

# Stories to Celebrate

Networking for the Environment hui | 29 June 2021

## Environmental Leadership and Heritage of Christchurch – Canterbury

“ *Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.* ”  
Margaret Mead

Diana Shand introduced the Environmental Leadership and Heritage of Christchurch, Canterbury project. The presentation covered the background to the project and what it hopes to achieve, including retaining history and knowledge of community contributions enhancing our environment and retaining biodiversity. Diana then highlighted the importance of capturing and recording oral histories and provided an overview of the following environmental leaders whose stories have already been captured as part of the project:

- **Peter Ramsden** - *Koukourarata*
- **David King** - *Rangiora*
- **John Peet** - *Christchurch*
- **Fraser Ross** - *Timaru*
- **Bernie Calder** - *Christchurch*
- **Peter Howden** - *Mayfield*
- **Edith Smith** - *Ashburton*
- **Diana Shand** - *Christchurch*

Diana described the story of Peter Howden in more detail as a way of demonstrating the wonderful depth and breadth of one person's experience. Diana emphasised just how much one person can contribute, even more so when they work with others. A poster was displayed which draws together a number of key events in Peter's story. The poster, created from archival material provided by Peter, demonstrated one possible outcome from collecting oral histories and archives.

**Please join us for an afternoon in October to hear more about all of the people whose stories have been captured so far.**

*Date to be announced.*