

GREATER DIPTON CATCHMENT GROUP

VISION: Dipton is a sustainable, connected, thriving community.

PURPOSE: Support and encourage collaboration and adoption of new ideas.

The Greater Dipton Catchment Group consists of more than 100 people from the Dipton area. It is a strong community group covering many different farming types, and has strong links with Dipton School, Dipton Social Committee, Castlerock Wetland Restoration Team, Dipton Fire Brigade and Oreti Community Board.

CARBON NEUTRAL DIPTON

The Greater Dipton Catchment Group is on a journey to become carbon neutral. In a six-month project the group is working with five farmers, each with buddies – neighbours and community members who share and learn at farm sessions. Together they are working on ways to reduce GHG emissions on the farms. Consultants will provide modelling and evaluate the different ideas.

The catchment group is also working with Environment Southland to trial a new way of teaching community groups how to monitor waterways using the SHMAK kit, as well as undertaking a restoration project at Castledown Wetland.

A FEW EVENTS WE ARE PROUD OF:

» **Getting started community events – October & November 2020**

Knowing what our community wanted from a local Catchment Group and forming a great local group full of different ideas and knowledge was a really important first step for us. So we ran two community events – a community consultation to brainstorm ideas, and Lunch Under the Willows where we heard some great speakers on the history of Dipton and the health of our waterways

» **Fantastic Field Days – May 2021 – March 2022**

Our next steps were a series of on farm field days to bring people together and share ideas and knowledge. These included – Know Your Issues, Native Seed Collection and Utilising Unproductive Land. All had great discussions on keeping sediment on your farm, creating wetlands, hill country development, native plantings and good management practices.

» **Community Social Wellbeing Evenings – 2021 & 2022**

Each year we run a winter wellbeing event where our community can come together, enjoy some good food and listen to an inspiring speaker. We have been really lucky to have Wayne & Tyler Langford (YOLO Farmers) and Bailey Unahi (aiming to become NZ's first female sit-skier at the 2026 Paralympics in Italy) come and share their incredible knowledge and experiences.



OBJECTIVES:

- » Develop an understanding of land uses to build connections in the catchment
- » Share good stories of what is happening in the catchment to enhance community pride
- » Upskill community members using local experts and external specialists
- » Host events that are educational, informative and social.

VALUES:

- » Friendly, approachable and fun
- » Act with honesty and integrity
- » Respect for all views and ideas
- » Non-confrontational and non-political
- » Stewardship
- » Trustworthy
- » Celebrate successes as a community.



**THRIVING
SOUTHLAND**

*Tōnui ana te whenua. Tōnui ana te takata.
A thriving, prosperous land. A thriving, prosperous people.*