

# STEWART ISLAND NEWS

## CELEBRATING RAKIURA

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2009

\$2.50



The Stewart Island Patchwork group made these 27 beautiful blankets over the winter which they donated to the neo natal unit at Southland Hospital. Each blanket goes on a "preemie" crib. Pat King had read about a similar project at Starship. "I thought, *what a good idea*," she said. "Let's do that and keep it closer to home."

Bay (pp 10-12). Another kiwi has been killed by a dog (pp 5&12). We've lost a few friends to other islands — Kent and Casey have relocated to Awapawa Island, and PJ has taken a job on Mana Island. We wish them well in their new endeavours.



Ian and Stu recently attended a meeting in Invercargill about shark cage diving ventures planned for our waters and they came away very concerned. Get informed and have your say. Commercial divers and recreational water users see p 15.

story below and photos throughout issue.

Sorry there was no October issue, my month went pear-shaped. Kari will be putting together the next couple of *SINs*, see the back page for her contact info.

As you can see, we're trying colour ink this month. If it comes out funny and everyone looks orange and green...my apologies.

The expression *time heals* doesn't apply to our wharf, which is still a splintery mess. And as Letters to the Editor show, the closure of our i-SITE is still a sore subject around the

Mel-Bin Cup Day was a great success and showcased the spirit of the community. See

I'm hoping to lose my "pear shape" soon, and I plan to resume editing *SIN* in the new year (with a new baby by my side —due Christmas!) —Jess

### MELBOURNE CUP VISITS ISLAND, LIKES IT

Photos and story by  
Chris Griffiths

No, it wasn't a hoax – the Melbourne Cup trophy really did come to Stewart Island 2 weeks ago.



A helicopter landed in the school-



grounds and out came a man in white gloves proudly waving the gold cup. A small but glamorous group of well-comers cheered into the teeth of a stiff westerly. An Aussie TV cameraman, who later reported he found our spring weather a little unspringlike, accompanied him. Therefore, remain-

ing doubters can look up [www.melbournecup.com/tour](http://www.melbournecup.com/tour) and see his picture of "Invercargill local" (oh dear) Rex Jones clutching the cup and looking rugged in true Southern Man style.

The cup had a flying visit to Southland as part of its 2009 promotional 'Tour'. It also flew in to Riverton, Winton, Gore and Invercargill on the same day. However you might feel about horse racing (and many of us are underwhelmed), to behold the golden

(Continued on page 9)

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# Now and Then

by Margaret Hopkins

## Early Halfmoon Bay

The selection of photos this month has had me pondering some of the written information that we have about early buildings here on the Island. Jo Riksem has been scanning all of the Rakiura Museum's wonderful photo collection plus any that people have been willing to lend for the records and being able to zoom-in on the computer gives us a great close-up look at individual houses that we haven't got other photos of.

In an earlier column on Scollay's Bayview Guesthouse I quoted from Eileen Willa's album of Stewart Island Houses which said the building burnt down in 1911 or 1912 but I have since found a photo which shows a completely different house on that site in 1892. In a Southland Times article dated 1888 describing a visit to Stewart Island and all it has to offer for the holiday-maker, there is mention of 'Mr Scollay's Bayview Hotel'. This indicates that it was between 1888 and 1892 (the dated photo) that the building burnt down. The article begins '*As the time for holidays and globetrotting is fast approaching it may be of interest to some of your readers to know what is doing over at the Island in providing for those who will pay a visit to the spot, now recognised by many as the sanatorium of the south.*' (Now you all know why this is such a great place! We've heard it called many things before!)

### Photo 1

This is the earliest known photo of Halfmoon Bay taken around 1875. The small boy is one of the Scollay children and his parents' Bayview Guest House is in the



Photo 1

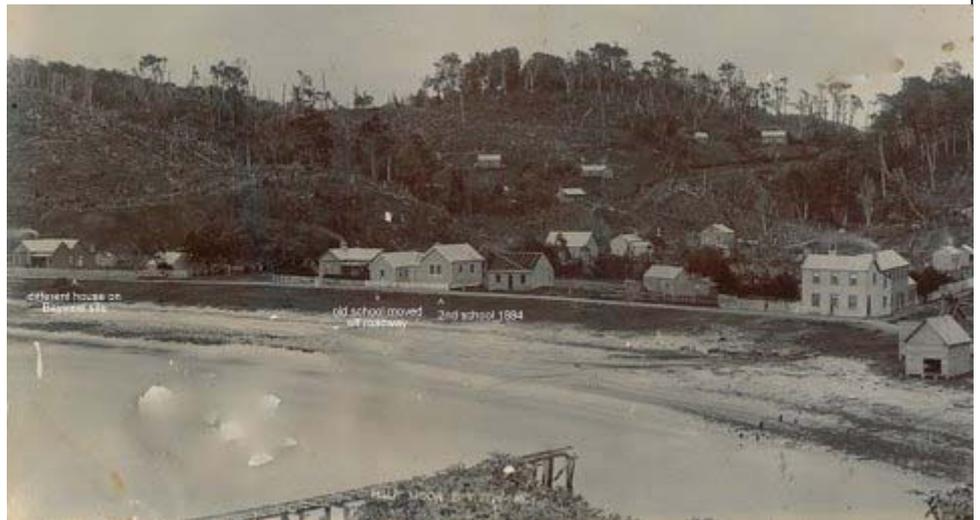


Photo 2

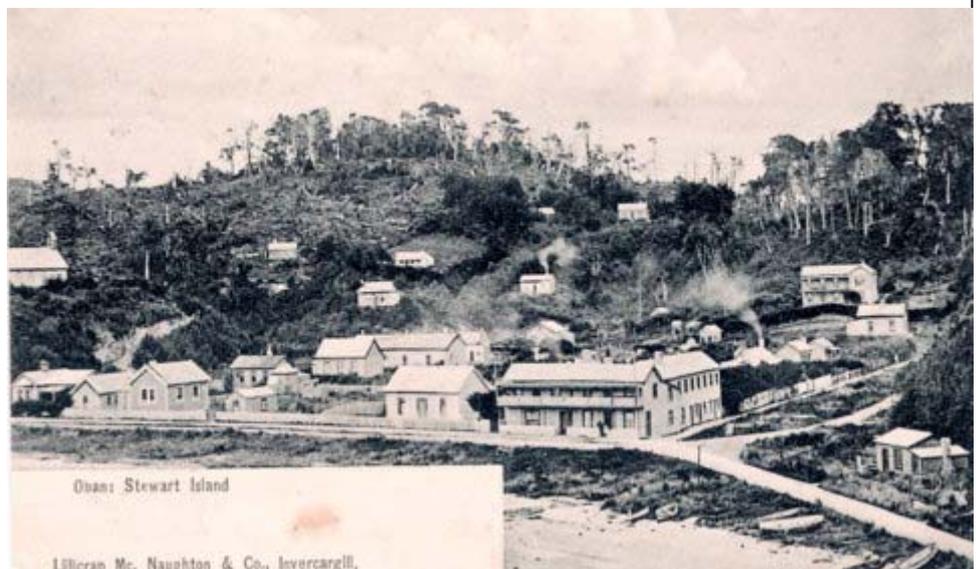


Photo 3

(Continued from page 2)

background. Notice the tall podocarp forest coming nearly down to the water's edge. The building on the far right is Murdoch's mill.

Photo 2

Taken in 1892 this photo shows a different house where Bayview had stood. Further along to the right is Swain's house on the corner of Ayr St and Elgin Tce. Built in 1889 this house remained until the 1960s when it was demolished to enlarge the school grounds. Between Swain's house and the new school built in 1884 is the original school building (1874), which was shifted there on rollers to make way for the road. Oban House (where the current hotel stands) was built in 1890 by James Goodall who was granted a Liquor Licence that year by A.W. Traill, Chairman of the Stewart Island Licensing Committee. The small building on the beach at the far right is the chaff house for the mill horses and the remains of the old wharf are visible.

Photo 3

The most noticeable feature in this and photo 2 is the clearance of trees, as well as the increase in buildings. Oban House had been enlarged and a store incorporated when Christian Hansen took over in 1899. Seaview guesthouse alongside was built in early 1900 and the two-storied building further back was Seafield House, a private boarding house that accommodated 23 guests built in 1900 for Mrs J.B. Ramsay. This fine establishment was burnt down in 1906 and the subsequent building on that site is now the home of Liz and Heath. The County Hall & Athenaeum can be seen on Ayr St with the Undenominational (sic) Church alongside and the courthouse built in 1896.

## KAI KART KETCH-UP

We decided to open the Kai Kart early this year seeing I did not go for my usual annual trip to Germany and the school holidays brought quite a number of people to the Island. We completely forgot to name our "customer of the season" before we closed the doors for hibernation in May, so we thought we start with one instead. It goes to an Island person that keeps us entertained during the busy times, not to the most frequent customer!

It is...Steve Kenny

**Hope his broken oven never gets fixed!**

*Looking forward to seeing you for your freebie, Steve.*

### New Kai on the menu:

The German sausage has arrived, best with ooonions, a dash of curry or mustard.

Our very own

**Southern Glory Oysters**

*Desserts: Treat yourself to this one.*

Orgasmic organic ice-cream. (This is truly its name). Not just organic, but also gluten free.

Worth a try.

Refreshing little cheesecakes.

Opening times are from 12 - 2 and 5 - 8, until it gets busier. Mondays and Tuesdays are closed till December, except Labour weekend.

On a different note, the Kai Kart is now for sale. Any enquiries see Hilli or ring on 2191040.

The Halfmoon Bay School entertained the community with their original production of *Rakiura...Now and Then*. The show included music, dance, history, humour, a helicopter, and of course...a haka! Congratulations to all the kids for a job well done.

Photos: Paula Brown





Author Ian Chapman aka Dr Glam performed at the Community Centre to celebrate National Library Month. He is a musician and professor at Otago University, and he gave a talk about the music and culture of the 1970s. Check out his book at the Library: *Glory Days: from Gumboots to Platforms*.



**RUGRATS NEWS**

by Mary Chittenden

**Goodbye to our teacher**

Once again Rakiura Rugrats has to say goodbye to a fabulous teacher. Corinna Gittens-Arnold and her husband Leron have been with us for just over 18 months and during this time Corinna has not only built great relationships with all the children and parents but has improved the centre teaching and learning programme so that even the Education Review Office that assesses centres and schools was impressed with the improvements. Rugrats is now firmly established and well resourced more than ever before and provides an important stepping stone in our childrens development. We thank you Corinna for all your hard work and you will be missed! We wish you and Leron the very best in your future adventures together.

From past experience it has been hard to recruit an early childhood teacher for only a part-time posi-

tion here on the island. So, please pass out the word to any friends, family and contacts. We are looking for a fun teacher to begin the first term 2010.

***We are looking for a registered early childhood teacher who is self-motivated and fun to come and enjoy our island lifestyle!***

- Work / life balance
  - Part time position 22 hours per week
  - 8 hours non contact planning time per week
  - Small, well resourced centre
  - Centre is licensed for max 20 children
  - Relocation package offered
  - We follow primary school terms
  - CP Head teacher rates (pro rata)
  - 4 weeks annual leave per year, 1 week professional development and 10 days sick leave
- Supportive and proactive management team  
For a copy of the job description

and for more information please contact: Nicolette Thompson on 03 2191511 or Mary Chittenden on 03 2191223 [rakiura-rugrats@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rakiura-rugrats@xtra.co.nz) or visit our website [www.rugrats.org.nz](http://www.rugrats.org.nz)

**Thank you**

Rakiura Rugrats families would like to thank the community for their support over the Mel-bin (and Melbourne) cup. A total of \$780 was fundraised from both the cake stall and the Mel-bin cup activities. Big thanks also to all our sponsors.

The Rugrats management team would also like to publicly thank the following families for their involvement over the years and whose time at Rugrats has now come to an end..... Belinda and Phred, Chris and Holger, Christine, Paul and Kerri-lee. All of these families have their youngest child turning 5 over the next few weeks and so what is Rugrats loss is the schools gain. Well done and all the best Tommy, Nate, Keisha, Hayleigh and Jamie!!!!





**DOC Spot**

by Sharon Pasco, Field Centre Supervisor / PM Community Relations

**Is your pet a killer?**

DOC staff had the sickening task of collecting a dead kiwi from Horseshoe Bay earlier this month. Paw prints found around the body of the young male kiwi and crush marks on its body left no doubt that it had perished in the jaws of a large dog. Dogs may be our best friends – but if they are out of control they are a problem. Around the village dogs are one of the greatest threats faced by kiwi. Dog owners therefore have a vital role in protecting our national bird and other wildlife, such as penguin and weka. If you don't keep your dog on a lead or under constant visual surveillance, then you



have no way of knowing for sure that your dog is not a killer! It only takes a few seconds for a dog to catch and kill a kiwi. For the sake and safety of our wildlife, please take your responsibilities as a pet owner seriously.

**Sirocco the Superstar**

It's not often that the island hosts an international superstar, but it would appear that the Ulva Island Trust, are currently doing just that. Since Sirocco appeared on BBC television earlier this month, almost a million people have tuned in to YouTube to view the behaviour of this unusual Kakapo. His persona 'Sirocco Kakapo' has also acquired thousands of 'friends' through social networking sites *Facebook* and *Twitter*, with many expressing the desire to visit Ulva Island to meet him face to face. This year's Kakapo Encounter has proved very successful with many of the nightly trips fully booked.

**Planning Update**

Work on the Draft Stewart Island / Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy and Draft Rakiura National Park Management Plan is progressing well, with many changes being incorporated into the two planning documents. Although the Department of Conservation is reviewing its Conservation Management

Strategy approach, the Stewart Island / Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy is currently continuing as planned, due to being developed in conjunction with the first ever Rakiura National Park Management Plan.

**Introducing Daniel Cumming:**

My name's Daniel and I'm down on Stewart Island for the next nine months gaining some management experience in the Animal Threats position with DOC. I grew up in the Wairarapa and have spent the last eight years in different parts of the country involved in the possum control industry, from fur recovery through to TB control. In my spare time I look forward to hunting, fishing and enjoying a few ales.



**Update on Council Matters**

by Bruce Ford

It's been a while since I last reported to SIN, but it has been a very hectic winter, with a lot going on in Southland as a whole, and it has kept all at S.D.C. very busy. However, Stewart Island interests have not been neglected, and some of the progress, in brief, includes:

The Stewart Island Jetties Committee is well advanced with the new build of a replacement piled structure at Little Glory. This will replace the storm-wrecked jetty. The replacement will be further to the west and not so weather-affected, which should make it more user-friendly for kiwi spotting operations. Construction is due to start any day, and will be operational pre-summer season. Remaining

jetties will then receive repairs, where necessary, on an on-going basis. Powernet have donated a large consignment of hardwood poles to be used to re-pile many of the "shakier" structures. Local work arrangements have been made with Southern Seafoods maintenance team to complete the Little Glory job and on-going maintenance of the other jetties.

You will have received, with your power bill, a report on how the "warmer homes insulation" project is proceeding. I hope that as many households as possible completed the application for the FREE assessment, and so will receive an individual report on the likely benefits to your home. There are possibilities that additional funding will be received to supplement the figures from ECCA. There is likely to be

even more attention given to low income households, especially those with a Community Service Card. You can see that it is important that you enquire as to your eligibility for the various options. It is likely there are many people who could gain even greater subsidies – with a bit more paperwork!

You may have seen recent news in relation to a Stewart Island Visitor Levy. This proposal, approved by full Council, is well advanced to go to Government as a private members bill (or something similar) and Eric Roy has picked this up and is giving it his full support. I believe it will be successful. Whilst it won't happen overnight, it will eventually help to pay for those visitor facilities that will be required in the future, and, of course, supplement some operations (e.g. public toilets and public

rubbish bins/collection) which are currently included in our rates.

There are dozens more every-day topics – many being things that just happen quietly in the background as opposed to newsworthy or controversial issues, currently "on the table" at both Council and Community Board levels, and looked after by your elected members. Don't hesitate to call in at our own Council office to bring yourself up-to-date with the minutes of the meetings which record these issues. And please do ask any of the team for any specific information or suggest projects or facilities which could help to keep our community live and well. Of course, I am always available to discuss the various issued that need attention, and promote where possible, as your opinions do count.

**Youth Hostel Project Update**

by Margaret Hunter

“This is a current day response to our charitable purpose and objects,” said Mark Wells, CEO of YHANZ, when he spoke to more than twenty people at the pavilion on 1st October.

This meeting was called to keep the local community updated, as YHANZ now own the land and are having on-going discussions about resource consent, neighbours’ concerns, councils and the Environment Court. And in the wider Southland area an analyst has been employed to determine that the facility will be used by people who would not otherwise come to Stewart Island.

The learning centre at the hostel is a key part of the 54 bed hostel project, and it is expected that March to October it will be used for groups; but there is a provision for adults to have their own kitchen and lounge facilities at the same time. More interna-

tional tourists will use the hostel in the summer. Vehicle access would be from Excelsior Road and foot access from the main road. In the resource consent process THANZ has sought to respond to existing community plans and aims.

Costs are expected to be \$5 million and YHANZ has launched a massive fundraising appeal. Members from all areas have been contributing and the different branches are holding fundraising events. YHANZ is looking also at heightened exposure from its corporate partners. The YHA hostel at Wellington is contributing heavily. This is a concept that has caught the attention of people throughout the country.

CEO Mark Wells, YHANZ Board chairman Ben Mitchell and several others are cycling from Wellington to the national AGM in Rotorua to raise awareness and gain sponsorship.

There was opportunity for questions and concerns to be raised.

**Website-of-the-Month**

from Tanya Check

**www.rugrats.org.nz**

We have just created a local website for the

Rugrats childcare centre.

It was initially formed to support in the search for a replacement teacher, giving people extra information about the centre, and the Island. But it also allows for some of the fun activities and active local life to be shown off.

Have a wee look around. It's a work in progress since it's only about a week into it's public life.

Puzzle from Bev Osbourne

LIZARD					
ANTELOPE				N	
BEATEN			N		
DOOM		N			
STRANGELY					Y



**The Island Beat**

Over the last Month there have been two Tsunami alerts put out by Civil defence. The first a Formal warning on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September after the 8.3 Samoa earthquake and the Second a general advisory alert on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September after 7.8 and a 7.3 magnitude earthquake north of Vanuatu.

The destruction caused by the Samoan Tsunami to low lying coastal areas of the islands is a reminder that Stewart island is vulnerable to a similar event.

This week as you are aware is Disaster Awareness Week.

I have looked up the Civil Defence Web site [www.civildefence.govt.nz](http://www.civildefence.govt.nz) and copied the following information about TSUNAMI's.

**TSUNAMI Risk**

- What are our TSUNAMI risks?
- New Zealand's entire coast is at risk of tsunami.
- The biggest tsunami in New Zealand is likely to be caused by major earthquakes or underwater landslides close to our shore. They can arrive within just a few minutes.

- Once they travel over land, tsunami pick up debris, boats and large rocks. They can knock down buildings, kill or injure people. They have enormous destructive force.

Tsunami may also be generated by very large earthquakes far away. Some tsunami can travel thousands of kilometers and still be big enough to cause loss of life and damage when they arrive here.

**TSUNAMI KEY FACTS**

Tsunami are large ocean waves generated by major earthquakes beneath the ocean floor or by major underwater landslides.

A tsunami can occur during any time of the year.

A tsunami is a series of waves. The first wave may not be the largest.

Tsunami waves can travel up streams and rivers with damaging waves extending further inland than the immediate coast.

The tsunami danger period can continue for many hours

**KEY FACTS SPECIFIC TO SOUTHLAND**

The latest scientific research indicates that the maximum credi-

ble risk to the Southland coastline is a **4 meter high tsunami wave**. Note there was a 10 meter Tsunami reported at Orepuki in 1820 which killed several hundred people. There was a 0.15 meter tsunami in Foveaux Strait from Antarctica in 1998.

The tsunami wave height will be on top of the tide height at the time.

This size wave will have destructive force for those living at or near low lying coastal areas of Southland.

The Southland coastline could be subject to a tsunami resulting in earthquake from the Pacific Rim region especially South America, the Subantarctic region or the sea floor near Fiordland.

**OFFICIAL TSUNAMI SIGNAGE**

At this point in time there is no tsunami signage on the coast of Stewart Island.

How will I know?

**NATURAL WARNING**

If you are at the coast and you experience any of the following: you feel a strong earthquake (it's

## Stewart Island Community Centre News

by Margaret Hopkins

### A Big Thankyou

We are very grateful to Vicki Coates and the pub quiz teams for the donation of a new printer / scanner / copier machine and supply of print cartridges for the Community Centre office. It is absolutely wonderful thankyou. The old printer was very temperamental and the printed page looked a bit like Sooty had slept on it.

### Staff Positions

Our long time cleaner Kirsten Hicks has retired and we will miss her thoroughness and attention to detail. Kerri-Lee Turner has just taken over as our new cleaner and we look forward to working with her. The Manager's position has not been filled yet but we do at last have some applicants! In the meantime Hilli and I will continue to do the office. There is an answer phone at the community centre, which we check daily or you are welcome to contact us at home.

## Thank you Stewart Islanders!

**Matt and Jules would like to say a huge thank you to the Stewart Island community for the incredible support given to us during the (seemingly endless!) process of applying for New Zealand residency. On 9th October we were granted residency, meaning that we can stay in New Zealand – more particularly Stewart Island - indefinitely!**

**We really could not have done this without so many people; your letters of support, encouraging words and hugs to keep "at it" kept us strong when the stress got to us.**

**We're looking forward to a future on Stewart Island - and we're sure you're looking forward at not having to ask us "have you heard yet?" any longer!**

*Thanks again,  
Matt & Jules*



hard to stand up)Tsunami Risk  
you feel a weak earthquake that lasts for a minute or more  
you see strange sea behaviour, such as the sea level suddenly rising or falling  
you hear the sea making loud and unusual noises or roaring like a jet engine

**THEN** get to high ground or go inland (High Ground is 35 metres above Sea level)

**DO NOT WAIT** for an official warning. Instead, let the natural signs be your warning.

First, protect yourself from falling objects then immediately get to high ground or go inland. Wait for official all clear.

### OFFICIAL WARNING

An official warning from civil defense emergency management may be issued through radio or television broadcasts. Warning may also be through siren, telephone, txt, loud hailer, or other local arrangements.

You may receive warning from one, or several sources. Respond to the first warning, do not wait for more messages before you act. Listen to your radio and follow any official instructions. Evacuate from the areas or zone(s)

stated in the warning.

### INFORMAL WARNING

Warnings from friends, other members of the public, international media, etc may be correct.

If you feel the threat is imminent, quickly get to high ground or, if the surrounding area is flat, go as far inland as possible.

Verify the warning only if you can do so quickly via radio, television, internet, or by contacting your nearest civil defense emergency management office.

The following are a list of your local radio stations in Southland from which information may be available.

### Station Frequency

Classic Hits 98.8 FM  
Hokonui Gold 94.8 FM  
More FM 89.2 FM or 1224 AM  
Newstalk ZB 864 AM  
Radio Southland 96.4 FM

- Alternatively CUE TV may be operating through the Sky digital network on Channel 110, FreeView on Channel 124 and Standard VHF on Channel 5. Civil Defence put out alerts on their web Site [www.civildefence.govt.nz](http://www.civildefence.govt.nz) Marine Radio Channel 65 or 16

### The Key to surviving a Tsunami is:

To be prepared and to have a Family/Workplace immediate action plan. See your phone book and above web site for more information.

Note (High Ground is above 35 metres) About Trail park height above sea level.

(Note – during the recent tsunami alerts, local Civil Defence and SARS team members were gathered at the Fire Station monitoring the situation closely. It highlighted some weaknesses as well as some real strengths and I especially want to acknowledge the efficiency of our nurses, Marty and Debs; in no time flat they had sorted meds, relocated some elderly – fabulous job, well done. Also to Dale, whose experience is invaluable. Work is progressing on a community civil defence plan and anyone interested is more than welcome. The threat of an actual tsunami seemed a long way away once, but its very definitely within the realms of possibility. We will circulate more info shortly.  
*Cheers, Jan West).*

**Garden Circle Goes Abroad**

*by Kirsten Hicks*

On a fairly stormy September day ten intrepid Stewart Island Gardeners (Jenny, Wendy, Pat, Philippa, Kate, Donni, Raylene, Debs, Lesley & Kirsten) together with our trusty driver Maurice (Exec. Cars) set off for Maple Glen.

Maple Glen is a 25 acre private garden situated 35 minutes from Invercargill, near Glenham. Created by Bob & Muriel Davison, with help from son Rob, the land was purchased in 1966, and originally run as a dairy farm. However, the garden started to



push those fences out, the cows were replaced with sheep, and a nursery was established.

The garden is simply magnificent. Many good sized specimen trees stud the sloping site, interspersed with ponds large & small, a dovecot, waterwheel & large flower beds. A fantastic daffodil grove hugs the contours of a field overlooking a series of water features. We "oohed" & "aahhed" our way past trillions of trilliums, masses of magnolias & the rather charmingly named

"Skunk cabbage".

We all thought the Golden Pheasants were beautiful, even though

they had trouble controlling their tail feathers in the blustery conditions (wouldn't be a good Stewart Island bird!). They were later upstaged by nesting black swans and a glimpse of three of their cygnets.

Then off we trooped to the on-site nursery where, after a frenzy of semi-controlled purchasing, we posed for the photo.

Judging by the chatter on our return trip, all were very impressed by the visit.

Thank you to the Garden Circle for organising this very enjoyable experience.

Check out [www.mapleglen.co.nz](http://www.mapleglen.co.nz) for your cyber garden tour.

Wonder how much Ian's Digger would charge to make a pond in the back field...

**A Wee Giggle**

*by Dion Grey*

*Was chatting with Jess the other day and she suggested that I write about some funny stuff about when I was living on the island!*

There was heaps of stuff happening all the time when I was there! Funny stuff like getting thrown out the window of the pub by Murray Ford! And I didn't even drink! (then) Building a cardboard boat and then sinking it in a race and getting on TV. Entering in a beauty contest that same weekend and remembering that the twelve blokes who had entered the contest had drunk 12 casks of wine and one was Peter Goomes who didn't drink at all! Watching

Dick Langdon being crowned winner of that contest and everyone in the front row of the audience copping an eyeful of a very short skirt! Then waking up on the Sunday morning to sing in church and have every one ask what's that on your face? I'd passed out in "Club Mud" the night before and everyone had written in texter on my face! I vaguely remember getting a ride home with John Smith and picking up Cooze who was lying in the middle of the road on the switch-back! Or catching the boat to work in Golden Bay and finding the new replacement steeple of the church sitting on the wharf painted with moons and stars like a wizard's hat! Watching Nikky Davis' dress ride up as she sang a number on "Starfish In Your Eyes" contest! Mate i'm

crying just thinking about it!

There was one story I was having a giggle about just the other day that might be worth a laugh. I used to stay in the "Salmon Farm House" across the road from the "Pink House" which I don't think is there any more. Alvin Holte used to live on the corner opposite Belinda Sawyer's. After work, The Holte would give us a lift over the hill on the old ford truck. This particular afternoon Raymond Stoneman, Nick Marshall and myself were at home when we heard Alvin pull up his drive. We grabbed the phone, raced to the window and rang Alvin. As soon as he turned off his engine he heard his phone ringing so quickly raced through the gate up to his house. As soon as

we seen him reach the door we hung up. We could see him cursing and waving his hands in the air as he did. He quickly walked back down to the truck and just as he started to unload some gear we rang him again! He dropped everything and ran back up to the house. We did this three times and on several occasions. It's a wonder he didn't hear us in fits of laughter across the road! He never did cotton on (so don't let him read this) but he did get us back in his own way many times!

The whole six odd years I lived on Stewart Island was full of great times and I could recall many a story, happy and sad, but they can wait for another night at the South Sea Hotel.

**STEWART ISLAND LIONS CLUB .....what's new?**

*by Anita Geeson*

**STEWART ISLAND PAVILION**

- originally the pavilion was administered under a Trust with Trust representatives from the Bowling Club, R.S.A. and Lions Club. With the demise of both the Bowling Club and R.S.A. the Lions are now responsible for the administration and maintenance of this facility for the community. After 30 years of overseeing the Pavilion caretaking, and acting as

secretary / treasurer Sue Munro has decided to 'call it a day' – we would like to acknowledge Sue's work over the years – a sterling effort indeed. Anita Geeson is now secretary / caretaker so for hall bookings phone her on 2191 014. Jon Spraggon is treasurer so payment for same can be directed to him.

**SUMMER IS A'COMING (perhaps!) – BBQ TIME.** Your Lions Club members are willing to cater for BBQ meals at \$25.00 / \$35.00 p.p. For menu details contact Peter Wilson on 077 or Ken Geeson on 014. Want to cook your own?

Contact Jon for BBQ hire.

**RECENT DONATIONS** made to S.I. Library, Southland Alzheimer's Society, firewood to needy households and kindling wood deliveries to elderly.

**MARCH 2010** - the Club is sponsoring a visit to the island by Garth McVicar. Garth is the founder / organizer of the Sensible Sentencing Trust. He will give a public talk at the Pavilion on the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup>. Further information will be publicized after the New Year.

*(Continued from page 1)*

splendour of the cup was an event not to go uncelebrated on the island. And so our own Mel-Bin Cup Day was born – once the helicopter had blown away over the horizon, traditional Cup Fare of chicken and champagne was had in the pub and Fashion in the Field competitions saw wondrous hats and outfits. Betting was brisk for the Mel-Bin Cup races run in bin liners along Halfmoon Bay beach astride Ken Geeson's fantastic hobby horses. The crowd roared, the rain ceased, the sun sparkled. And, due to some wonderful prizes being donated by many in the community (see below for the list), as well as the cake stall, almost \$800 was raised for Rugrats.

I don't think I'm alone in being surprised that the

Melbourne Cup was not 8 feet tall – but despite its diminutive size you couldn't help but shed a little tear, inwardly at least, at the privilege of joining the ranks of champion jockeys that had held it aloft over the years, and gleefully repeat 'it's worth \$125,000' to yourself. Everyone enjoyed holding it and many thanks to the organisers and sponsors (Gallop South) for including Stewart Island in the Tour this year, and for the talk by Des Gleeson. Appreciated too were the free nibbles and bubbly.



It was wonderful that Caroline brought Salty down to join in the fun

and be our equine representative for the day. He gleamed as much as it is possible for a 35 year old horse to gleam and stole the show posing with the cup before a hint of cup fever was seen to enter his eye and he took off around the bay at a gallop.

Onto the 5 race winners: Holger Lachmann (men's), Collette Brown (women's), Nate Lachmann (kids under 5), Logan Davis-Leask (schoolkids). And, most exciting of all, the coveted Mel-Bin Cup – a bra cup filled with chocs (well it WAS filled with chocs at the beginning of the day...) and presented in a splendid golden sundae dish – was won by Kyle Learmonth who flew along the beach seemingly untouched by sweat or ef-

fort and left the others eating his sand. Well done and thank you to everyone who ran and all the supporters.

The Fashion in the Field prizes were won by Caroline Squires (Best Dressed Woman), Brett Hamilton (Best Dressed Man), Jo and Zoe Learmonth (Best Ladies' Hats), and Jack Frew (Best Man's Hat). Jack also got a prize for running and living to tell the tale. Tommy Dobbins had the best kid's hat. It was great to see such marvellous creations - thanks to everyone who contributed to a hilarious day.

Heartfelt thanks to Helen Cave, Mona Wiig, Holger Lachmann and the South Sea Hotel, whose support and marvellous fundraising efforts made the whole thing possible. Rugrats would like to thank the following for donating prizes: Stewart Island Flights Jill and Richard at Ship to Shore Pernod Ricard NZ Real Journeys South Sea Hotel Jack and Mel at the garage Elspeth Tindall BidVest Food Service Hilli & Jim Maas-Barrett and Alistair Eade for oysters Ken Geeson And thanks to Rugrats parents for baking, and manning the cake stall.



### **Letter to the Editor: Stewart Island i-SITE**

It is know several months since the sudden closure of the Stewart Island i SITE/ Visitor Information Centre, [operated by the Stewart Island Visitor Information Centre Trust], and the subsequent winding up of the Trust.

Since then there has been much speculation and comment about what had gone wrong but the business community here on the island and elsewhere who had supported the i SITE are still waiting for answers and information.

While not looking for scapegoats I think that the Trust along with its advisers need to look closely at how they operated for the few years the i SITE functioned and record for future reference what went wrong and why so as to ensure that that this does not repeat itself in the years to come. It is time they reported to their creditors rather than continuing to hide behind the standard 'no comment'.

When the Trust was initially set up in 2005 to run an i SITE information centre here on the island, local groups and individuals, including the Stewart Island Promotions Group which gave \$20 000.00, made donations or grants towards the establishment costs of the information centre. Venture Southland promoted the concept and did studies as to the viability of the project.

Since then conditions have changed and they will continue to change in the future. Several Trustees resigned and

were replaced. What may have seemed viable in 2005 may not be now but right to the time of the i SITES closure we were being told everything was going well. From the limited information made available since the closure, it would seem that everything was not going well.

The appointed liquidator states in his report that the Trustees had been monitoring the financial viability of the information centre and after receiving advice determined that continuing to operate the service was not financially viable.

If as he has reported the trustees had been monitoring the financial position in a responsible way why was it allowed to run up over \$73 000.00 in debt that it can't repay. Surely this shortfall in funds should have become apparent in financial reports that I presume the trust was receiving on a regular basis.

It would seem that money collected on behalf of operators was being used to meet the day to day running costs of the Trust and if this was the case for how long had this happened.

Already we are hearing ex members of the Information Centre Trust promoting an information centre as part of the proposed Heritage Centre. Without the answers and explanations as to what went wrong this time how can people be asked to support this second project.

*Jon R Spraggon*  
President  
Stewart Island Promotions

### **Letter to the Editor: Stewart Island i-SITE**

Nearly 5 months have gone by since the Stewart Island I Site mysteriously shut up shop and disappeared. Those who are owed money, and the people who have made donations of money and time to help establish and keep the Information Centre going, are wondering 'when will there be a meeting to explain to the community just what went wrong?' There has been a wall of silence from Trustees. Taking on the responsibility of being a Trustee should not be done lightly, after all it is not about having one more Trust or Committee membership on your C.V., it is about ensuring that the organization that you are entrusted to oversee is run in a sustainable manner with every care and attention to detail, especially with regard to financial matters. There are many questions unanswered and the continuing silence is fuelling rumour and suspicion.

According to our understanding 'If a board or Trust enters into a contract knowing there is no money to pay the supplier, or continues to trade knowing the company is insolvent then the Trustees could be held personally liable for "trading recklessly".' 'Board members are protected by incorporation from being personally liable for the debts of the trust but they can still be held personally / collectively liable for losses if it can be shown that they acted in bad faith or negligently in the exercise of their duties.'

At the end of the day it is a sad thing for the community to have lost such a valuable service and we're sure those of us owed money would not feel so let down if we had had the courtesy of a proper explanation. We are not just looking to point the finger of blame. This is a very hard lesson, which will hopefully lead to better governance within this community. We are a small isolated community and we need to work together to resolve this.

The following actions would go a long way towards helping everyone understand the events that have led to the current situation:

- A community meeting with an independent chairperson
- All Stewart Island I Site Trustees to be

present.

- Answers to a list of questions some of which are listed below.
- Proper resolution of the reported problems between the I Site Trust & ex-Manager.
- An apology to the community from Trustees.

1. Did the Trust have monthly meetings?
  2. Who was the Treasurer?
  3. Did the Trustees read their Trust's bank statements?
  4. Did they pass the monthly accounts for payment?
  5. Were the accounts audited annually?
  6. Are there audit reports available?
  7. Why was there only one signatory for the cheques paid to suppliers?
  8. Did the Trust do budgets?
  9. Was there a business plan?
  10. Why was the money collected for booking sales not kept in a separate account to ensure payment for the suppliers?
  11. Why did the Trust disband at the first sign of trouble?
- Does that relieve them of their responsibilities?

It would be good if action on the above matters could be done before the 9<sup>th</sup> November as there is another public meeting to be held to discuss a combined Heritage / Council / Information building which will involve yet another community Trust. The current feeling regarding local community trusts will certainly impede the progress of any new developments on Stewart Island, which is not what we want.

This letter has been written by some of the creditors to the Stewart Island I Site Trust and others who have supported it with donations and volunteer time.

*Ann Pullen*

*Anne Tait*

*Bev Hancox – Central Backpackers Dunedin*

*Carolyn Squires – Loloma Charters*

*Debbie Barry*

*Elaine Hamilton*

*Ewan & Jenny Gell*

*Helen Cave*

*Iris & Peter Tait*

*Jacqui Mackay – Tuatara Lodge*

*Jenny Twaddle*

*Lee & Allan Wadds*

*Jo Learmonth*

*Ken MacAnergney*

*Lex & Karen Beal – Bluff Lodge*

*Manfred & Ulrike Herzhoff*

*Margaret Fairhall*

*Margaret & Colin Hopkins*

*Megan McClelland*

*Raylene Waddell*

*SIRCET*

*Stewart Island Community Centre Trust*

*Stewart Island Experience*

*Ulva Goodwillie*

## **Letter to the Editor: Stewart Island i-SITE**

A letter purported to have been written by a concerned resident was passed to me the other day. I found its contents were disturbing in that a) it contained petty allegations that were untrue, b) these were based on speculation and rumour, and c) only one of the signatories of the letter had previously approached me directly to discuss the closure of the i-site office.

The island residents who were the former trustees of the SIVIC Trust were devastated by the difficult decisions they had to make regarding the closure. Perhaps we could have expressed our disappointment and dismay more publicly than we did but the following paragraph will explain why we did not. I do however seem to recall that the Chair's official notice regarding the closing of the office used the word 'regret'.

We are no longer a formal entity and this letter cannot therefore be regarded as an official reply but former trustees I was able to contact (Dianne Smith is in Idaho) were happy to have their names added below. Our instructions from legal and professional advisors during the weeks prior to and following the closure were that we, the Trustees, should not discuss the details of the difficulties facing the i-site **with anyone** and this included the staff and the manager. We have tried to adhere to this directive as to ignore it and chat or gossip about the office's difficulties would be irresponsible and unhelpful. The Liquidator, legal team and SDC officers will after full investigation, advise the creditors and community of Tim Ward's findings. Let me assure you we did not take our role as appointed trustees lightly and the assumption that we were merely hoping to embellish our CV's by undertaking the voluntary trust work is utterly puerile.

Obviously this has been a stressful period for tourism operators on and off the island- especially those who have been

*(Continued on page 12)*

financially hit by the receivership process. The former trustees have **not** scuttled for cover as the (anonymous) letter-writer intent on insulting us implied. Dianne Smith and I have been away overseas on two occasions on family holidays booked months before the *i-site* closed. Barry Rhodes has, because of his mother's failing health, been off the island on numerous occasions. Our absences were accidental and not designed to remove us from any (your?) firing line! Trustees present at the time attended a Promotion Association meeting in August to speak with operators.

When I spoke with one of the signatories yesterday they referred to the manner in which the manager had been ostracized by the trustees. I don't know who manufactured this bon mot but such an allegation is untrue. When it was obvious that we would have to take extreme action regarding the office's trading status we rang the manager who was on holiday and explained our need to close. The manager although bewildered ac-

cepted the restraint of the "code of silence" placed on the trustees. Lesley and I have been friends for 20 years and we still chat by 'phone and lunch together when I'm home on the island. Her patient acceptance of this difficult strain on our friendship highlights the contrasting lack of concern for truth and tolerance shown by the mischievous writer of the letter I received.

We **do** regret the inconvenience the lack of an official *i-site* causes the local and mainland operators and island visitors. We **are** deeply sorry there are creditors who are owed huge amounts of money and that recovery of these sums may be unlikely. (Trustees are amongst those who have lost money and business.) We regret the lack of information currently available to you all and the silence that has followed this major setback to tourism on the island. I acknowledge that an absence of communication from us has been a huge factor in misinformation running riot within the community. But, what ever happened to the simple

notion of picking up a telephone and calling me to talk about this matter? I had considered each of the letter's signatories as friends, was it too difficult a task for you to ring me, or any of us? Was it easier to sign your name to a letter orchestrated by someone more intent on crafting a public trial by pen?

I stress again the fact that we have been, and still are, advised against divulging information about the office. As the writer pointed out it has been five months – five long months for all of us. Unfortunately I cannot predict how long it will be before the liquidator has completed his investigations. We can spend time pointing fingers and being destructive and vitriolic or we can try to help those worst hit – emotionally, psychologically and professionally - by the closure.

*Gwen Neave  
Barry Rhodes  
Peter Goomes  
Anita Geeson  
Ken Geeson*

Some of the best friends I've ever had have been dogs. I'm not going to make a blanket statement and say "I love dogs" because while I've adored a few dogs, I actually dislike some dogs and feel ambivalent about others. However, every time I hear about a dead kiwi, its wee body mangled from the jaws of a dog, I feel less sympathetic toward the cause of dogs in general around the Bay. While most dog owners here are responsible and make sure they know what their dog is up to at all times,

**THERE ARE STILL DOG OWNERS  
HERE WHO LET THEIR DOGS ROAM.**

By now everyone who lives here is aware that roaming dogs are a problem, and a death sentence to kiwis. Even if your dog has a sweet temperament, or is old and goofy, or is small and silly, your dog is still capable of killing a kiwi. It doesn't mean he is malicious or bloodthirsty, he might just be having a playful romp at a funny-looking toy-like creature on the beach, and all it takes is a pounce and a nip and that's another dead kiwi. Is it so hard to keep your dog under control? I don't think I'm alone when I say that I love hearing kiwis call at night, and it's been such a treat to catch a glimpse of one pecking along the side of Horseshoe Bay Road, or seeing their tracks on the beach. I did have a sad feeling whenever I

saw the Horseshoe kiwi...a bad feeling that his days were numbered. It seemed inevitable that a roaming dog would reduce this creature to a heap of bloody feathers.

Since we started recycling, all households on the Island have had to make an adjustment in their daily routines to make sure we've got our rubbish sorted into the correct bins. It's taken longer for some of us than others, but eventually it will be second nature to us. It would be wonderful if dog-owners would make a similar minor adjustment to their daily lives to ensure that they always know where their dog is. Leave the gate closed; make sure he's on a lead or indoors; double-check on his status before you go to work or the Pub; have a simple system in place that allows for a happy and secured dog.

Dog owners around the Bay have been uniting, calling for more "dog rights" — wider access to trails and beaches. I would feel much more "on board" with these causes if I thought there was a consensus amongst dog owners that roaming dogs are a problem, and something should be done about it. Recognize that, fair or not, irresponsible dog owners are creating an unfriendly and unsympathetic environment for all dog-owners. I'm not talking about dobbing

people in, or finger-pointing and blame. Perhaps the dog agenda could include an effort for owners to reach out to other owners with constructive suggestions and tips on how to better control their dogs. Maybe a flyer with ten simple recommendations. Maybe a casserole, a knock on the door and friendly chat. Maybe free tethers and fencing issued to problem households. A local kennel club seems to be a natural platform to discuss this issue.

A few months ago I stepped in dog poo in the dark, tracked it down into the fo'c'sle of my husband's boat, then into our "town" car where it wasn't discovered until the sidewalk outside Zookeeper's. This incident hardened my heart about dogs, but nothing like the deep feeling of horror and anguish I felt when I heard about the discovery of the dead Horseshoe Bay kiwi. At the end of the day, much of my anger was toward myself: I sometimes see dogs wandering around, and while I shake my head and mutter, I never actually do anything about it. Obviously, neither does anybody else. I feel bad, and you might feel mad, but the one who pays the really terrible price is the defenceless kiwi who dies a violent, senseless, terrifying and disgusting death in the slobbering mouth of an Islander's dog. Let's try to fix this, or shame on us all. —Jess

<p><i>Thanks to Anita Geeson for submitting these three lovely and clever poems about whitebait to our Whitebait Poetry Contest</i></p>		<p><b>WHITEBAIT (alias INANGA)</b></p>		<p><b>The FERNERY</b></p> <p>has moved!</p> <p><i>New address is 20 Main Road (across from the DoC Visitor centre).</i></p> <p>Hours are 11-5 daily.</p> <p><i>Megan would like to thank Jenny and Ewan Gell for helping her with the big move.</i></p>
	<p>The inanga is a whitebait,</p>	<p>W ith</p>	<p>T errains</p>	
	<p>A cunning little thing,</p>	<p>H ope</p>	<p>I</p>	
<p>Dreaming, scheming, I think t'is I, Dreaming, scheming, They tthink it's them. &lt; Victor? &gt;</p>	<p>Lifestyle predetermined, Autumn, Winter, Summer, Spring. A homosapiens is a man, Hopefully family of beasts, Forever aspiring to menus, Featuring whitebait, frittery feasts.</p>	<p>I</p>	<p>A bsolutely</p>	
		<p>T ake</p>	<p>B elieve</p>	
		<p>E mpty</p>	<p>E normous</p>	
		<p>B ucket</p>	<p>T akes</p>	
		<p>A nd</p>	<p>I 'll</p>	
		<p>I n</p>	<p>H aul</p>	
		<p>T idal</p>	<p>W ithin</p>	

	<p>The Library now has new blinds thanks to the Lions!</p>	<p>out the DVD <i>The Great NZ Fishing Scandal</i>. If Mel-Bin Cup day piqued your interest we have dozens of horse and hat books available.</p>	<p>Dr Glam aka author Ian Chapman (<i>Glory Days: from gumboots to platforms</i>) performed for us earlier this month and donated 20 percent of book and CD sales to the Library so thanks to him and to everyone who came and made a purchase.</p>	<p>Finally, a HUGE thanks to Jenny, Kerry, Megan, Claire and Pat who have been keeping the Library running while I have been unwell. Your support means a lot to me and the community.</p> <p>—Jess</p>
	<p>On shelf we have new books by Dan Brown, Diana Gabaldon, and Joanna Orwin. Check</p>	<p>A really fascinating book from our circulating collection is <i>Living Tribes</i>.</p>		

**STEWART ISLAND PROMOTIONS**

**i - SITE Famil**  
 Very successful evening enjoyed by those who were able to attend. These evenings are certainly worthwhile having whenever we have groups from the various information centres here visiting.

**Old Information Centre Phone Number**  
 Promotions Executive have been trying to secure the phone number 2191 400 which is advertised in our current Brochures as being the i SITE/Information Centre number. As this no longer operates, we were intending to redirect the calls either to the Promotions Web site or the Invercargill i SITE for up to date and accurate information about the island. Unfortunately we were unable to secure this number.

**Web Site**  
 Work is underway on upgrading our web site. While we apologise for delays in getting corrections made at the present time, once the update is completed, changes etc should be able to be made much more quickly and by staff here on the island. We will also be reviewing all the charges associated with listing on the Web Site.

**Brochure**  
 While it may seem a long way off, we need to start thinking about the format for our advertising brochure on Stewart Island that is due to be published again in September next year. Any ideas and thoughts you may have would be appreciated and can be forwarded to the Secretary or President by email or post.

—Jon Spraggon

**Stewart Island Players**

Due to illness, the production has been postponed until

**Friday 20th November  
& Saturday 21st November.**

**NETBALL - 7.30pm Thursdays**

At the community centre

\$2 per person

We have lots of fun and it is great fitness

Come along and have a go

Any question phone diddle 2191166

**TAE BO classes**

At the community centre

Kicking and punching to music

\$2 per person

Monday 5.30pm

Thursday 7pm

Friday 9.30am

Sunday 9.30am

Lots of fun Ph diddle 2191166

**AN EXCEPTIONAL YEAR AT THE BRITISH BIRD FAIR 2009**

*by Furhana Ahmad*

In August 2009, the British Bird-watching Fair - the world's largest international birdwatching event was held at Rutland Waters in the UK. Not just for birdwatchers, but for naturalists and outdoor enthusiasts, the event brings together operators from over 40 countries, artists, photographers, charities, conservation groups, optics, outdoor clothing and natural history book retailers and much more. Workshops and lectures are held over the three day event with many notable British natural history presenters attending.

This year a little bit concerned at how the world recession would affect attendance, I was delighted to find more visitors attending and the busiest first day ever - thankfully Chris, my brother-in-law was at hand to help and there was only time for five minute lunch breaks. About 22,800 visitors attended the fair over a three-day period, some coming for the full three days. This figure was up an incredible 14% from previous years and there was continued interest in New Zealand.

New Zealand is fortunate that the Brits have such a high regard and strong links with New Zealand and I have always been welcomed at the Bird Fair as a New Zealand operator, despite having been brought up in England. There is such a great mix of different people of all colours, creeds and back-

grounds, an incredibly friendly atmosphere with everyone made to feel welcome. My third event, each year supporters have come sometimes daily to see how things are going - amongst them past clients and notably a very special family with four young children from the Orkney Islands whose father, visited Stewart Island over 10 years ago, staying at Michael's Backpackers - Michael still gets a phone call now and then.



Each year I have put together a package to sell off in the Bird Fair Auction and this year brought onboard the Otago Peninsula. Our package for two persons included: Stewart Island Flights return airfares, Ascot Park Motel accommodation, a homestay in Stewart Island, two Ruggedy Range™ Wilderness Experience guided tours, a visit to the Royal Albatross Centre, a Monarch Wildlife Cruise and tour at Penguin Place. The total package worth about \$2,200.00 raised 510.00 pounds to support the worlds critically endangered species - amongst the showcased birds - New Zealand's very own Kakapo! Its hard to convey how much the Package helped to raise interest in our region - especially Stewart Island - suffice it to say the bid was about the 4th highest for this years event. The successful bidders will be visiting in January / February 2010 and

were simply over the moon! A big thanks to all the operators who contributed.

With so many destinations showcasing their fabulous products from Kenya, Guatemala, Columbia, Australia and more, some offering big game animals, multi-coloured birds of all shapes and size, or several hundred species sighting in half a day - its important to keep promoting New Zealand and of course Stewart Island.

I again offered to present a lecture on New Zealand Birdwatching which covered the entire country and what we have to offer - always nervous at the start and pleased I hadn't make any big mistakes by the end - you never know who has come to listen, this year one of New Zealand's key UK agents.

Ruggedy Range™ Wilderness Experience's attendance at the Bird Fair is fully self-funded.

For further information on this event see the Bird Fair website: [www.birdfair.org.uk](http://www.birdfair.org.uk) or contact Furhana Ahmad (03 219 1066 or [mail@ruggedyrange.com](mailto:mail@ruggedyrange.com))

**Stewart Island Senior Citizens**

(SISC) Christmas Luncheon will be held at the South Seas Hotel on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00  
*Numbers limited.*



**KNIT, KNATTER & KOFFEE GROUP**

**End of year Christmas break up at the RingaRinga Heights Golf Club Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 12.00**  
**Bring a plate**

**Congratulations**  
*Newlyweds Newlyweds*

Kelly and Riley

Heather and Phillip

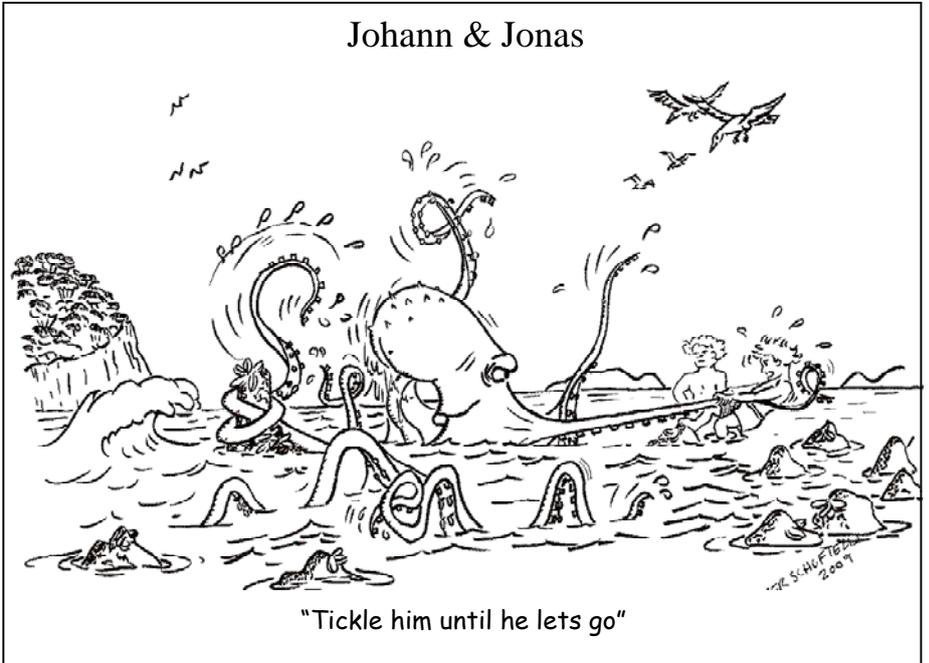


**Anika Moa  
Bringing  
Aroha to  
Aotearoa**

**Aroha Tour 2009**

Stewart Island  
Community Centre  
Saturday 14th November

Tickets \$30 at  
[www.eventfinder.co.nz](http://www.eventfinder.co.nz)  
and door sales



**Catlins Bound: The Maritime Crew's  
Southern Tour**

Mike McPhee will launch his new book "Catlins Bound" on Stewart Island during November. The book is a history of the ships built by Mike's great grandfather in the 1860's and 1870's. His 12 ketches and schooners were built on Stewart Island (The John Bullock, Mary Van Every and Eliza Simpson) and in the Catlins. While initially used to carry timber to Dunedin, they soon became involved in all kinds of work; the gold rush to Hokitika, sealing in the sub-Antarctic and bringing cargoes of kauri south from Auckland.

A group of musicians (The Maritime Crew) have adopted the book launch and have composed songs about the ships and some of their captains. The Maritime Crew specialise in shanties and seafaring songs and have toured Europe. The songs written for the book launch bring alive memories of Stewart Island and Foveaux Strait's history and characters.

**Catlins Bound: The Maritime Crew's Southern Tour  
Seafaring songs performed by The Maritime Crew**

Stewart Island Community Centre  
7.30pm Wednesday 18th November  
Admission \$10 adults, \$4 children  
see: [www.catlinsbound.com](http://www.catlinsbound.com)

**ATTENTION Stewart Island DIVERS  
and recreational water users:**

Did you know oyster season opens just around the time the white pointers return to our waters? **Shark cage diving** ventures are going full steam ahead with plans to begin operating in our front yard (Foveaux Strait). This entails chumming waters to attract white pointers, and lowering paying customers in for a thrill. The shark can associate the free feed with the specific electromagnetic field that a human being in a dive suit gives off, as that person will be the only living being in the water there. If you have concerns about this **ACT NOW and SPEAK UP.**

*To make your concerns known*

commercial divers contact Storm Stanley [stormalong@extra.co.nz](mailto:stormalong@extra.co.nz)  
recreational divers contact Andy Roberts [aroberts@doc.govt.nz](mailto:aroberts@doc.govt.nz)

If you want more information drop Jess an email [editor@stewart-island-news.com](mailto:editor@stewart-island-news.com) and she will send you some links to articles that make for fascinating and alarming reading.

**STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE**

**The November Meeting** will be held at the home of Lee Wadds at 2.0 on 12 November.

Competition: Iris, Pansy, Ground Cover.

**Christmas Luncheon** this year will be at the Ringaringa Heights Golf Club  
12.00 Thursday  
10<sup>th</sup> December. \$5.00 Lucky Dip



*The Perfect Dinner*  
Stewart Island Moveable Feast

Whole menus or gourmet platters, at your accomodation or location of your choice.  
Any place - any time.



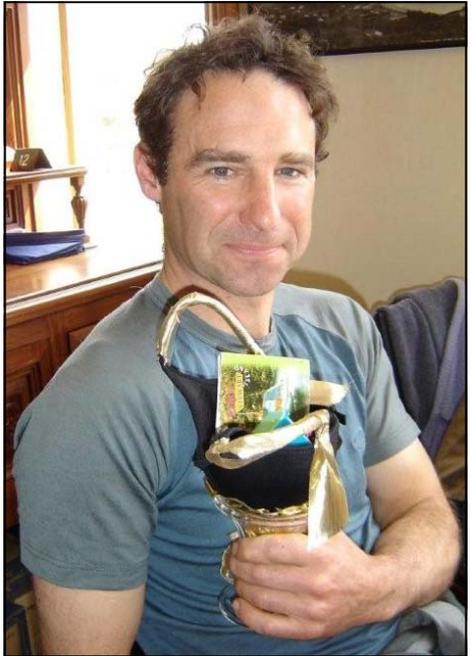
Call/txt Annett 0274441802 or ph.2191452

Much more than a meal - a dinner to remember.



[www.stewart-island-news.com](http://www.stewart-island-news.com)

*Stewart Island News* is published on a monthly basis as material permits.  
Please send articles and enquiries to Kari Beaven at Box 27,  
or to [kari@sircet.org.nz](mailto:kari@sircet.org.nz)  
The next deadline will be 7th December.



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 or Internet address \$24
- 12 issues to other New Zealand address \$30
- 12 issues to international address \$54

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