



SHANTYTOWN CHRONICLE

News from the new Shantytown experience / June 2007

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Shantytown Chronicle. In this edition we put the spotlight on the **Infants Creek Sawmill project**, the first of the new Shantytown experiences.

Ian Tibbles and his engineering team have commenced general site-works in preparation for final funding and a full start up on this new, world-class experience.



Hon Damien O'Connor, Minister of Tourism, presents the grant cheque to Peter Reedy, Chair and Matt Lysaght, Deputy Chair of Shantytown while local children look on. Photograph courtesy of the Greymouth Star.

The Sawmill Project Gets a Head of Steam

On 31 May 2007 West Coast Tasman MP and Minister of Tourism, Hon Damien O'Connor, presented Shantytown with a cheque for \$53,000 from the Government's Tourism Facilities Grants Programme. This much needed grant will go towards the interpretation of the Infants Creek Sawmill experience, where the mill will be brought to life, repopulated by the characters, sights, sounds and stories from the Coast's logging and milling heyday. The new Infants Creek Sawmill is where Shantytown's visitors, domestic and international, will get to experience and appreciate the gritty and perilous existence hewn from an unforgiving landscape by the early West Coast Sawmillers.

Thanks also to **the new Shantytown experience's** founding partner, the West Coast Development Trust, for supporting the creation of the concept at the heart of the experience. Shantytown is also appreciative of grants from the Grey District Council and the West Coast Community Trust.

The Sawmill Experience - What Will it be Like?



After enjoying a steam train journey through the bush on an original tram line, visitors will disembark at the sawmill directly onto a new viewing platform providing the ideal vantage point from which to see the sawmill in action. The voices of sawmillers will be heard, and the platform will shudder with the blades spinning furiously. The sawmill will have a rather ghostly feel and will seem to be running by itself...



Visitors will be able to walk through the heart of the mill, operating as it would have done in its heyday. The sawmill's entire back wall will become a large projection screen showcasing authentic historical footage, images and sounds from the daring, bygone era of steam-driven mills.

History of the West Coast Chinese Project Newsletter

Shantytown's 'History of the West Coast Chinese' project is well underway. Please follow the link below to read the first edition of the newsletter, written by Julia Bradshaw - Shantytown's full time researcher. Please [click here](#).

If you'd like more information or to get involved in the new **Shantytown experience** contact either:

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Thank You

Shantytown would like to thank the many advisors, supporters and stakeholders that have contributed to the project to date, including the West Coast Community Trust and the West Coast Community for their support.

