovery Reef line so the whole line of tunnelling is to be fenced off.

Oceana Gold

With the Globe Progress Mine being put into a 'Care and Maintenance' regime there have been fears about the proposed work on the Blackwater Mine will be abandoned. However we hear that they remain optimistic about Waiuta saying that it could be started up at a relatively low cost and that positive news is expected this year. We remain hopeful. On his departure from Waiuta Tas Hogg maintained that there was as much gold in

