

# STEWART ISLAND NEWS

## CELEBRATING RAKIURA

July—August 2013

\$2.00

Popes, popey benedictions, and Popes named Benedict generally don't enthral me, but I do like what Pope Benedict XVI stated recently: "The quality of a society, I would say of a civilization, is judged by how well older people are treated and the place reserved for them in community life. Whoever makes room for the elderly makes room for life! Whoever welcomes the elderly welcomes life!" *Hear, hear.*

Over the years the Island sees an exodus of residents: some are travellers happily on their way to different adventures and new towns. But others are people who have lived here all their lives, and must leave their beloved home sadly, in their golden years, because it has become impractical financially for them to remain here. They feel forced to relocate because they cannot downsize to affordable, suitable housing.

The Senior Housing Project is important to this community. It will enrich us all — particularly our children— to allow for residents to live here the *entirety* of their lives and share with us their stories, ideas, and knowledge. And if you love the island and you are in your 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s.... *This is about you too!* Nobody is impervious to ageing and someday you might need Senior Housing for yourself, or a parent. Please express *any* interest or support to Debs or Bruce, or pick up a pamphlet from the clinic and read more. Without support, and without financial backing, this project could fizzle.

Vicki had offered to give it a go producing *SIN* while I'm away, so get in touch with her over the next couple of months with contributions or questions; her contact info is on the back or you can find her on Sunday evenings at the Pub (she's the loud one wielding duct tape).

Thank you to Quiz for a generous donation of \$600 which will help keep the price of this wee rag at \$2 despite rising costs in printing and postage.

See you in a couple of months, and say a benediction for the air travellers seated near my boisterous boys.  
—Jess



Summer, in Winter. Photo from Nicolette Thompson.



Stewart Island parking lot. Mona's wedding, Millar's Beach.

### Update from Gareth Morgan Pest Eradication Project

#### Project Website

To help keep everyone up to date we have set up a website  
[www.predatorfreestewartisland.org.nz](http://www.predatorfreestewartisland.org.nz)

This includes the latest information on the project, a copy of the DOC feasibility study, and a summary of some of the Q&A that arose at the meeting. You can also submit a question to be added to the Q&A.

#### The Governance Group

Since the last public meeting, some thought has gone into how the Governance Group will be formed and work. The project of removing rats,

*(Continued on page 2)*

(PEST ERADICATION *Continued from page 1*)

feral cats and possums from Stewart Island is bigger than any one individual or organisation, therefore it seems appropriate that a broad mix of these groups that have a stake in the island get together to govern this project.

It is proposed that the governance board drives this project along and is one of the key ways of communicating what is going on to and from the people they are representing. The board will also make the decisions on how the project will progress and what methods will be used. It is worth reiterating that, at this stage, no method has been chosen about how to remove any of these predators - this is a decision for the governance group after considering all of the technical advice available.

The obvious question that arises here is: how will one board get all of the work done? The answer to this lies with Working Groups. When there is an issue raised (e.g. how are you going to stop rats re-invading), then a working group will be formed to try to find a solution. The working group will be chaired by the most relevant governance board member, but can draw in everyone and anyone that it needs to find a solution. This is another key opportunity for individuals within the community to

be involved in helping find solutions to issues that are of concern to them. When the issue is solved, the working group will report back to the governance board who will make the final decision.

To form the governance board it is proposed that we seek representatives from: the Stewart Island resident community, business, hunting interests, fishing and aquaculture industry, Iwi, Rakiura Maori Land Trust, Southland District Council, Environment Southland, and DOC. Gareth Morgan will also be on the Governance Board representing potential funders.

Soon, we will call for expressions of interest from anyone who thinks they would make a good community representative. The person we are after will need to be positive about the project, a good communicator, a good team player, a good communicator, have some time available to work on this project and be a good communicator. If this is you, keep an eye on the noticeboard and on the project website ([www.predatorfreestewartisland.org.nz](http://www.predatorfreestewartisland.org.nz)) for details on how to apply.

The aim is to have the Governance Board formed and the economic and social cost/benefit study complete and available by October.



# WISE UP TO WEEDS



with Amy



## SPANISH HEATH

*(Erica lusitanica)*

Spanish heath is present around Oban, from the airstrip down into town. It will take off and become very dominant, so remove it while there is not too much of it around.

**What is it?**

Spanish heath is a woody shrub that can grow up to 2m high. The flowers form in sprigs, with a large number of small white flowers, browning with age. The leaves are small, thin, soft and bright green.

**What is the problem?**

Spanish heath is often found in grasslands and other short vegetation and can form dense stands to exclude other plants. This shrub is very tolerant of harsh conditions.

**How to control it?**

- Pull out seedlings by hand.
- Cut and paste the stems with a herbicide gel, it may require follow up control.
- Spray with glyphosate (Roundup) at 10ml/L, follow up may be required.

**Please contact Amy Lagerstedt at Environment Southland if you find this plant:**  
 email [amy.lagerstedt@es.govt.nz](mailto:amy.lagerstedt@es.govt.nz)  
 telephone 211 5115

For more information see [www.es.govt.nz/environment/pests/plants](http://www.es.govt.nz/environment/pests/plants)



Something is coming up at Stewart Island / Rakiura

# A NORSK FEIRING

A Norwegian Celebration

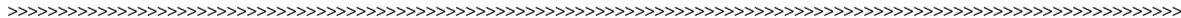
April 4 - 6, 2014

Community Centre, Oban / Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Island, New Zealand.

**Celebrating** the 90th anniversary of the ship SIR JAMES CLARK ROSS (Captain C.A. Larsen) first entering Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island in April 1924.

**Recognising** 'The Whalers' Base' ("Kaipipi Shipyard") in Paterson Inlet as a significant, post 1900 maritime (archaeological) site under the Historic Places Act 1993. (NZ Historic Places Trust).

**Appreciating** the enduring footprint of the Norwegian presence on Stewart Island through the 1920's and 1930's, and warmly embracing the kinships and friendships.



**TELLING AND SHARING the whole story of the Norwegian presence on Stewart Island:**  
**"The WHEN, the WHY, the WHAT, the HOW and the WHO!"**

- The early (pre 1920) families;
- The Rosshavet Company of Sandefjord, Norway, from 1924 to 1936, at Little Glory, Bravo and most significantly, at Price's Inlet where they built a coal-fired steam-driven repair base /shipyard for their 100ft whale catchers;
- The annual expeditions to the Ross Sea area, which included a 'coal gang' of Stewart Island and Southland men.

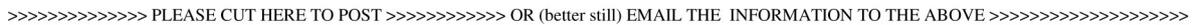
*We have the following intentions for the weekend:*

**Exhibits**, photographic displays and sales; **Short talks** from invited speakers; **Examples** of Norwegian tradition and culture - food, crafts, music - etc (as able); **Guided visits** to sites of special interest; **Opportunities** for reminiscence and anecdote; **Gathering** of Norwegian descendants.

*A detailed programme* will be available by November 2013. To ensure you get both this and registration information, please complete and send the form below. No obligation.



*The Feiring Committee, Stewart Island / Rakiura Museum,  
 P.O.Box 114, Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Island 9846, New Zealand.  
 Phone +64 3 219 1221.  
 stewartislandmuseum@southlanddc.govt.nz*



**YES, I am interested in the NORSK FEIRING (Norwegian Celebration), April 4-6, 2014.**

Please send the Programme and Registration information when it is available.

1. NAME (Please print) .....

2. POSTAL ADDRESS:

3. PHONE NUMBER:

4. EMAIL address: (VERY helpful!).....

I have a suggestion:.....

I can offer the following for display:.....

I/we are descendants. YES/NO. Relatives went south (1924-1930) as members of the Coal Gang, etc: YES/NO



# ban **G**lobetrotter *off-Island Adventures.*

*Kirsten Hicks recently returned from a trip to France with her mum. Following is her story.*

As some may know, I headed off to France with my mother (Helen Nicoll) in May. The trip was my

mother’s dream holiday – her reward to herself (& me) on her retirement.

We had 7 nights in Paris to begin with. Paris – the City of Light... mad drivers...chemist shops (no idea why there are so many)... fantastic architecture...gilded statues (so common they reminded me of margarine sculptures)...and history. The obvious historical legacy of the city was amazing. This is where Lautrec lived, Napoleon studied, Marie Antoinette lost her head... Small memorial plaques stud walls of buildings to honour heroes of the Resistance movement in WW2. Other walls still bear scarring from artillery fire.

But the history goes much further back than that. The city is dotted with monument and memorials. Flowers are still laid at the gilded warrior on horseback, which represents Joan of Arc (evidently the Nationalists have adopted her).

But the city is not mired in the past – politics are still alive and well. The anti-gay adoption movement was a big issue while we were there. One activist fatally shot himself at Notre Dame 2 days before our visit to that amazing landmark. We also got caught up on the edges of a gigantic demonstration– scenes which were slightly reminiscent of a Hitler rally.

But back to more self indulgent subjects. Food – it’s an art form. In fact, if I had to sum Paris up with a single word it would be “presentation”. From window displays to window boxes, manicured parks to manicured people, the city is huge on how things look. Not necessarily in an ostentatious way – more along the lines of “why design an ugly lamp post when we can have these fantastic ones with cast iron ivy leaves/gilded grapes/cherubs etc.”

My mother’s most memorable meal was charmingly described as “Cradle of marrow with flower of salt” Sounds delightful. Not at all like the reality of 3 huge sections of bone (horse?) served on bread together with salt and a spoon for scooping out the marrow. Mmmm.



*Salmon fillets — about \$85*  
At one time the area with most of the fish ponds was so malaria-ridden that the average life expectancy was 24.



**Alternative energy generation?**

Interesting that they should choose a child to be depicted on their facility—what is the subtext? “Nuclear energy for the future”? “Nuclear energy is child’s play”? or maybe even “Our facility is staffed by children”!

Presentation even extends to the cemetery – these cities of the dead are beautifully maintained. We spent a few hours at the oldest cemetery which is in Montmartre. Amazing family tombs are in beautiful condition, adorned with fabulous sculpture and maintained by generations of family. Still room for personality here – one of the more unusual tombs consisted of a closed curtain and a single rock. Not even a name. Maybe they were working on the saying “Curtains for him...”?

The rest of our time was spent lolling around on the Avalon Scenery river boat (usually recovering from lavish meals and relentless sightseeing). Service was amazing – our steward even visited our cabin when we were at dinner to close curtains, turn back the beds, place chocolates on pillows and light the fire (i.e. turn on the video of a crackling log fire which provided that glow of comfort without all the annoying ash!). But it was an excellent way to get to places

*(Continued on page 16)*

On October 27th 2013 on Stewart Island's Rakiura Track, one perfectly ordinary Kiwi bloke will start running New Zealand's nine Great Walks in the name of charity and personal discovery. Each 'Great Run' will take a single day, and all nine will be completed within six months.



'Great Runs' is a project of self-discovery, inspiration, and giving back. While finding the ultrarunner within, Julian Bee aspires to inspire his fellow Kiwis to get off the couch and onto the trail, and in the process raise at least \$20,000 for Cure Kids to fund research to improve the health of our nation's children.

**GREAT WALKS** | New Zealand's Great Walks are an iconic part of our outdoor heritage, and take walkers to places every Kiwi should see at least once in their lifetime. Covering a total of 544km, with tracks ranging from 32km up to 78km, and featuring a rather unique 145km river journey, they would normally take 30-40 days to complete.

**THE NUTTER** | In my early years I was a successful orienteer and have run most of my adult life, but never with much structure. I have long admired the dedication and determination of ultrarunners, so in a moment of sheer inspiration I devised this project to challenge myself and inspire others to challenge what they think they are capable of.

**CUREKIDS** | CureKids have a simple but audacious goal – to find cures for the life-threatening illnesses that affect many of our children. Established by Rotary in 1975, CureKids have since invested more than 32 million dollars into research that has resulted in breakthroughs that have saved, improved and extended the lives of kids here and around the world.

**INSPIRATION** | Trail running has undergone a surge of popularity in recent years, and this project aims to build on that by encouraging others to dust off their shoes and try trail running. I hope this inspires you to enjoy some of this country's stunning trails, be it just a quiet run through a local park, or by getting involved in the project and taking part in a Great Run.

**TIMELINE** | Timing of the runs has been arranged around two key elements; firstly in increasing distance order to ensure a safe and sensible training regime, and secondly to ensure highest chance of success the Whanganui River trip is scheduled to occur as close to the summer solstice (longest day) as possible.



**SUPPORT** | Great Runs is looking for suitably adventurous organisations to assist with a number of key project requirements. For example travel, running and safety gear, nutrition, sports medicine and accommodation.

**RUNNING CREW** | The other crucial support element I need to make this successful, are some fellow-nutters to join me on each run, and a few seasoned kayakers to join the Whanganui River crew. This will be an amazing adventure, so if you think you're up for a challenge, get in touch.

**FUNDRAISING** | The financial goal of Great Runs is to raise \$20,000 (or better yet more) for Cure Kids. I'll be out shaking buckets, running fundraising events, and calling for online donations via [donate.greatruns.co.nz](http://donate.greatruns.co.nz). But \$20,000 is a big number, so I'm going to need help. If you have an idea for a fundraiser, or would just like to come shake a bucket with me, I would love to hear from you.

**TRACK INFORMATION**

**RAKIURA | 32KM | 27 OCT 2013**

At 32km, and with modest climbs of just a few hundred metres, Rakiura is contentiously the easiest of the nine walks, however as the farthest south, it has the potential to deliver the most punishing weather conditions.



WEB [greatruns.co.nz](http://greatruns.co.nz)  
 TWITTER @greatruns  
 MAIL [julian@greatruns.co.nz](mailto:julian@greatruns.co.nz)  
 PHONE 021-2455-089



## LETTERS



To the Editor, SIN

What a pleasure to find SIN in my letterbox during this last southerly bluster!

Jo Riksem's museum notes headed by the lovely coloured photos of the Halfmoon Bay of my young days (and her kind words about Sue Hamel's upcoming biography) are a real heart-warmer. But her dating of the Ruapuke Register (which she says begins at 1829) calls for kindly comment. JFHW was born in 1811, and in 1829 he'd still have been ploughing the fields of Hogerhagen. He attended the Hamburg Mission School from 1837 to 1842 and set sail in the St. Pauli on 26 December 1842; he arrived in Nelson in 1843, reaching Ruapuke in May 1844.

Eighteen twenty-nine was the year Edward Gibbon Wakefield (in gaol for abducting an heiress) wrote his "Letter from Sydney", which led to the foundation of the N.Z. Company — so 1829 is a tenuous link in Wohler's decision to go out to the antipodean heathens. But of course it wasn't till fourteen years later that he was on Ruapuke recording births, marriages, and christenings and funerals, and writing letters and reports to the home mission.

I don't want to be a nippy old nitpicker, but this might just save someone the bother of looking for entries before 1844!

Arohanui,

*Sheila Natusch*  
Wellington



Thank you Sheila for your kind letter and comments. We will adjust our information accordingly.

*Jo Riksem*



Dear SIN Editor.

In the spirit of getting older, I am finding myself turning into one of "those people" who writes Letters to the Editor. You know – one of the ones that we all used to take the piss out of for having nothing better to do.

Anyway....;

I have just finished reading another – yet again - marvellous edition of the SIN. I read with interest your comments about your so called mistakes and general unease after sending the SIN to print. I realise that this is a normal reaction but I would hope that you wouldn't lose too much sleep over it.

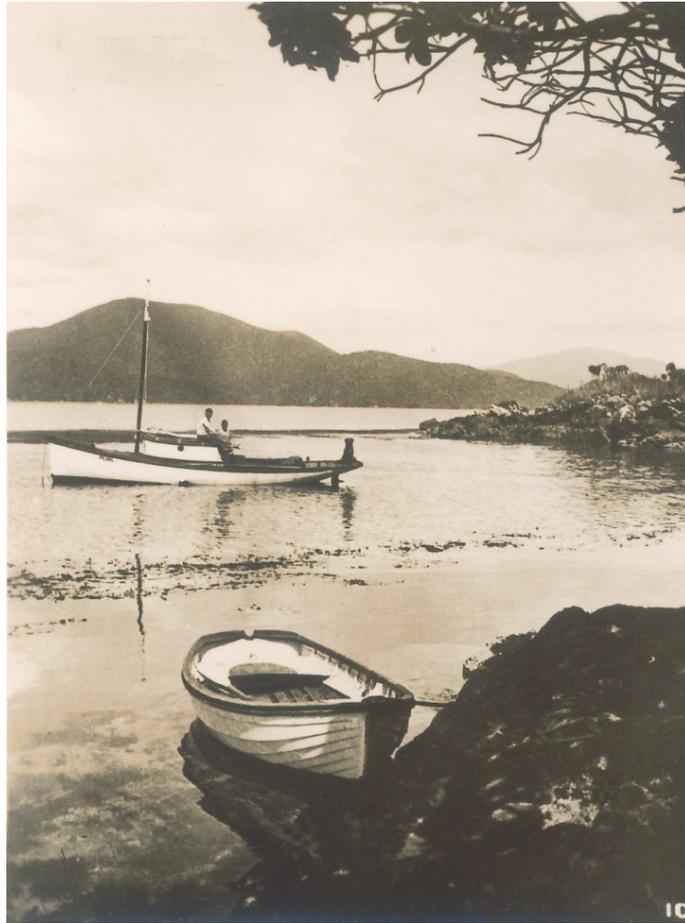
Because of your editorial, I would like to take the time to refute your self-flagellation and to pass onto you my thanks in the supreme effort that you make to put together the SIN. I have no idea but I suspect that it must be a rather time consuming expedition especially since becoming a Mum.

I think that you are being a bit hard on yourself as everyone makes mistakes – that is what makes us normal. If you don't make mistakes then you are just plain weird. And if you have made someone mad – then excellent! What better way to know that that you have reached your audience and at the very least you know that one person has read what you wrote, considered it and then just plainly misinterpreted your intentions. I personally find your musing insightful and I have noticed how you manage to tiptoe quite nicely around various topics without creating offence.

Yours is a very hard job – so please be aware that this community is grateful and appreciates your efforts.

Kind regards,

*Megan Cowley*  
*The Fernery - Gallery & Gift Shop*

**RAKIURA MUSEUM MATTERS** – by *Jo Riksem*

Boat, "Pearl" anchored out near Prices Point, Paterson Inlet

Amongst the **acquisitions** this last month was the above photograph taken by George M. Turner, a superb photographer who lived on Stewart Island. He captured many wonderful scenes over 40 years living on the island. Born in England he moved here in the 1920s. 1937-39 saw him chairman of the Stewart Island County council. He was a very active member in the Anglican Church and was the founding benefactor of our Rakiura Museum. His home is now the Department of Conservation house where Sharon and Noel Pasco live and the Fuschia and Raroa walks near the house are referred to as the Turner Walks. He also produced an attractive fold-out brochure of day walks for visitors to Stewart Island. We have a set for sale at the museum for \$8, which includes one of these original brochures and one of his original postcards of the first Wairua ferry.

Other acquisitions included a black and white digital image of the Stewart Island Marching Team, archives from the Traill family including a list of birds that were introduced to Ulva Island in 1879, a wooden case to carry liquid nitrogen from Invercargill to Stewart Island for the District Nurse, a children's booklet by L.E. Richdale on penguins and a copy of the daybook kept by Mathias Eriksen Wiig of his voyage from New Zealand to Norway returning Captain Larsen's body home in 1925. **Watch this space as this daybook (diary) will soon be available to the public.**

The 1977 Halfmoon School, Room 2 photograph (May- June SIN) generated a lot of interest regarding names. Here is the now confirmed official list: Front Row – Martin Amos, Rhoda Leask, Leslie Pullen, Tammy Whitiri, Shane Hamilton and Danny Leask. Middle Row – Bruce Mackay, Jeffrey Cameron, Rebecca Smith, Angela Gray, Richard Osborn and Melanie Goomes. Back row – Aaron Hamilton, Yolande Eriksson, Stephen King, Dacey Cameron, Margaret Mackay and Brendon Holt.

**Enquiries** went from a flood to a drizzle but interesting as they included the families of Newton, Potiki and Forrester.



We're starting to put the programme together which will soon be available for people needing to book for events for the Norwegian celebration on 4, 5 and 6 April 2014. Check out the flyer in this issue.

Museum winter opening hours are  
Monday thru Friday 10 am – Noon, Saturday 10 am – 1:30 pm and Sunday Noon – 2 pm.

For more in-depth information join Friends of Rakiura Museum with twice yearly newsletters. Just email us at [stewartislandmuseum@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:stewartislandmuseum@southlanddc.govt.nz) or 03 2191-221.

## Stewart Island paua fishery update - post 2013 AGM

by Storm Stanley

Early July is the time of the year the Stewart Island paua divers and quota owners usually hold and attend their industry organisation's (Pauamac5), Annual General Meeting. This year's AGM was held at WHK in Invercargill on July 2. It was well supported with Island divers represented and having their say in person or by proxy.

Last year SIN ran an article on what the paua industry was doing, what it had planned for the coming year and things that were of concern. We hope it might be of interest to the wider community to get a better idea of what we are up to, so we will be trying to keep a flow of information going through your paper.

The industry organization, known as Pauamac5, is an Incorporated Society. Its aim is to look after industry interests especially around fisheries management. This aim is underpinned by our very clear understanding that the health of the fishery comes first and that from that, all other benefits flow. Pauamac5 is funded by quota owners through the Paua Industry Levy established under the Commerce Act. Similar funding arrangements are used by the rock lobster and oyster industries. The 2013/14 season will see a levy struck of around \$500 per tonne of quota owned. A significant investment in the fishery and a demonstration of how strongly divers feel about looking after their fishery.

Pauamac5 is managed by an Executive comprised of a mix of quota owners and divers from the three paua quota management areas that cover the southern portion of the South Island: PAU5A, PAU5B (Stewart Island) and PAU5D. Stewart Island based divers Luke and Rastus are on the Pauamac5 executive and no doubt will be quite happy to discuss with you the Island paua fishery and any issues that might pop up.

Each year Pauamac5 consults with divers and quota owners to review how the season has gone and to discuss what the divers think is happening with each fishery. This feedback is then used to determine management rules that are incorporated into an Annual Operating Plan for the coming season. These rules are over and above those set by the Ministry.

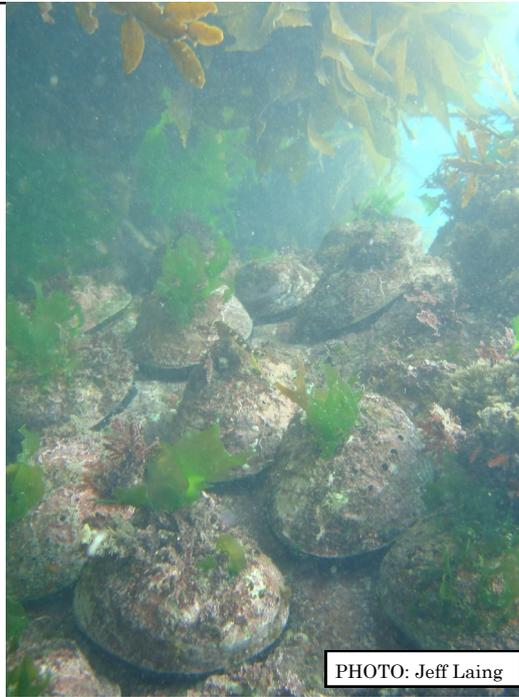


PHOTO: Jeff Laing

### How is the Stewart Island paua fishery looking?

For Stewart Island the diver opinion was again pretty optimistic, with most seeing an ongoing improvement in the health of the fishery. This has been the trend for the last few years. The Ministry for Primary Industries has scheduled Stewart Island for a stock assessment in the coming 2014 season. Stock assessments are routinely run in most paua fisheries every few years on behalf of the Minister to keep an eye on fishstock health. These stock assessments are normally carried out by NIWA and reported back to the Ministry's Shellfish Working Group for consideration. Currently, the full costs of the assessment are invoiced to quota owners in line with Government policy to recover the costs of fisheries services from industry. We look forward to the assessment results which should confirm the observations of the divers. The preliminary results should be available in mid-2014.

### What are the plans for the coming year?

There seems to be little doubt that setting our commercial harvest size at 135mm is continuing to increase the number of paua available to contribute to spawning and recruitment of future paua populations. 135mm will continue to be the harvest size for Stewart Island divers. There is a great deal of agreement amongst the divers that recreational and customary paua gatherers should consider increasing their harvest size to further accelerate stock rebuild.

Some divers have noted that certain areas close to hunter camps seem not to be

holding up that well due to some visiting hunters being somewhat less than scrupulous observers of the minimum legal size. This has been observed for species such as rock lobster and oyster as well. We will be reporting our observations to MPI compliance for future monitoring. Paua theft affects all legitimate users of the fishery and we will continue to work proactively with MPI to help reduce paua theft.

An interesting consequence of the increased minimum harvest size and average size of fish has been the noticeable rise in the number of paua taken from the northeastern side of Stewart Island, particularly in more sheltered areas. These paua are affected by shell "pox" caused by mud worm attack and fungal infection. This is not a human health issue but seems to affect the quality of the product after harvest and processing. Some research is being considered around the issue by industry.

Finally there will be emphasis placed on expanding the use of data loggers by dive operations. These loggers provide the very fine-scale information on catch, effort and spatial aspects of harvesting that are needed to better manage the fishery. The rock lobster industry has been collecting fine scale catch and effort data for a while and this has helped them greatly. The loggers will also provide much more accurate and cost effective information for stock assessment purposes.

### What are the current Industry concerns?

The major worry for Stewart Island divers continues to be the unregulated, unrestricted and expanding number Great White Shark Cage Diving tourist operations around the northern Titi islands. Areas close to where these tourist operators ply their trade are now considered so dangerous due to chumming and baiting changing shark behavior that our harvesters are being forced to fish elsewhere. This in turn is likely to have sustainability implications as harvest area becomes reduced increasing pressure on the remaining reduced area. The two agencies supposedly responsible, MNZ and DOC, continue to avoid dealing with the issue effectively. At the very least we would have thought that DOC would show some gumption and confront this marine version of bear baiting.

That's about it! A quick roundup from your paua industry. Once again if you want to talk to us about matters paua then catch up with Rastus or Luke for a yarn sometime.

## OBAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHATTER *by Jo Riksem*



**Bell ringer, T.E. Jensen 1954**



**Bell ringers Travis, Zac and Shay Chittenden with Maxx Squires**

Bell ringers have long been a part of our church and the sound is a lovely one. Mr T.E. “Edgar” Jensen was one such bell ringer. An elder and part of the management committee, he was also on the door welcoming people, handing out hymn books and taking up the collection. And that was just for the church! In the community he was the storekeeper, Post & Telegraph man (remember him up the pole) and delivered milk in a horse and dray for transport. A few Sundays ago we had four keen bell ringers. Travis, Zac and Shay Chittenden with Maxx Squires. It’s good to start them young.

It’s good to see our steeple light going again after being out for a while. Thanks to Jed for fixing the problem.

These past few months we have been blessed to have some of our local talent taking our services such as Beverley Osborn, Raylene Waddell, Lorraine and Lindsay Squires and our new mums Mary and Heather. To help warm us up on these cold days, on a few of the services we’ve also had a hot “cuppa” when we came in to the church as well as after the service.

*August issues in some special preachers from Southland and Otago to our pulpit.*

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** - Rev. Heather Kennedy of First Church, Invercargill, our Interim Moderator and one of our regular ministers to Stewart Island will hold communion this Sunday. We will then have a pot luck lunch in the manse followed by our Annual General Meeting.

**August 11<sup>th</sup>** - Bruce Fraser, who has been to our church many times and we love his lively down to earth talks. Bruce’s official title is Mission Advisor to the Synod of Otago and Southland. He and his wife Beverley love Stewart Island and she makes sure she’s included on his trips to see us.

**August 18<sup>th</sup>** - Rev Ivan Smith is a retired Presbyterian Minister who resides in Nightcaps. He has worked as a Minister and in the Mines. His wife, Pat, is a journalist for the Southland Times. They are part of the congregation who meet regularly for worship at Ohai.

**August 25<sup>th</sup>** - Rev John Gullick is currently the minister of Riversdale Waikaia Parish. He runs regular Discipleship Training events in the Riversdale area, and they have a regular outreach to dairy workers, especially during the busy weeks of calving in August. The Riversdale Parish also runs an Early Childhood Development Unit and have used the old Manse for this purpose.

Church remains open daily so come in and enjoy its beauty and peace.

Church services: every Sunday, starting at 11a.m. followed by a cup of tea and goodies.

Prayer Circle: every Saturday 11:30 – 12 noon at the home of Coral Hotchkiss.

## DOC Spot *Submitted by Sharon Pasco, Programme Manager Community Relations / Field Centre Supervisor*

### Decline in Kiwi at Mason Bay

Earlier this year a team of seven people and four certified kiwi dogs arrived on Stewart Island / Rakiura to monitor kiwi in a study that is undertaken every five years at Mason Bay. The results of that monitoring have now been made available and reveal that between the 2nd and 14th of February 2013, the team caught 26 Stewart Island Tokoeka (*Apteryx australis lawryi*) in a 125 ha area near 'The Homestead' at Mason Bay. Eight of the birds were caught for the first time, including three obvious juveniles or subadults. Three of the 26 birds had been banded between 1988 and 1991, when Rogan Colbourne studied the biology of Stewart Island Tokoeka, and seven birds were known to have been alive in November 1993 at the start of this long-term monitoring study.

From plotting the locations of captures, radio-tagged birds, sightings and calling birds, and birds seen on camera traps set at two locations, the team estimated that there were 11 occupied territories in February 2013 compared with 17 territories in the same area in November 1993, and 13 territories in 2008. This loss of 35% of territories in 19.25 years represents a decline of 2.23% per year. Although harder to quantify during a rapid survey like this, the mean group size has remained moderately stable at a minimum of 2.24 – 2.73 adult birds per territory over the five surveys. The minimum adult population has declined at an average rate of 1.34% per annum, or 23% in the past two decades. If the generation time of Stewart Island Tokoeka is taken to be 15 years, then the decline observed in the



study area represents a decline of 46-64% in three generations (45 years). This would mean that the taxon is correctly treated as 'Nationally Vulnerable', if the study site is representative of the whole population.

The rapid decline in the number of territories was unexpected, because there are no stoats, ferrets or pigs on Stewart Island, and dogs are absent from this part of the island. Possums only very rarely kill kiwi, usually when fighting for burrow ownership, but cats kill juvenile kiwi up to about a year old. Harriers, the only natural predator present, would take only kiwi chicks if out during daylight hours. The potential impact of cats on kiwi populations may have been underestimated in the past, but equally, the dramatic decline may be associated with major habitat changes as the study area regenerates from rough farmland to a mix of tussock, flax, and manuka scrubland. The decline that the team observed may not be typical of the Stewart Island population as a whole. Therefore, a new long-term monitoring site has been established since early 2011 in forest habitat near Port Adventure, on the eastern side of Stewart Island. This will be revisited at 5-yearly intervals to see if group size and territory density is more stable in forest habitat that is also inhabited by feral cats.

The copy of the report is available at the Stewart Island DOC office, for anyone interested in reading the full report.

### Other items in brief:

**DOC restructuring** - Appointments to senior positions in the Department continue to be made, with the recent announcement that Lou Sanson (currently Chief Executive of Antarctica New Zealand but who many will know from his days as Southland Conservator) has been appointed to the new position of Deputy Director-General, Conservation Partnerships, based in Wellington. Lou's appointment means that two of the six Deputy DG roles will be filled by ex-Southland Conservators, as Kevin O'Connor holds the role of Deputy Director-General Conservation Services. We will endeavour to keep the community informed as more appointments are made public, particularly for positions closely associated with the island.

**Million dollar milestone achieved** - Congratulations go to the Morgan Foundation for taking out the Conservation Award for outstanding new initiative at the recent Southland Environment and Conservation Awards for its campaign to raise \$1 million towards the eradication of mice from Antipodes Island. In receiving this award on behalf of the Foundation, Jo and Gareth Morgan were happy to announce that the \$1m target for this project has been met. Congratulations also go to the Southland Branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association, also named finalists for this award for their efforts to combat gorse around the southern area of Mason Bay.

## Mountain biking madness - such fun!!!!

by Sue Graham (aka Dids)

9am Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June - The shortest day, I board the ferry at 9am on Stewart Island. The weather has been rough and no boat the day before, a freezing cold southerly greets me brrrr. The trip over to Bluff was not too bad, I am sure I have been on worse, a few big waves to unsettle me and make me grasp the seat in front. The wind was freezing in Bluff and loading up my car with tent and tools and my trusty stead, my hands froze, so into the car heater on full bore, to help me defrost.

Friday afternoon Jo Learmonth, Jane Everest and I headed out to Sandy Point track - the location of the BNZ Mid Winter 8hr Mountain Bike Enduro - madness you say, I think it might be a mid-life crisis event. We did a quick recon of the area to suss out a place to set up camp for race day Saturday - we settled on the same spot as last year - yes this was our 3<sup>rd</sup> time at this event whoop whoop. We setup the tents and gazebo, then the temperature was starting to drop so off back to the house to keep warm.

Saturday morning - Yeeha - texts to each other to get us motivated and fired up for the day ahead. I picked

up Jo and we headed out about 9:30am. Arriving at Sandy Point it is buzzing with people and their bikes, tents, campers, buses, trailers even horse floats - anything to keep you sheltered and warm. We get the bikes sorted with our numbers, get the chairs out, heater setup, it is just like home - we wish but it is all part of the adventure. Our team is Kath Johnson, Jo Learmonth, Heidi Wilcox and me, Sassy Stewart Islanders, we also hung out with Jane Everest, Ange Burnett, Monique Smith and Laura Fahey - Ange and the 3 beans. We had our own paparazzi Nicolette Thompson - she was also cheer leader, tea lady, hot water bottle filler, leaning post, lolly supplier, PowerAde courier, packer upper - cheers girlfriend

Riders briefing started at 10:30am Dave Brookland the president of Southland MTB Club is in control, he tells us the rules and there is a twist this year, there are angry bird and pig toys in the forest, bring one in and you get a spot prize - how cool is that.

It is a Lemans start, so you have to run a short distance, it helps spread the field 150ish (this includes 4hr enduro) riders. The race was to start at 11:00am but a few hold ups and we were under way at 11:15am (nervous times waiting at the start line!) I managed to run to my bike Kath was

holding ready for take-off. Now out on to the single track in the forest, it is so much fun, I was passed by heaps but managed to pass 3 he he. The track seemed to go on for ages, I have come to love some parts and loathe others. The Morrison and Jojo are my favourite parts and Svend is hard and technical but such a treat when you get to the end of it. The track comes back in close to the car park and people yell encouraging things, and you know you have only a few more minutes of biking until you reach the transition area, so you give it another burst. Arriving at the transition you have to pass a slap band to the next team member who was Jo, off she goes. Jane's team is ahead of us, but we support each other on the track and on the sidelines.

It takes about an hour to do a lap so your team mates hang eating and trying to keep warm. Thank goodness for Monique who brought a gas brazier - so much warmth and it kept the kettle hot for our cups of tea and even cooked the cheese rolls - perfect. We had our seats positioned around the brazier and talked about the track. Friends and family wander in and out during the racing Riki, Daniel, Ben and Lily, Kyle, Zoe, Guy and Auntie Linda, Ange and Monique's husbands plus their kids were doing the 4 hour, Cath Belworthy dropped off Jane's cheese rolls - so social.

**The track**, well it is in a pine forest with dirt and a sandy base, you ride through felled tree areas and big trees, it is single track, winding through the different areas, technical skinny parts with tree roots, up hill, a couple of small drop offs, swooping uphill and fast downhill, bits along the edge of banks, plus some wide road areas, so many varied sections you are always on the lookout for what is next.

Jo is back in and Kath is off, we walk around the transition area during our wait, SIT have a massage tent, gold coin donation - great will do that after my next lap. Zookeepers has a gold coin donation for a steak sandwich

(Continued on page 12)



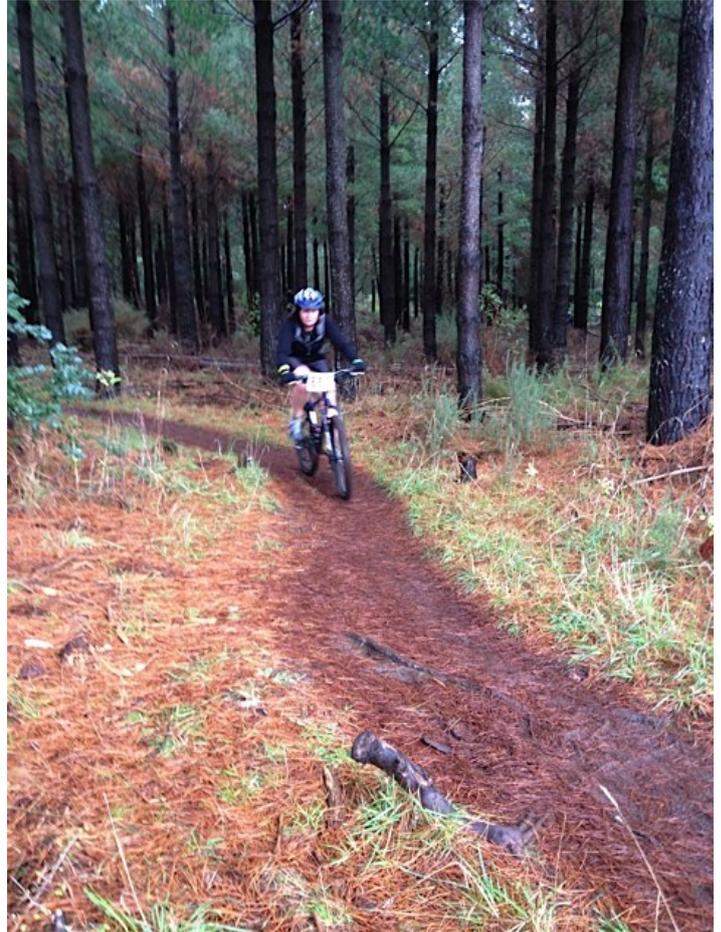
(MOUNTAIN BIKING *Continued from page 11*)

and Invercargill Brewery have a gold coin for a beer, and the money going to a good cause. We wait near the fence for Kath to come and shout encouraging WHOOP WHOOPS - such fun.

Kath is in and Heidi is off. While Heidi is out we are comparing hard bits of the track and say how much longer it feels. We try to eat and drink to keep us energised. Heidi's hubby Glenn and kids Samantha, Jack and Thomas are there to cheer her on, she arrives in transition, pleased to be back with stories of a couple of trips over the handle bars, first time on single track for Heidi great result she made it back in a good time and still intact, yippee !!

My turn again, off into the forest seems to go faster second time around and I found a toy pig Yeeha, as I get close to the end girls are cheering me on and I am screaming I found a pig he he. Transition to Jo, torch and lights on she is good to go. We are waiting and watching at the fence, all we can see is lights bouncing and flashing through the trees, it is only when the bikers get closer, or the yell it's me, it's me then we start to yell encouraging words, then we race back to transition to send Kath off on her last round.

Kath is lit up and sorted, off into the deep dark depths of the forest. Jo retells of her dark adventure and has a deep scrape on her shin ouch, tough as though. We take the tents down and pack up the cars it is about 630pm, so very dark and cold now, Jane and I head off for a massage at the SIT tent it is bliss back and shoulders feel back to normal. Off to the fence to watch Kath come in, lights flashing again, red rear lights and bright blinding head and bike lights, Monique shouts out "it's me", we *whoop whoop* back. Kath heads up to fence giving it heaps not far to the end, we are yelling excitedly the end is near. It is done 8 hours are up yeah!!!



Kath heads off for a massage and we pack up the last of our stuff. We head to prize giving and to view the results, we came 8<sup>th</sup> out of 10 women's teams - happy with that we finished and we were all in one piece. Ange, Jane, Monique and Laura came 5<sup>th</sup> amazing. Just a note we were averaging 1 hour laps, Jane's team were averaging 50 min, the top guys fastest lap was 34 min they are awesome.

Off to the house to warm up cheers Helen for the letting us hang at the town house, we talked up a big de brief with takeaway Thai and Indian, and heaps of drinks. We got to the house ate the food and chewed our way through one or two drinks we were stuffed but we laughed and told of our war wounds - Ange had the best and that was my fault, I was on a small rise and was bumped off by a tree root, I had just got up and Ange and about 3 other riders came up and Ange hit the root and landed on my bike - ouch she had a huge deep bruise on her thigh - tough as though she was off - she still had the bruise 2 weeks later. I think we were all pooped and everyone headed home or to bed about 11pm - sad but true - exhaustion got the better of us.

I think one of the things that sticks with me is the great camaraderie and how encouraging everyone is and how great you feel after your achievement. Can't wait for next year WHOOP WHOOP!!!! I love it!!! And my spot prize was a helmet - bonus!!

Thanks to Kath, Jo, Heidi, Jane, Ange, Monique and Laura also Nic - great adventure cheers!!

Southland Mountain Bike Club have meets 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at Sandy Point registration opens at 9:30 race at 10:30 - rain, hail, snow, thunder and lightning it will be on.

***Next mission Mud Sweat and Tears in Dunedin on the 28<sup>th</sup> August.***

*Photos from Nicolette Thompson.*

# Thank you for making our wedding day so special.

We would like to thank everyone who helped and took part in our wedding celebrations. We had a wonderful time and we hope you did too. A very big thank you to Sue and Ian, Buzz and Judy, Margaret, Jon, Squizzy, and Gwen for the wonderful way the service was carried out. Rosie — thank you — the cake was spectacular and it almost outshone my wedding dress! Rob you played a marvellous selection of music that had



everyone up and dancing and a few complaining of aching limbs the next day! And Greg — thank you for capturing everything on camera so we can share our magical day with family members who were unable to



attend. Vickster you're one in a million thank God.

To everyone else who contributed to our big day — thank you, thank you, thank you! This really is a very special place to live, made even more special by the people who live here.

*Mona & Lorry*

## Civil Defence reminder

Be prepared resources

[www.civildefence.govt.nz](http://www.civildefence.govt.nz)

[www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz)

Civil defence information is on the back page of your phone book.

Know your civil defense action plan for your home and have a civil defence kit ready eg backpack.

Stewart Island civil defence emergency operations headquarters at fire station unless tsunami then police station/Traill park.

The Island currently has a worst case scenario action plan, in the event of a Tsunami we will have a Minimum 30 minute window to warn people to get to higher ground (30 metres) or your muster point, (note if your muster point is higher than your residence, then you are below 30 metres.)

Areas at risk in Tsunami ie under 10m

Muster points & Wardens

**Leask Bay** - Dawn McLelland/ Jack & Mel

**Lonneckers** - Phred & Belinda/Britts/Brenda Hicks

**Halfmoon Bay** - Traill Park

**Mill Creek** - Erikssons

**Butterfields Beach** - Rakiura Retreat Motel

**Braggs Bay** - Rakiura Retreat Motel

**Horseshoe Bay** - Sandra Whipp or Jeds or Stu

**Thule** - Raylene Waddell

**Watercress** - Raylene Waddell

**Golden Bay** - Raylene Waddell

**Ringaringa/Deep Bay** - Schofields

**As per civil defence advertisements  
if there is a large earthquake,  
that you can not stand up,  
and find it hard to move around  
get to higher ground immediately.**

There will be immediate notification via, fire siren, police siren, manual PA system, Marine radio and other media services, eg radio, tv, Internet. However this may not reach all residents/visitors.

Note during and after disaster power may be interrupted or out, so for communication battery operated radio would be ideal - an example of one that is held by civil defence team a Digitech AR1747 approx \$160 available from jaycar electronics.

A laminated red card is part of your civil defence kit - please write on it with a vivid where you and your family have gone and attach to the front door - so civil defence and emergency services know where you are.

Please note phones that plug direct into jack point will work when power is out, cordless phone and most modern phones will not work when power is out.

CD working group is Sue Graham, Dale Jenkins, Debs Dillon, Al Check, Barry Rhodes, if you are interested in being involved contact any of us.

# MOTURAU MOANA

*Islands of bush above the sea*

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or phone **0800 732 732**  
to ensure the venue is available.






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**SIRCET Update**

by *Letitia McRitchie*

This is my last article as the SIRCET Project Administrator as we have a new staff member starting in this role. We are very excited to have Mandy in the role and she is doing a great job learning about us!

for people for environment

SIRCET have recently started an exciting new project, working with the kiwi that were released into the Ackers project area in February. Thanks to funding from Kiwis for Kiwi we will be able to follow some of these birds over the next year.

After their release in February, SIRCET followed all the birds for 3 months and while some birds moved closer to Peterson Hill, all birds remained in the project area. At that stage DOC had intended to stop monitoring and allow the transmitters to fall off naturally. With the decision that we would continue to monitor the birds we had to quickly try and catch the birds again and replace their transmitters, in between the rain showers!

DOC offered their expertise to lead this and along with SIRCET volunteers and local school kids, seven birds were captured. There were several surprises. The first was that all the birds were fat!!! When they were captured on Ulva the birds condition ranged from poor to moderate but after 4 months at Ackers they were in good to excellent condition. A bit more space for them than on Ulva!

One bird was caught just a metre from a locals lawn. Kiwis love short grass as an easy place to feed and this bird must have thought he was on to a good thing.

But the most exciting find was diving into the bushes to catch one bird and coming out with a pair. Both birds came off Ulva and while its not great for genetic diversity its wonderful to know that the birds have settled into the area so well.

And the last surprise was on the final day of catching when another pair was caught. Again both Ulva birds (I won't make any comments about small island populations and inbreeding...).

Having two pairs is a great start to the project. We will use the transmitter signals from the birds to plot where they are going and hopefully when they start sitting still in one place, they will be on a nest. Then it's the countdown to hatching. Over the next year we will keep you updated with the birds progress.



*Billy and Tommy help out.*



The photo is of my daughter Tresa and I at the start of our favourite running track.

*Hi, my name is Mandy Foster and I'm the new Project Administrator for SIRCET. My husband Lawrie and I came to Stewart Island a couple of years ago and fell in love with the place. Our 5 beautiful daughters are all grown up and 'doing their own things' so it was time to have a lifestyle change. Some may call it a 'mid-life crisis' – we call it an adventure!*

Coming from a fitness/health background and prior to that horticulture and farming, my role with SIRCET is an exciting new challenge which complements our outdoor employment on the island.

**Our AGM is on Thursday the 19 September, 730pm at DOC. We are always looking for new trustees to help share the load and now is a great time to join the team. We have a couple of exciting years coming up with some excellent funding and we are in the process of implementing a review that should see a change in the way we operate. From that we are really looking for the project to move forward rapidly in achieving our goals.**

**It would be great to have more people on board to share our vision of the Stewart Island community embracing environmental ecosystem protection and restoration.**

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*(GLOBETROTTER Continued from page 4)*

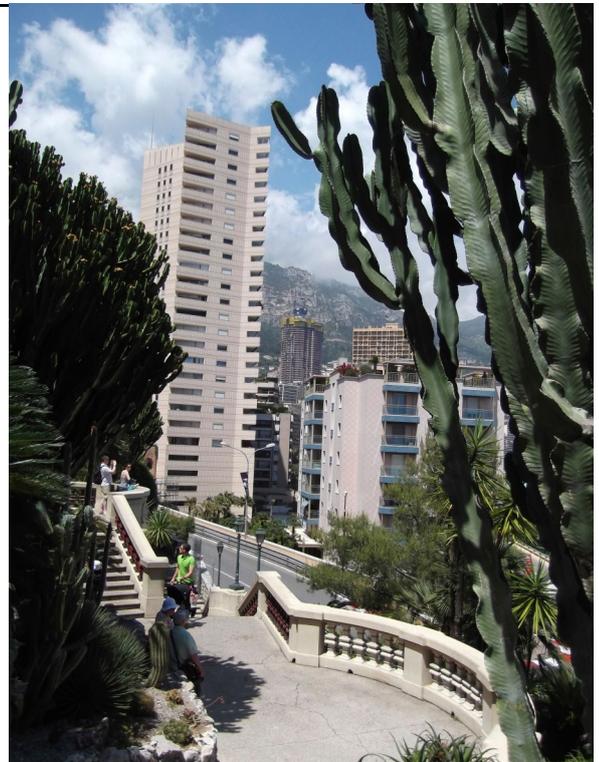
we were unlikely to reach by ourselves. It gave us a glimpse of the other France – the rural/small village life which seemed more familiar.

The boat was equipped with a hydraulically suspended wheelhouse, which sank part of the way into the deck so we could squeeze under low bridges. Most of the bridges seemed fairly low – we were there at the time of the worst Spring in 200 years so the rivers were all in flood. Amusingly the white swans were shooting past the boat like torpedoes – I had a horrible image of them all ending up at one end of the river, with nests and partners deserted at the other.

Sightseeing highlights included the massive roman aquaduct (Pont du Gard), a complete medieval village called Perouges, a beautiful moated chateaux named Cormatin, Versailles Palace (the pinnacle of ostentatious consumption), Monet’s Garden (wonderful), and a table at the Moulin Rouge which abutted the stage so it moved every time they danced.

Was it fantastic? Yes. Did I enjoy it? Certainly. Am I sorry not to live in an antique apartment in chic Paris? Give me my gumboots and Stewart Island any day!

*Photos and story from Kirsten Hicks.*



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## STEWART ISLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Do you know your local library has far more than books to offer?

Some of the other highlights are:

As part of his William Pike challenge, Marley Wright comes in on Saturday mornings to read to and otherwise entertain kids of all ages.

We have talking books, which you can listen to instead of Marley.

Lots of dvds – only \$2 for 7 nights.

NZ Geographic magazines (excellent photography).

SINS past and present.

And if your days are not challenging enough we have a multitude of puzzles

– from the easier pastoral scenes to more difficult Wasgij. And if you really want to be stressed, we have a couple containing multitudes of penguins or seemingly identical leprechauns (puzzles this is).

We are open Mondays (12.30- 1.30), Wednesdays (2.30 – 3.30), Fridays (12.30 – 1.30) and because of our kind volunteers Pat and Jenny, Saturday mornings 11.00 to noon.

—Kirsten

**BOOK REVIEW** from Sue Ford

## “Inferno” by Dan Brown

This is Brown’s fourth Prof. Robert Langdon’s book, but by no means – in my humble opinion! – his best. I think I blew it by reading “The Da Vinci Code” first. That set the bar very high for me, and everything I’ve read since has had to measure up if it wants my 10/10 five-star rating. “Inferno” comes in at 5/10 and 2.5 stars – mediocre in other words. And yet the beginning is intriguing:

Our intrepid Prof. remembers being in his Harris Tweed at Harvard one minute; next, he’s attached to beeping hospital equipment and dressed in a hospital gown, a bullet wound in his head, and in the middle of a gun-fight in the hospital. In Florence! Florence, Italy, that is! Now, how in the world.....? He’s rescued from the gun-toting female motorcyclist by beautiful Doctor Sienna Brooks, along with his Harris Tweed and a small cylinder covered in bio-hazard symbols. But not his Mickey Mouse watch ..... ohhhhhhh!

Up to that point, I was with the Prof. all the way, but after that, things get very confused and overly-complicated. This time, it’s Dante’s Inferno that’s the key to all the chicanery. Maybe I’m just not familiar with much of the art or story of The Inferno, or with Dante’s own story, but whatever the cause, I found myself less than riveted by the unfolding of the mystery. The goodies and baddies changed sides – either literally or according to the limited knowledge we were given about individuals – with monotonous regularity; the riddle was almost impossible to follow; and Langdon’s insights very fortuitous. “Disjointed” is the word to describe it I think. There *are* some tense moments that reminded me of the best of the other three books: look out for a certain scramble through the false roof of a certain museum as an example – quite gripping. If the book had been written by any old “Fred Smith”, imitating the style of Dan Brown, I’d have said it was a jolly good read from an author showing much promise and that Mr. Brown had better look to his laurels! “Inferno” is a good imitation of what a good Dan Brown novel should be then.

“The Amun Chamber” by Daniel Leston was a different kind of rollicking adventure – more reminiscent of Indiana Jones than Prof. Langdon. It’s an impressive story, following the archaeological clues from Ancient Egypt through to some fatal black-marketing of antiquities in the 1950’s, and then into solving the resulting riddles in the present day. Usually, I hate the author-tool of flipping back and forth between various time periods, but Leston has this down to a fine art: there’s no confusion as to which period you are in, all the red-herrings you could kick yourself for following, and the real clues are laid out for you pretty much like an Agatha Christie (which is ironic really). Sorry Mr. Brown – I preferred Daniel Leston’s adventure/thriller to “Inferno”!

For those of you with a preference for the reading of classical literature, rather than modern sensational stories, I dare you to read (or renew old acquaintance with) Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “The Scarlet Letter”. This American wrote it in the early or mid-1800’s judging by the rather archaic language, but it is a dark tale of even earlier history, from the most infamous time of Salem’s past. Despite the cumbersome literary style, it still manages to be gripping as we follow the history of “fallen woman” Hester Prynne and her “born in sin” daughter, Pearl. Maybe Dan Brown should delve into *literary* history before writing his next book, instead of relying purely on the enigmas in *art* history that he favours?

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Welcome to the "Toad-and-Mush-room"

*Photo from Carolyn Squires*



## Message from Councillor Bruce

You should all have received your electoral roll details in the post in the last week or so. If you haven't, it's likely that you aren't on the local roll or that you need to update your details. This can be completed at 0800 36 76 56 or [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz). It is important that you are eligible to vote in the upcoming local body elections in October. It also gives you the opportunity to accept a nomination and get involved in your community direction. A wide selection of candidates can give us a wider pool of expertise and experience to draw from, enabling the greater understanding of today's challenges and widening our community's vision for the future. Meanwhile, if you have any trouble checking your status on the electoral roll, ask the staff at the postal centre or library to check the roll for you.

I will be offering my nomination for the position of Stewart Island Ward Member to Southland District Council, for which I have completed two terms over six years. The role of local representative is a very broad and encompassing position. Whilst our own community affairs are foremost, it's of considerable importance to understand and support fellow councillors in their related communities, and for the overall good of the Southland region. Whilst you will have spotted me suited-up and briefcase in hand, making a passage to Invercargill on a regular basis, that has been preceded by reams of pages of reports and decision-making papers (it's not unusual to have 500 pages per meeting to plow through!). We do have considerable support from staff and other councillors, and it's recognised that Stewart Island does have many and varied challenges to master.

I believe that I have a good understanding of community challenges and am able to achieve effective, high-value outcomes. Still needing a firm "whip-hand" is the ongoing electricity cost and supply – this is a challenge that is quite possible to overcome, and our community could be the envy of the high power-charged rest-of-NZ in due course!

There are challenges a-plenty out there besides the major one of electricity. For example, there is considerably more work to achieve in the upgrades to our jetties. I have chaired the Jetties Sub-committee from the start, and to date, good rebuilds have been achieved, but now, Port William and Millars Beach require attention. And the success of our foray into Parliament and resulting Visitors Levy Bill reminds us that we need to pay ongoing attention to other visitor assets also, requiring improvements and innovation. And that's the tip of the iceberg.

I have the experience, the contacts and the will to continue into this next term as your Councillor. Your vote does count. Please don't hesitate to speak to me about projects current and proposed.

Now, Local Body Elections are postal, and your voting papers should arrive by 25 September. Don't put them aside – you will have a fair idea who to vote for, so tick the appropriate boxes and post your vote straight away.

## STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE

*Jenny Gell*

Our next meeting will be at Wendy Hallett's at 2 o'clock on  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July.**



At 2 o'clock on  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August** we  
will be at Raylene Waddell's.

**WANTED!** More knitted squares. Yes we are still knitting for 'Mission without Borders' and need another 25 squares to complete another blanket.

Pattern: Using double knitting wool, cast on 40 sts on size 8 or 4mm needles, knit 70 rows in garter st [plain knitting] cast off.

Any further details or wool contact Elaine Hamilton 2191027 or Pat King 2191156.

*Thanks, Elaine*

## Community Centre News

Hi All

I postponed Tash's sessions last month, she is now coming on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August so please let me know if you are interested in a programme – it is great to get you back into the gym or to start if you join the gym I will add one month to your minimum 3 month membership and if you have a membership we will add 1 month to your existing membership. Tash is great and inspiring and gets you back into your gym groove so let me know text 0272316305 or leave a message on 2191477

Circuit class is still going strong tues, thurs at 5.30pm or sat 9am – give it a go for all levels of fitness. \$2

Tai Chi and weights class is on Wed 10am \$2 - all welcome

Cheers  
*Dids*

# Need a Resource Consent? ... I can help!

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**fucivorous**. ADJECTIVE. *Zoology* feeding on seaweed.

Paul Peychers captured this photo of one of the Island's *fucivorous* whitetails.

(I won't tell you what this adjective's downstairs neighbour is in the Dictionary...)

There's a new website up and running which your readers might be interested in - "nzbirdsonline". You can run a search on any NZ bird and as well as the usual info you can listen to a recording of their call. Great for all those Tickers!  
*From Kirsten Hicks*



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Musician Jerome Kavanagh shared his knowledge of *taonga puoro* —traditional Maori instruments— with Halfmoon Bay at the Community Centre.  
*Photo from Kari Beaven*

Stewart Island News is published on a monthly basis as material permits.  
**Please send articles and enquiries to Vicki Coats c/ Stewart Island Post Office, HMB Post Office or email to [stewartisland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stewartisland@xtra.co.nz)**

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