



**BOYLE RIVER**  
**OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE**  
[www.boyle.org.nz](http://www.boyle.org.nz)



**Our mission is to be a leading provider of outdoor education and recreation.**

**Excellence in outdoor education is our vision**

## **BOYLE NEWSLETTER March 2010**

Schools will be extremely busy with a short term and additional enrolments. The Boyle can assist you as you create a curriculum for your school. Contact us now.

In 2009 we undertook an extensive review of a number of the aspects of our operation with schools having a significant voice with Robyn Sutherland meeting with the principal and the teacher responsible for the Boyle camps. In total 23 schools were involved in this process. Given our vision and mission and the feedback provided by the schools the Trust has adopted the following values:

### **All involved with the Boyle will be encouraged to value:**

1. **excellence**, by aiming high and by persevering in the face of difficulties
2. **innovation**, inquiry, and curiosity, by thinking critically, creatively, and reflectively
3. **diversity**, as found in the different cultures, languages and heritages
4. **equity**, through fairness and social justice
5. **community** through collaboration and participation for the common good
6. **ecological sustainability**, which includes consideration and care of the environment
7. **integrity**, which involves honesty, responsibility, accountability and acting ethically
8. **respect** for self, others and human rights

### **OutdoorsMark**

As part of the 2009 review we were re-audited for OutdoorsMark as required under the cycle of review. We were successful. In October 2010 and 2011 we will be reporting to OutdoorsNZ and the Boyle users on our practices as part of the annual cycle of review. Details about the nature of OutdoorsMark are on our website. Familiarity with OutdoorsMark will assist schools assess the suitability of the provider.

### **Relationship with Kaiapoi High School**

Kaiapoi continues to be a foundation member of the North Canterbury Alpine Trust and thus has a representative on the Board while trust meetings are held at the school through their goodwill. Memorandums of understanding are in place enabling the Cadet programme and the teaching and assessment with regard to qualifications and standards on the NQF. This year the Trust has the challenge of ensuring there is appropriate documentation between the individual schools, the Boyle and Kaiapoi High regarding the latter. We are endeavouring to have a generic document to cover off our Potential Leaders and Adventure Based Learning Programmes. School principals can expect to hear from us within the next four weeks.

### **Staff accommodation project**

“Charges levied on users of the Boyle’s programmes cover operational costs, but do not provide for long term capital development. This means that projects such as the provision of new staff accommodation in the form of the first of two chalets, which the trust has been working on in the past year, must be funded from substantial grants from funders such as the Canterbury Community Trust. The Trust’s objective is to build two chalets capable of accommodating two to three staff. The support of the Canterbury Community Trust in assisting the Trust with the first of these is warmly acknowledged. The Community Trust has been a very significant supporter of the Boyle over the years.” (Chairman Peter Allen, annual report on 2009)

The first of our chalets will be delivered to the Boyle Settlement section we lease from the DOC late this month. It will provide for the Centre Manager, Assistant Manager and full time instructor. At last they will not have to bunk down in crowded circumstances.

### **Bookings for 2010**

As is the norm there has been big pressure on the facilities and staff in Term One with changeover days being particular pressure points.

Robyn Sutherland has a 6 month contract which includes liaison with current and potential users of the Boyle. We are keen to engage in discussions with schools about

- sharing where there is a small booking of approximately 20 people
- 5 day journeys
- the Youth Challenge scheme...we could be assisting you achieve your goals
- an environmental Gateway programme

The following have used the Boyle to date this year:

Rangiora High leaders

St Margarets’ College Year 9

Cashmere High

Waihi College

Rangiora High Year 10

Outward Bound

Rangi Ruru Year 9

Our Youth, Our Community Trust

Today Roncalli College have started their two-camp journey where all students camp out for the duration of their booking

### **Cadet Programme**

The 2008 Cadets are both gainfully employed for the most part in the world of the instructor. Cameron McKeown is a leader in the Timaru Boys High camping programme while Ashleigh Kersten is an instructor at the Boyle having spent most of last year with Activity Hanmer

The 2009 Cadets John McDonald and Christine Reiter completed a successful year. John is working for Activity Hanmer, while Christine is a trainee-instructor at the Boyle. This year we welcome Ben Lees and Kate Chisnall to the Boyle.

### **Staff training**

In late January up to 17 staff were engaged for 6 days in the annual staff training. One of the features was the ropes course sessions facilitated by Liz Penman of Adventure Works. Earlier in the year 4 staff gained rafting qualifications.

**Thanks have been extended to** St Margarets’ College for their donation of a data projector and screen and to Rangiora High School who gave \$1300 towards new curtains and a radio. Similarly the Trust wrote to all the schools who contributed ideas and feedback through the liaison programme in 2009.