

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

APRIL–MAY 2007

\$2

Southerlies shut down our lovely Indian



Surf's up.
Ocean Beach, 14th April

summer, bringing a cold snap and rain. Lots of rain *but ...* (here it comes, sorry everyone, apologies to those who have already wrung this turn of

phrase for all its wit...) it has been a bit DRY around these parts. Yes, the Pub has been closed for weeks because the license wasn't renewed on time. So far the world



Titi TV. This is a muttonbird chick on a burrowscope monitor. Tune in next month for more information about burrowscoping.

hasn't ended and folks have coped in different ways: the shop has done a healthy trade in liquor; quiz night has shifted to the Pavil-

ion; parties around the Bay; the Hotel has taken advantage of the closure to revamp the Pub; and Arkwright simply left the island. (The publican has not gone unpunished: the community is lucky to include a few individuals who have never made a mistake in their lives, and they have seen fit to repeatedly remind Helen about her oversight.)

The Island bids farewell and best wishes to a couple of great ladies who have contributed heaps to the community. We'll miss you, Cath and Donna!



Peggy Wilson with her son Ian and daughter-in-law Philippa at the opening of the oral history Exhibition "Island."

SIN has mentioned heaps of wood pigeons around: recent eyewitness reports from Phred and Brent describe a flock numbering over 100 kereru flying over the Bay! Deer hunters have been seeing kiwi all over Halfmoon Bay, including an "enormous" kiwi near the Main Road. Muttonbird season is underway.

(Re)opening History

by Kari Beaven

The success of an event can sometimes be marked in



The Stewart Island community extends its deepest condolences to the family of Olive Nilsen. Rest in peace, Ollie.

unusual ways. The opening of Toi Rakiura's latest gift to Stewart Island was one of these occasions, where success was clearly noted in the difficulty experienced by wine-waiters in finding an emptied glass for refilling. An audience of almost one hundred people were so enthralled by the oral history displays, that glasses lingered unnoticed in hands, faces were alight with memories and smiles, and laughter and stories were shared throughout the community centre reception hall.

The Honourable Mahara Okeroa, Associate Minister for Arts and Culture was

warmly received as special guest to open the evening, sharing the stage with an equally well-received Mayor Frano Cardno, Toi Rakiura representatives Bruce Ford, Gwen Neave and Brent Beaven, and artists Juliette MacAnergney and Halina Ogonowska-Coates. Alison Broad, representing the major sponsor, the Community Trust of Southland, gave her apologies and her message was read out to those present. Special guest Peggy Wilson represented those who shared their stories as she cut the entrance ribbon, giving guests access to their

(Continued on page 2)

Elgin Terrace is undergoing some major changes. If you'd like to comment on the proposed parking, do so in writing to the Southland District Council by 20th April.

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Boat-of-the-Month: ANNA

A 27 ton wooden ketch, built in 1875 at the Catlins River by *McPhee & Phillips*. She was 55'6" x 15'6" x 6", and was later equipped with a 10hp oil engine.

She was engaged in the coastal trade under *Captain Stephen Tall*, a well known mariner in local waters, but on 21st May 1880 she was found floating upside down at the entrance to Bluff Harbour with no sign of her crew of three (including Capt Tall). She had been seen the previous evening off Ruapuke Island and was heading for Riverton.

Salvaged and refitted, she was re-registered at the Port of Invercargill in 1881 under the ownership of *G.R. Waddell*, who had her until 1889. Her owners since then were:

- 1889 to 1894 *Bluff Fish & Oyster Co.*
- 1894 to 1898 *J.G. Ward*
- 1898 to 1905 *William Hanning*
- 1905 to 1908 *William Hanning's widow* as executor
- 1908 to 1915 *Tom Crocket*

In April 1915 she was broken up in Leask Bay by the *Leask Brothers*.



Painting from Rakiura Museum

Under *William Hanning*, she once made the trip from Bluff to Lonnekers in two hours and she made at least two trips to the Auckland Islands.

Altogether six men were drowned off her, *William Hanning* and *John Joss* being lost in Foveaux Strait on 25th November 1905.

(EXHIBIT Continued from page 1)

past lives.

The oral histories are more than artwork, more than the capturing of history seen through the eyes and memories of seven Islanders, they are a blend of these and an awareness of history's importance for future Islanders. Juliette likened their creation to the birth of a child, the idea spawned and developed with the deepest of care, grown with both enjoyment and a fair measure of difficulty and the final result un-



certain until their climactic unveiling.

"Toi Rakiura trustees are thrilled with the exhibition," said Gwen Neave. "Halina and Juliet honoured the participants with their beautiful and sensitive recordings and portraits and we

hope the exhibition can travel to other centres for future display." Both the Minister and the Her Worship the Mayor remarked on the exquisite delicacy of the individual works.



travel to other centres for future display." Both the Minister and the Her Worship the Mayor remarked on the exquisite delicacy of the individual works.



The Community Hall has since been opened daily, with thanks to Hilli Maas-Barrett, for

(Continued on page 5)



DoC Spot

Easter is over and winter is well and truly on its way. But that shouldn't be an excuse for hibernating in front of the fire. Winter is a great time to go tramping and explore more of the wonderful island on which we live. The temperatures may be slightly colder and the days shorter, but on the plus side during winter you don't generally have a problem getting a bunk in the huts. Extra preparation in terms of clothing and equipment is essential and the DOC visitor centre staff will be more than happy to help you plan a trip to suit the conditions and your level of experience. The DOC visitor centre is open everyday throughout winter. Opening hours from Anzac Day are 8.30am to 4.30pm on week days and 10am to 12noon at weekends. On Anzac Day the centre will just be open from 1pm to 4pm.

Coming up

The next meeting of the Pest Management Liaison Group is to be held at the Community Centre at 730pm on Thursday, May 3 2007. This is an open meeting and anyone keen to hear how the control work went in 2006 and what is planned for 2007 is welcome to attend.

Rakiura National Park Plan

As part of the review of the Stewart Island / Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy and the preparation of a management plan for Rakiura National Park, the Department of Conservation will be holding a series of public workshops in Oban. The first of these workshops will be on the future management of Ulva Island, to be held in May. Other workshops to be included in the series are looking to specifically focus on Mason Bay, Port Pegasus/ Pikihatiti and hunting/pest management separately. These will be held later in the year.

All members of the public and interested parties are most welcome to attend any of these workshops. The workshops will be advertised in the public notices section of the Southland Times, on the Stewart Island Community notice board, and to all those who responded on the Rakiura discussion document. For further information please contact Anke de Jong or Peter Wilson at the Southland Conservancy Office (Invercargill) on 03-211-2400, or email rakiura@doc.govt.nz

RAKIURA MUSEUM NEWS

The following has been excerpted from the Museum's copy of *The Stewart Island Herald* dated 1894:

d's ld, ess ek. ons oy- de ng to de he en a ng of he or ng or en	<p>them this lesson on etiquette gratis.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p>The matter of personal appearance is a delicate subject to handle, but as conscientious educators we feel bound to call attention to the matter. Going along the streets in civilised towns one frequently sees red and white poles projecting overhead, which to the initiated signify, "Shaving, 3d; Haircutting, 6d." We have not reached that plane of civilisation yet; but surely some arrangements could be made on behalf of certain hideous-looking specimens at present stalking round,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Unkempt, unshaven, and unshorn, With headgear batter'd, trousers torn.</p> <p>We have dropped the hint as mildly and as gently as we know how, and trust it will be taken in an amicable spirit.</p>	N C P Inte foul G but cach F pect D Sett but crea B brea via toda T We the Wo
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THE STORY OF A DAY

DESEPERATELY SEEKING DOLLY:
The Rakiura Museum
Publishing Committee is seeking a
photograph of the *Dolly Varden* for the
boat book. If you have a picture of this
vessel, please contact
Elaine Hamilton (2191 027) or
Loraine Hansen (2191 133)



Department of Conservation
 Te Papa Atawhai

It is time for another liaison group
meeting to discuss

PEST MANAGEMENT ON STEWART ISLAND

7.30pm Thursday, 3rd May
 at the Community Centre

Anyone can attend.

Any questions contact Brent Beaven ph 2190007



ban Globetrotter *off-island adventures*

Ben Hopkins has been globetrotting for some time now, and is in fact still globetrotting — he wrote the following report from faraway airport lounges. (He thought he could escape the tentacles of a pushy editor but she found a persuasive method of extracting the story ... she asked his mum to make him do it!)



Å i Lofoten, or simply Å! Our “Rorbu” was the small cottage 2nd from the right at the front.

Flåm was another place to hurry out of! As a tourist destination there was a lot on offer here. I chose the more exciting of the options and took a fast

Norway was the beginning of a backpacking holiday that took me from my base in England to the Faroe Islands and back through Shetland and Orkney Islands to mainland Great Britain. The following is a brief account of the Norwegian part of the trip with more to follow later.

As I generally hate cities and crowds of people (not to mention excessive heat) I chose to avoid continental Europe last summer (NZ winter) and head instead to the Arctic and sub-Arctic! This proved to be a wise choice! I started off in Oslo, staying a couple of nights in a hostel with a full day to explore the area. hilariously, on the first night in the hostel, who should be sharing the 4-bed room with me, but a friend of Arkwright's, who I had met in the South Seas Hotel a couple of years ago! It is certainly a small world and Kiwis are everywhere!

I wasn't particularly impressed with Oslo (maybe it's just a city thing!). Visiting the pretty town of Sandefjord was my main reason for calling into Oslo, as it was from here that many of the Norwegian whalers came, who settled on Stewart Island with the foundation of the whaling repair base in Pater-

son's Inlet. There was a very interesting whaling museum there, which made a fleeting reference to the Rosshavet Whaling Company, one of 50-odd whaling companies operating out of this 'hub'. The whaling history of this town is very evident, with proudly displayed ornate statues of these animals and their hunters all over the place.

The following day heading north I set off on one of the world's top 10 most spectacular train journeys. The Oslo to Bergen railway. My ultimate destination was Bergen, but I broke the journey up exploring along the way. The trip lived up to its reputation, with beautiful scenery ever changing as we climbed high into the mountains. At the railway junction town of Myrdal I caught another world famous train down to the tourist trap Flåm! This railway is an incredible feat of engineering, with a maximum gradient of 1:18 along 20km of tracks and 20 tunnels. The whole thing also took 20 years to build, these figures all earning it the nickname “the 20 Railway!”

With up to two cruise ships a day calling into the pretty town,

RIB ride around Aurlandsfjord and the famous Nærøyfjord, which is Norway's equivalent of Milford Sound. It was quite a buzz, tearing along the sides of sheer cliffs at 40 knots! With not a breath of wind on the water, it was a very picturesque trip.

From here I caught the express ferry down the world's longest fjord, the Sognefjord to Bergen. At 33 knots it took us just on 5 hours to get to Bergen with a few stops along the way. The best part was the last stretch out near the open sea. The route ducks and dives amongst hundreds of beautiful islands and rock stacks that wouldn't have looked out of place along Stewart Island's more exposed coastline. The only thing that differed was that many of these islands had houses on them, each painted in one of the five seemingly standard colours of Norwegian real estate: Bright red, bright yellow, brown, white or pale blue! These stunning houses boast even more stunning locations, perched on rocky points with fantastic views. Building restrictions don't seem to be an issue in Norway!

PHOTOS: BEN HOPKINS

(Continued on page 7)



Peggy Wilson enjoys the "Island" exhibit.



Maria, Olivia, Henry and the other HMB school kids were stars at the recent athletic competition. Full story next month...



(EXHIBIT Continued from page 2)

people to visit and view the hanging pieces. Many guests of the night laughed that they will have to return, as a packed auditorium stole any desire to move away from the nearby stories and laughter to read the other pieces.

Much speculation was heard about to where the seven pieces will next journey, and what has (and will) become of all the taped stories. Who knows, perhaps in future months there will be an Oral Histories part II....

—Kari Beaven

Healthy Parasites

by Kari Beaven

Measurements and photographs taken during our annual monitoring have recorded increases in length, width, depth and just general size of native mistletoe plants being monitored on the walk to Ackers Point.

Many people I speak to are not aware that New Zealand has its very own native mistletoe. A well-designed parasite, native mistletoe lives on a "host" plant, sending its roots under the bark to extract nutrients and water.

Unfortunately, possums are very aware of the tasty plants and the pesky marsupials have been chewing many of them back to the bare roots for years. Strangely, this makes mistletoe an ideal plant to help us monitor the recovery, in general terms, of all of our tasty native plants which live in the forest canopy, especially after community volunteers have worked so hard to keep possums and rats from the area.

The idea is that every year we go out and measure the volume occupied by each of 20 individually tagged mistletoe. January 2006 was our first measurement, and so results of the first re-measure (January 2007) are very new. It may be that growth fluctuates as time goes on.

Over the last year, on average, we have seen an increase of about 10cm length, 12cm width and 22cm depth per plant. This of course means some plants increased a great-deal more in size, while others didn't grow as much. More importantly, the growth is an indicator of improvement in the health of our forest canopy, a result that can only lead to more food being available to feed our native birds and insects. With annual bird count monitoring being carried out this month, I hope to tell you of the profits our forest birds have been making out of the extra food!

The photos show "mistletoe 8" in 2006 and as seen from the same position in 2007.



Mistletoe 8. January 2006



Mistletoe 8, January 2007

Bowls and Quiz bits and pieces

by Vicki Coats

As we always seem to do things the wrong way round on Stewart Island (such as giving up alcohol AFTER Lent) it's probably a good time to make some new years resolutions now.

How about indoor bowls? It's back on, Monday nights, 7.30pm at the Community Centre. Ali, Jan and Dave would love to see some new faces, I'm going, but please don't expect much! They had a tournament on Sat 14th, with star stand-ins John Timpany and Wayne Skerret who helped propel their teams

towards glory.

Or how about stretching your brain cells (or cell in some cases) at the quiz. Due to refurbishments at the pub we have temporarily relocated to the Pavilion. It's BYO alcohol, the pub is doing a delivery pizza service (thanks Shaun, we believe your new official police Vespa complete with hot box on the back will be here shortly) and of course Hilli has her delicious takeaways right outside the door. It's a good social occasion with a chance to win a bottle of vino and our charity collections are getting bigger every day!

If anyone has a favourite Island charity who needs cash, pop

along to the quiz and when our jar is full, we'll put you on the list for players to vote for!

So with much thanks to everyone who has contributed here are a list of organisations who have benefited:

- 25/6/06 \$265 donated to the Stewart Island Community Pool
- 6/8/06 \$200 donated to the Community Centre
- 10/9/06 \$245 donated to the Stewart Island Rugrats
- 22/10/06 \$280 donated to the Stewart Island Nurses Clinic
- 26/11/06 \$315 donated to the Stewart Island Arts Council
- 21/1/07 \$415 donated to the Stewart Island Community Pool
- 25/2/07 \$455 donated to the RSA Pavilion



When I came to the Island I had a number of things that I wanted to do. (No, shutting the pub wasn't one).

One was to get a chopper ride over the island and the other was have a surf somewhere around the island.

This month I achieved those two. So much Policing!

I got to get my chopper ride. The only problem being that it was 8.30pm and I couldn't really see much. I was asked to describe what the island looked like at night from the air. It's easy it's black.

I got a call down to one of the Muttonbird Islands to deal with a situation. Jobs like that create a lot

of unknowns. Simply we had a call on Channel 16 to an alleged urgent situation involving someone fighting. No more information than that was being supplied.

In situations like this there is always the worst case scenario running through the back of the mind.

As it transpired there was no problem other than someone wanting to get off the island.

This caller tied up a lot of resources for their selfish reasons. As a result he will be probably explaining his actions to judge.

I have also dealt with someone over the taking of a 4 x4 from a garage. The vehicle was found crashed out at Lee Bay.

The offender is completing a number of hours of community work as well as paying for the damage

to the vehicle.

My surfing trip was off Ocean Beach on Saturday. It was great to finally get a wave down here. It's also really good surfing with a local. Out there a seal popped its head out of the water. I'm told by the local it was a seal but it's the biggest one I've seen.

Then whilst paddling around being told that whilst the seal was around at least it decreased the odds by 30 % of being munched by a big fish. Thanks Stu.

It seems this last month the Police have received a fair amount of media coverage. It has been interesting to sit back and

read all about what the Police were like in the 1980s. I joined in 85 half way through. I don't think I was naive but what the media is portraying of the Police behaviour back then I never saw.

The fallout from the review won't settle for a while and I watch with interest as to how the bosses will react and the flow on effects.

Winter has finally reared its ugly head and the super 14 is at the interesting

stage. It's a shame to see the Highlanders fall, just as the Hurricanes are getting up a good head of steam the semis it should make for some good viewing.

—Shaun Palmer
HMB Police



(GLOBETROTTER *Continued from page 4*)

Next stop a very damp Bergen living up to its reputation as the rainiest city in the world! Despite this, it is actually a very pretty place with a fascinating history, being a major player in the Hanseatic Trading League from the 14th to the mid 16th Centuries. The buildings of the waterfront area called “Bryggen” have been restored or reconstructed to display how life was during this time. The famous Bergen fish market is also interesting, with everything on offer from Atlantic cod, to squid and pilot whale steaks!

In Bergen I met up with friends,



The Nærøyfjord, Norway’s equivalent to Milford Sound.

with whom I was to be travelling further north to the Lofoten Islands, which lie within the Arctic Circle between 68°N and 69°N.



Reinefjord, Lofoten Islands. Sheer granite domes and cliffs dominate the scenery in these parts.

For 5 nights we rented a “Rorbu” or traditional fishermen’s cottage in a town called Å i Lofoten, or more commonly just Å (pronounced like the ‘o’ in ‘cod’). The cottage was basically a boatshed fitted out with 2 bunk bedrooms, a bathroom, toilet, and living room/kitchen, perched on a rocky point right

on the water with great views across the town of Å and out to sea.

The main industry in the Lofotens for several centuries has been the catching, drying and exporting of Atlantic Cod. All around the islands, large racks are set up where the gilled and gutted cod are slung to dry in what are considered to be the best conditions in the world for doing so. During the winter/spring months the air is very dry and the fish are hung until about June when they are

graded and packed for export. The demand for this “Stockfisch” comes mainly from Italy, but also other Mediterranean countries, where it is used for the specialty “Baccalau”, a stew made from the re-hydrated fish, tomatoes and onions. When the fish is dried, only the water disappears, leaving all the goodness of the cod behind. Like instant fish! Just add water!

Of the four full



Kvalvika, on the exposed western side of the Lofoten Islands.

days we had on the Lofotens, one was rain-free! Each day saw us putting on our wet wet-weather gear and hiking off to remote bays or checking out local museums. We had a rental car and my friends spoke Norwegian, so getting around was no major problem. On the one fine day we crammed in as much as we could, crossing the fjord by ferry to a track that took us to a spectacular Atlantic coast beach reminiscent of Stewart Island! The majority of the Lofoten Islands are a bit like the Ruggedys and Port Pegasus with lots of towering granite domes and cliffs.

We also took a fast boat trip out to the famous Maelstrom, which inspired many tales of huge whirlpools sucking ships down, including Jules Verne’s “20,000 Leagues under the sea”. On this particular day it wasn’t that spectacular, but the potential is definitely there. The majority of a large gulf of water pours out through a strait 3 miles wide at rates of up to 12 knots. A couple of hours before high and low water, eddies start forming and flowing in opposite directions to the main flow, which they think caused older ships to go around seemingly in circles, hence the whirlpool stories.

(Continued on page 8)

Ringa Ringa Heights Golf Club
by Sue Munro



We have had a very busy couple of months. In February Ricky Bartlett a 40 year old cricket development officer from Raumati South on the Kapiti Coast, paid us a visit. Over the course of 1 year Ricky played every 18 and 9 hole course in NZ raising

money for 4 different charities, SPCA, Amnesty International, Cancer Society and Ronald McDonald House. Ringa Ringa was very fortunate to have

Ricky who plays off a 2 handicap come to play our course with Neville Bennett and Russell Squires. Our club made a \$100 donation.

The Electrix Tournament was very successful again this year with an excellent turnout and

stunning weather all made for a great day's golf.

March 24th we had a visit from the Heriot Golf Club, another stunning day after a week of shocking weather was the icing on the cake. A wonderful time was had by all and our club has been invited to make a reciprocal visit about the same time next year. I certainly hope we do.

GLOBETROTTER (Continued from page 7)

Being July the sun was still far enough north of the Equator to keep it from setting completely each night. This was a new experience for me and on the only clear "night" we drove to a beach with a northerly outlook and waited until the sun reached its lowest point in the sky (about 1 degree above the horizon), before rising to begin another day! At 1:20am! One thing that struck me as unusual about Norway is that nobody seems to have dark curtains to shut out the ever-present summer light! If they have curtains at all, they are very light!

Another day we made the mistake of visiting the 'famous' Lofoten Telecommunications Museum. This proved to be an awkward experience. We were unable to escape, as we were the only people in there and the curator insisted on giving us a guided tour. This was a person that modern communications had left floundering amongst a few old Morse keys and windy-type telephones. The museum was basically his family history! He came from a long line of Morse-key tappers. He actually brought to mind the stories of ships' radio officers and how they all pretty much went mad, because nobody would talk to them aboard and their only conversations consisted of dots and dashes. This guy seemed highly disappointed when none of us wanted our photos taken sitting at his pride and joy - a functioning remnant



Dried fish hanging in an enclosure. Fish still hanging at that time of year was probably spoiled by moisture and therefore rejected.

of the Lofoten manual exchange! It was identical to the one on Stewart Island! At the end we had to pose for a photo using his camera, because we hadn't taken any! I sort of felt sorry for him, but we were tripping over each other to get out of there. The motor museum we visited next was far more to my liking. Like a permanent 'Edendale Crank-up', with old diesel engines.

After 5 days of exploring these amazing islands, we flew back to Bergen. The domestic flight south was a bit like a bus trip with us landing at 7 airports to let a few people off and some more on, before continuing to Bergen, where I spent a few days before reluctantly leaving Norway to carry on with the rest of my trip.

The midnight sun, Lofoten Is.
The sun reached its lowest point in the sky at 1:20am!





Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust news.

With field work finished, penguin work this month has had me sitting at my desk, looking at data sheets, asking questions, sending & reading emails, reading reports and starting to write the end-of-season report. It all sounds like the sort of work I'd rather not be doing, especially on fine days, but it is actually interesting and quite exciting when the pieces of information start to come together. For a start I calculated the figures for breeding success for each of the three areas we monitored. The figure we use is the percentage of eggs laid that hatched and where the chicks survived to go to sea, i.e. chicks fledged/eggs laid. The figure for the sites we monitored on the Anglem coast is very obviously 0%; that didn't tax my brain too much! For Codfish it was 50%, which is acceptable and only slightly lower than the expected average of 58%. For the Bravo group it was 27%, which is much lower than expected and is also much lower than it has been in past years.

The next thing I looked at was the cause of chick deaths. We still don't have all of the results, but it is fairly obvious that disease has been the most significant cause of death of the chicks that we were able to retrieve for post mortem. There were two diseases that affected the chicks this season – the blood parasite that killed Big Fluffy, and one called diphtheritic stomatitis (avian diphtheria) that has been around for the past few years. Interestingly, diphtheritic stomatitis was the most widespread and killed more chicks than the blood parasite (which is called leucocytozoon).

In total 115 chicks hatched in

our monitored areas and 76 of these died; 32 died on the Anglem coast, 23 on Codfish Island and 21 on the Bravo islands. Most of the chicks that died on the islands were too decomposed by the time they were found to make a post mortem examination worthwhile, so we have very little information about what was killing chicks there. Two chicks that were picked up in time on one of the Bravo islands died from diphtheritic stomatitis, so we know it is present there, and it probably killed a few of the other chicks that we weren't able to find in time to post mortem.

Other causes of chick death that were diagnosed this year were starvation (but only one case), hypothermia, "parental trauma" (meaning that the adults squashed the chicks in the nest) and an external yolk sac.

The last three causes are all the sort of "accidental" deaths that we expect to occur occasionally anyway. Two chicks on Codfish were found dead in their flooded nest bowl after a period of heavy rain, and hypothermia is the obvious cause of death in that case. The external yolk sac is a developmental problem, meaning that the chick hatched with its yolk sac on the outside of its body, instead of being on the inside where it should have been.

Another interesting thing from this season is the recovery of a bird tagged with a transponder (microchip). This bird was found dead on Oreti Beach last month and handed in to DOC in Invercargill, who sent it to Massey for examination. The transponder was discovered during the examination, and the bird was identified as one that fledged from the Bravo group earlier in

March. When we weighed this bird in February before it fledged it was only 4.1kg, which is below the 4.5kg "threshold for survival weight", so the fact that it only survived a couple of weeks at sea isn't really a surprise. Although not the sort of result we'd like, it is a result, and proves the potential of transponders to contribute useful information.



Adult YEPs going to sea.

With the de-brief meeting for this season coming up next week, now is an appropriate time to thank our sponsors for this year. The Trust is totally reliant on grants, sponsorship and dona-

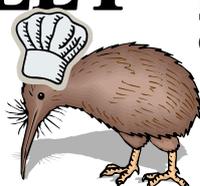
tions to carry out its work, and grateful thanks are extended to all these sponsors for their support of the work on Stewart Island: the Community Trust of Southland, Stewart Island Water Taxi and Eco Guiding, Church Hill Restaurant, Stewart Island Flights, Southland Locator Beacon Trust, Dancing Star Foundation, WWF-NZ Habitat Protection Fund, Pacific Development & Conservation Trust, and the Department of Conservation Southland Conservancy.

Sandy

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the GALLEY

This month's recipe comes from Vicki's kitchen:



Ingredients:

- 1 packet dried pasta (any type, penne or fettuccine works really well)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 chicken breasts (skinless boneless) cut into bite sized pieces
- 4 slices of bacon (use ham if preferred) chopped
- 1 leek (or one bunch spring onions) sliced
- Handful of mushrooms (button or flat) sliced
- 1 packet fresh spinach
- 1 bunch of asparagus chopped
- 300 gms tub of spreadable cream cheese
- 250 gms cheese (strong flavoured like

- feta or tasty is best) diced
- Salt
- Cracked black pepper
- Minced garlic (3 cloves or 2 tea-spoons)
- 1 teaspoon dried mixed herbs

Method:

Heat pan add olive oil
 Add chicken and bacon
 Add leek (or spring onions), mushrooms, herbs and garlic until cooked.
 Season with salt, cracked black pepper
 If you like spinach, chuck some fresh chopped leaves in at the end until wilted.
 Stick a big pot of salted water on and cook pasta, whatever type you like.
 Note, the more water you cook pasta in the better that stops it

going cloggy.
 If you like asparagus chuck some in along with the pasta just before the pasta is cooked.
 When pasta is cooked, drain and chuck in your bacon mix.
 Add a tub of spreadable cream cheese. Check seasoning and add salt and freshly ground black pepper if needed
 Add a few chopped chives if you like.

I also chuck in some diced cheese, any type you like. Stir around over a low heat until everything's warmed through again and eat with some garlic bread.

You can't really go wrong with this dish, feel free to add more or less of things to your taste, just chuck in the amount you think you can eat!

“Keeping it Legal”
Legal responsibilities of voluntary organizations in New Zealand
by Margaret Rooney

Legal form of your organization, laws you need to know and keeping on track. I suggest that all trusts get one of these as it has excellent material on a range of subjects pertaining to running a trust or charity, and your obligations if you are a Trustee.

All trusts and charities who wish to have a tax exemption and be registered as a Charity will have to register before 30 June 2008. If you do not do this you will be charged at the appropriate tax rate and there is no rebate if you register late. As far

This matter came to my notice in my JP Justices' Quarterly magazine and I thought it was worth passing on.

A special kit has been prepared “Keep it Legal” and this can be obtained free from www.keepingitlegal.net.nz
 This contains information on the

as I can gather no-one will remind you to register, so if you do not want to pay extra in tax it is up to you to get familiar with the procedure.

A Charities register has been set up and you can now apply to go on the register if you think your Trust qualifies.

You can go into the Charities Commission web site at www.charities.govt.nz or ring 050 8242 748 to get the information pack and registration papers.

LIBRARY NEWS

Earth to fans of science fiction and fantasy books: we have a bunch of new books in those genres, so come check them out. Look for unicorn (fantasy) or planet (sci-fi) stickers on the spine. Even if you don't think you're a fan of these books, why not try one? I don't usually read sci-fi but I found *Virtual Light* by William Gibson to be a thrilling, highly readable and well written work of contemporary fiction. The *Dark is Rising* fantasy series by Susan Cooper is scary, imaginative, and very rainy day reading.

Thanks to Margaret Fairhall who kindly donated new audio-books to us — our collection continues to grow.

A big THANK YOU and farewell to Cath O'Laughlin who donated a whole heap of books upon her departure from the island, and who also regularly donated dozens of books to us over the course of her residence here. We will miss her, and Donna too!

The library is lucky to have a new helper: thanks Caity for your after-school work!

Our shelves have some real gems: a visitor recently pointed out that we have a book by a champion of the embroidery world. On 29th March, Gay Eaton became the first person to be awarded the NZ Order of Merit for embroidery. Her book, *Ukrainian Whitework*, is beautiful to behold. The whitework was scanned directly onto the pages so the detail is extraordinary. Expert seamstresses and stitch voyeurs alike will enjoy it.

Our hours are:
 Wed. 2-3:15, Fri & Sat 11-12
Happy Reading, Jess



Council checking to see why properties are not connected to Stewart Island Sewerage Scheme

Southland District Council has sent 96 letters to Stewart Island properties which do not appear to have been connected to the sewerage scheme.

All properties on the island are required to be connected to the scheme which opened in August 2005. Council Building Control Officer Signatory Lyndon Paul said property owners that receive a letter should check that their septic tank has been emptied and had the base broken or dug out and then back filled.

He also said that if this is the case then they must submit an as build plumbing drainage plan. "We have found that some property owners are connected to the scheme, but do not have the appropriate code compliance certificate", he said.

All remaining properties must be connected to the system by the end of June. Lyndon Paul said if anyone is unsure of their situation, or wish to know what action if any that they need to take, then contact him directly at the Southland District Council on 214 9784

For further information please contact:
Lyndon Paul, Building Control Officer Signatory, Southland District Council
T: 03 214 9784, M: 027 229 3237
E: lyndon.paul@southlanddc.govt.nz

Voluntary emergency help on Island grows by leaps and bounds

Stewart Island is now a safer place thanks to an initiative involving SDHB's Rural Nurse Specialists and St John in which 15 new St John First Responders have been trained to provide pre-hospital emergency care to assist the Stewart Island nurses with provision of the ambulance service on Stewart Island.

SDHB Rural Nurse Specialists Marty Peppers and Deborah Dillon, in consultation with St John, agreed that the ever-increasing population on Stewart Island meant that more local voluntary emergency coverage was necessary: *'Stewart Island is getting busier and busier each year with more visitors than ever before. There are also more permanent residents here than in the past. The greater population raises the potential for sickness and accidents, which means that the island needs greater emergency medical resources than previously,'* according to Marty. For this reason, volunteers were sought from as many different locations and industries as possible to ensure their skills were spread as far and wide as possible: *"Our volunteers have come from the fishing industry, tourism, hospitality, aquaculture, from around Oban and further afield. We've tried to get a mix of occupations and locations in order to achieve a good geographic coverage of the island."*

The programme was co-ordinated in co-operation with Chris Raine, St John District Operations Manager. He agrees that the increasing population and tourism activities on Stewart Island meant that some additional emergency support was desirable: *"Because of the island's location there is a high potential for bad weather which increases the chance of isolation compared to the mainland. If a large emergency event occurred or the island was isolated for any length of time, the community now has a big pool of people to draw on for first response medical support."*

Volunteers received an intensive week-long training programme which included general first aid as well as how to use oxygen and a defibrillator. The new First Responders will be required to attend regular study days in the future to retain their certification. They will be presented with their certificates at a ceremony to be held at the South Seas Hotel on Stewart Island on Wednesday, 28 March at 7pm. The event will be attended by Mr Ian Rae, St John Chief Executive Officer (Southern Region), along with representatives from the Stewart Island Community Board, Southland District Health Board, NZ Fire Service and local health committee.

SDHB Chief Operating Officer Lexie O'Shea commends SDHB staff members Marty Peppers and Deborah Dillon for their part in this initiative. *"SDHB likes to work alongside the community where possible, and this is a great example of how health services can work together to improve the health and safety of the population. Although we hope that there are no occurrences where all these first response officers would be required, it is certainly great to know that there is capacity on Stewart Island to support the work of the Rural Nurse Specialists."*

WWW.GREENCONCRETEFILMS.CO.NZ



We are on the island until the end of June and do a variety of filmmaking work including archival, promotional and educational videos. If there is anything you'd like to get filmed and produced on DVD please contact us at Skip's place or email: info@greenconcretefilms.co.nz

CHOCOLATE AWARD

Bruce and Sue Ford choose **Vicki Coats** for services to the Pub Quiz.
 Sue writes:
Vicki has put the giggle back into our Sunday evening, and the work she puts in for one hour of fun is phenomenal. Personally, I am biased, of course, by belonging to a team in regular contention for Top Spot! Anyway, we admire Vicki's stamina and unselfishness in giving us this fun end to our week.

KAI KART KETCH-UP

The interior restoration of the Kai Kart improved our working life tremendously. This summer has just flown by and we are astonished to find ourselves at another end of a season. We will be closing at the beginning of May but not without naming our customers of the season:

Jeana and Serena

Your free meal is waiting for you! Thanks to everyone for your positive feedback, healthy criticism and patronage during the season. Have a good winter.

Vanessa and Hilli

Somebody's got parking issues...



Stewart Islanders:

By now, everyone should have received a colour-coded parking map in their PO Box. If you would like to make a comment regarding the proposed parking plan for Elgin Terrace, please submit comments to Southland District Council PO Box 903, Invercargill or to our local office at 9 Ayr or via email to Irwin.harvey@southlanddc.govt.nz **before Friday, 20th April.**

**You have probably seen Sue Munro's local picture cards for sale at Ship to Shore. Her greeting cards are also now available at Stewart Island Flights. There is a selection of Sympathy, Birthday, Get well, Anniversary, Friendship etc. Sue has more at home if you don't find one to suit. The cards are coded:
 V = Verse as on back B = Blank
 Contact Sue at 03 2191 327 or ismunro@xtra.co.nz**

Last month's contest:

Nobody correctly guessed who penned the cheeky poem about shopgirl Karen last month. The poet was... John Tippy!

STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE

The next meeting will be held at the home of Wendy Hallett at 2 O'clock on Thursday 10th May

Competition: A Chrysanthemum, Decoration in a shell, Shrub Flower



Roll Call: Winter Recipe

**The RSA/Pavilion Trust wish to thank Vicki and the quiz night participants for your generous donation, this money has gone a good way to helping pay for the paint to refurbish the inside of the Pavilion
 Cheers Guys and Gals!**

Stewart Island News is published on a monthly basis as material permits.
**Please send articles and enquiries to Jess Kany at Box 156, or to editor@stewart-island-news.com (note new email address)
 The deadline for the next issue is 15th May.**

If you wish to have Stewart Island News posted to you or a friend, please fill out this form and forward it with a cheque made payable to "Stewart Island News" to P.O. Box 156, Stewart Island. The cost is as follows:

- 12 issues to an Oban address \$24
- 12 issues to other New Zealand address \$30

Yes, we can arrange for international subscriptions — contact editor for rates

Name of Recipient: _____
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