

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

APRIL—MAY 2008

\$2

We were graced with a few more sparkly summer days before a Southerly delivered a wintry package of hail and cold wind. We'll see how the newly arrived solar panels go at the PO (p10). Roadwork has begun: piles have been used to fix the scary slip along Horseshoe.

The radio is filled with the chatter of muttonbirders as they organize choppers and fadges of supplies, request last-minute essentials (i.e. buckets of "the titi's poor relation" KFC), and then sometimes engage in long meandering conversations about whatever comes to mind. We wish them all a wonderful season and look forward to buckets of Rakiura's favourite greasy goodness.

Whitetail have been seen in our gardens and some end up on the kitchen bench (p10). Ducks are taking more evasive action, vacationing here as the season looms on

the Mainland.

Easter weekend was busy as usual: the Rugrats had a chowder / bake sale and Scavenger Hunt. The Library held a successful book sale fundraiser (p10). The Fire Brigade's been busy here and there.

There was a big turnout for the rat-free Island discussion (p5). Locals expressed a wide range of opinions about the plan and were generally respectful toward

one another— there wasn't a whole lot of pointless polarizing "us versus them" talk. Concerns included protecting our pocketbooks, pets, culture, and the deer population. (Sorry for the sound bytes in a nutshell but I'm pressed for space

this month ...expanded coverage will be in the May-June issue.)

Don't hibernate just because it's cold—there are plenty of opportunities to exercise this winter. Go ridding (p5) or compete in the school fundraising event the *Stewart Island Classic* triathlon (p10).



The Royal New Zealand ballet performed at the Community Centre in mid-April (see story below)



The new defibrillator! page 6



RELAY FOR LIFE 2008

by Sue Munro

The day was hot and muggy and the enthusiasm from the huge crowd gathering for Southland's fourth Relay for Life was heart-warming. The Stewart Island team (some Bluffys and some Townies) was no exception. We arrived in

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A sunny Sunday afternoon finds Stewart Islanders outside gardening, tootling around in dinghies, maybe chipping a paua or two for evening tea. But on Sunday 13th April, nearly half the population went indoors to experience something new: the New Zealand Royal Ballet debut on the Island.



The moored fishing boats of Halfmoon Bay provided a strange backdrop for ballerinas in red tutus as they warmed up on the beach (the resulting SLT front page photo was gorgeous). Even more incongruous was the basketball hoop of the Community Centre gymnasium, but the arena provided ample room for the crowd of 180 to watch the six dancers perform under the direction of Gary Harris.

The *Day in the Life* programme gave the audience a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the nuts and bolts of ballet. As the dancers moved through basic exercises at the bar, Gary's narrative, a lively ballet 101, provided explanation and history peppered with trivia (i.e. most Russian dancers turn to

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And much more!!

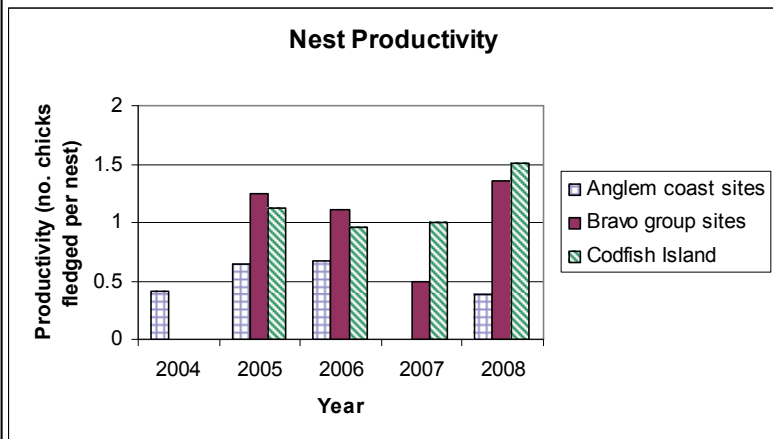


Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust news.

Not much to report on this month from the yellow-eyed penguin project. Field work has well and truly finished, with the last chick from one of the Bravo islands heading off to sea sometime between 14th – 20th March. Write up and consideration of this season's results is on-going. While

each area have done. The theoretical maximum is 2 chicks per nest – that would be possible only if every nest had two eggs, which all hatched and all chicks survived. In reality it would very rarely happen that way, some nests have only one egg for a start, some eggs don't hatch, and some chicks will die – even in areas where birds are doing well. In areas where the population of yellow-eyed pen-

guins is healthy, the nest productivity is usually somewhere between 1 – 1.5 chicks per nest. Over the long term this should be enough down from 32 pairs in 1999 to 16 pairs in 2007/8. In contrast, the island sites we've been monitoring have done reasonably well, and 2008 has been their best year so far (the reason there is nothing shown for the Bravo group and Codfish Island in 2004 is that we didn't monitor those areas then, so it is a case of no data rather than no chicks).



The big question is what can be done about it, and the short answer is that we don't know. Before anything can be done to rectify the problem we have to know what it is and understand what causes it. After five years of monitoring there are still many unanswered questions, and we seem to keep uncovering more questions than answers. However, we have some theories, and ideas about how to test those theories and get some answers. Unfortunately, the five years for which the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust agreed to fund this work were completed this season, and it is uncertain whether any further work can be funded. This will be one of the many topics for discussion over the next few weeks.

some results and reports from experts further afield won't be available to us for several weeks or months yet, some of the basic ones are.

The graph here gives an "in a nut-shell" type summary of how this season has gone compared to the previous four years of this study.

Nest productivity is the average number of chicks that fledge per nest. It is obviously a theoretical figure – you can't have 0.5 of a chick, but it gives us a measure of how well birds from

to maintain the population in those areas.

The really alarming thing that this graph shows is that at our monitored sites on the Anglem coast the nest productivity has been consistently low over the five years of this study. It has never really come close to 1 chick per nest, and in 2007 it was 0. The long term future of the birds in this area doesn't look good, and we have already observed a very rapid decline in the number of breeding pairs along the Anglem coast –

Sandy
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(BALLET *Continued from page 1*)

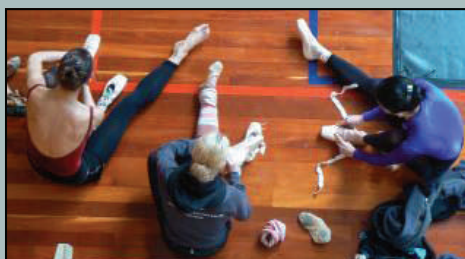
jumping and twirling.

the left). Occasionally he'd turn to the dancers and fire instructions. His ballet-teacher language was impossible to understand and fascinating to hear: a sing-song staccato of French, auctioneer-quick. *Jetejete-jet fondue arabesque jete blahdybladylalala*. The dancers obeyed, bending,

The front row of the audience was made up of a dozen local kids on cushions, and they seemed at times to be just as active and acrobatic as the dancers. The format lent itself to a relaxed atmosphere and humanized an art which can seem lofty and inaccessible. After floating like a fairy

across the floor, a dancer stood in her tutu and hastily pulled-on track pants, sipping a sport drink in the corner.

A pink pointe shoe was passed around the audience as ballerina Alessia Lugoboni discussed and demystified this symbol of loveliness and grace. She explained that they are stiff and hard at first, and never quite comfortable. To break them in, the



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The Island community extends its condolences to the family of Barry Hamilton.

(RELAY Continued from page 1)

convoy complete with bbqs, comfy chairs, stretchers (for sleeping), gas lamp, tables, stereo system, our new banner, 3 tents and the essential chilly bins full of food and cold drinks and several cartons of seafood for the Saturday bbq.

With essential poles missing from our marquee there wasn't much we could do but bide our time until they turned up which they eventually did.

Tents up ready to go, Tshirts on, our survivors with their lovely purple sashes ready for their lap of honour to open the relay. We were all itching to get started.

The day got underway at 11:15am with a short Pow-

hiri, official speeches and then the opening lap of the relay dedicated to cancer survivors proudly wearing ribbon sashes.

Then all the teams joined in to walk for the next 24 hours. There was great live entertainment throughout the day and night. At about 9pm candle tributes were placed around the track and at approximately 10pm, just on dark, a short candle light ceremony began. As participants walked throughout the night, the candle tributes reminded us

that the fight against cancer is about people in our community. It gives us an opportunity to pay tributes to our friends and loved ones who have battled or are continuing to battle cancer.

Our bbq went well but unfortunately where the bbq area was sited was out of view of the walkers and we didn't do as well as we should have. Rain fell steadily from 1:15am till about 4am—unfortunately Stephanie, Ruth and Sue were scheduled to walk at this time and after a thorough soaking the stars came out and a new day dawned sunny and warm again. It was lovely to have John Hunter come and join our team, he walked peri-

odically throughout the day and arrived back early in the morning to give the night shift a welcome break.

Thanks to a wonderful effort by our team members we raised \$2,638.90. The grand total raised by the relay was over \$230,000 and the money ALL stays in Southland.

We would love to have you join us in 2010 it only costs \$10 to register and each individual needs to raise \$100 from sponsorship, running a raffle, doing good deeds or whatever means you can come up with. There's lots of fun to be had while raising money for a good cause.

A big thanks goes to our sponsors—without you we couldn't do it—and to our awesome team for a great effort.

Cheers, Sue Munro,



(BALLET Continued from page 2)

dancer takes their shoes outside and gives them a good bash on the ground until they're softened. Alesia reckoned she goes through about ten pairs of shoes per season!

After a classical performance and a brief contemporary piece, the floor was opened to questions and the audience had plenty. Even wee hands in the front row shot up.

As the audience filed out into the sunshine, fishermen's radio operator Maureen Jones handed the ballet slipper back. "I found it very interesting and I'm glad

I went," she said. "I enjoyed it, and I'm not a ballet person."

Stewart Islanders are not known for their delicate footwear, but for a few hours on Sunday, many of us became "ballet people."

(And if we ever decide to trade in the trusty redband gummy for a wee pink slipper, now we know how to sort the thing out: *just pretend it's a paua...*)

—Jess



Halfmoon Bay School

by Kath Johnson

Huge congratulations to Jamie Adams, Logan Leask-Davis and Poppy Lequesne who completed the National Swim For Life School Challenge. More than 27,000 Students from schools across the country are taking on the Challenge of swimming 200m unaided. Jamie, Logan and Poppy completed their challenge at Moana pool last week each swimming 8 lengths of the 25m diving pool.

Jamie, Logan and Poppy along with Ms J spent two days in Dunedin last week. They attended the Young Leaders



Day at the Regent Theatre where they heard some awesome speakers including Mark Ingils and Rob Harley. They also had time to visit the Otago Museum where they visited the Tropical Rainforest Exhibition and Discovery World as well as being fascinated by the large range of animals in the Animal Attic. They caught up with Nick

Wells (ex-rent-a-cop) and had a tour of the police station, cells and St Kilda Surf Lifesaving Club.

We have a new photo display in the library. Call in and have a look at this and at all the great work that is decorating our library walls.

Jan is organising an order for Kaboodle Bags (groovy swimming and sports bags for kids - great xmas pressies for grandchildren and neices and nephews) from the school. There is a sample bag on display in the admin area. Call in to school or contact Jan Lequesne for more info.

The students are training hard for the Southern Zone Cross Country which will be held at Fortrose on May 19th. A team will be selected to represent the school. Watch this space for results!

Poppy and Henry represented the school at the Southland Primary Schools Swimming Championships in Invercargill on Sunday. It was a massive event and they both did



really well.

Last Friday we were lucky enough to have Stacey White from the Royal New Zealand

Ballet work with the students for an hour.

Three pieces of great luck for the school firstly we received a prize pack containing a set of Mission-On sports balls which were awarded to four schools who had very high results but didn't win a main prize for the Feetfirst Walk to School Week challenge. Secondly out of over 240 applications nationally we have been successful in gaining funding to bring artist and teacher Evelyn Mann to Stewart Island for two weeks at the end of term three. Evelyn (who has worked in the school with Bonnie before) will work with the students on a wearable arts project. Our third piece of good news relates to the sailing. Yachting New Zealand were so rapt with the press coverage they received during their time on the Island that they didn't charge the school for the sailing lessons our students received. This is a donation of over \$300 worth of sailing lessons!





Halfmoon Bay Habitat Restoration Project

Volunteers Needed

Higher than usual rat numbers this year are expected to put pressure on the Halfmoon Bay Project. We are increasing the trapping intensity for 3 months to make sure we keep on top of the extra rats. before they do any major damage. Keeping numbers low will help us during the next breeding season when any survivors will be extra hungry and looking for whatever food is available (often chicks, eggs, forest fruits and other native essentials).

If you are willing to give it a go, please contact Bevan (224) b,mudie@sircet.org.nz or Kari (533)



We are asking for your help for a short time. Do you have one hour free each week for just the next month, but do not want to be regularly involved? Can you help, but only for a short time and not starting immediately?

The amount of time given is up to you.

To help out we have industrial strength gloves, long sticks and even face masks if you do NOT like to touch or even *smell* a rat.

The lines are all marked to be easy to follow and we will go with you on your first walk, until you are comfortable with the path and traps.

Perhaps you don't want to go alone, but for a month you don't mind taking your weekly walks through the bush with a friend.

This is a good chance to get outside during the peak time for 'winter blues'.

Thank you to everyone who has checked traps over the past 5 years, and continues to help each week.

Rat eradication publicmeeting a success

On the 3rd April, over 60 members of the community got together to discuss the Rat Free Rakiura feasibility study. Over two hours, more than 80 issues or concerns were identified that will need to be recognised and addressed as part of the documents development.

Thanks you to everyone who attended or has given feedback in other ways. All of these comments will now assist the re-writing of the discussion document so that we can tell if a rat, possum and wild cat eradication is feasible, or not. This feasibility study is due 30 June.

A summary of the meeting will soon be available on the website www.sircet.org.nz or by contacting Brent (brent@sircet.org.nz).



Mt Anglem Meander!!

by Mandy Grobinski

My time here has been so short and sadly I must be leaving the island to reintroduce myself to my husband and set sail for four months in the winterless north. As a final send off I thought it only appropriate to climb Mt Anglem and “knock the bastard off!!” So on the chosen day, true to form, Ian arrived at the wharf in the wee early hours of the day with a gorgeous sunrise and flat seas in tow Unfortunately the weather didn't last and by the time I'd landed at Christmas Village the rain had started to fall, the precursor to a mud fest! Not to be deterred, I started the challenging amble to the top. Half the time

I found myself cursing my height as I am sure the maintenance on the track had been completed by hobbits and then again as I leapt across great canyons of mud I was thankful for having long legs. Come to the top and once again right on cue the clouds cleared to reveal stunning views...wow, wow and wow! For all you Stewart Islander that haven't been to the top... shame on you...it's magic.

So time for me to sign off and return home to my husband and hound back in Tuatapere. A great BIG thanks to all of you out there for letting me share your piece of paradise and for supporting *Stewart*

Island Guided Walks. Enjoy the winter, take it easy...peace, love and all that jazz.

Cheers, MandyG



How's this for one of mother nature's funny quirks...a tree fern with ten heads!! Just one of the many reasons why guiding on Stewart Island has been such a pleasure, as you just never knew what you'd see around the next bend!!

Generous donations from local organizations helped to pay for the Island's new life-saving equipment. Thank you to the Single's Ball and the Lions (\$3,090), the Clay Target Club (\$1000), the Sunday Night Quiz (\$365).



Stacey, Sprag, Luke, Richard and Steph were among many locals who learned how to use the defibrillator.



SHIP to SHORE

With the lovely days we have been having it seems a bit of a SIN to be moving in to Winter hours and closing the Shop earlier. However it is usually dark when we go home at night and that is an indication that it is time to change.

The shop hours will now be :

Sunday to Friday 7.30am to 6.30pm

Saturday 7.30am to 7pm

Carol will be making nice winter warmers in the kitchen this winter, soups and hot pots, come on in and try them



Cheers to you all and keep warm.

MandyG's send-off



Got any good Island photos?

The brochure/map etc for Promotions is due for printing in October. The brochure committee is going to do a total revamp and are on the lookout for new photos for the brochure and are asking residents to see if they have any good ones.

If so, please send them (reduced size for emailing) to Margaret Fairhall at remar@actrix.co.nz.

Photographers will retain the copyright to their work.

Also, we are asking if there are any other people out there who may not have joined Promotions but would like to.

Cheers, Margaret Fairhall

Smith Family Reunion

by Faye Smith

At Easter 2008 the descendants of Pura and Joesph Antoine, whose daughter Kiore [Susan] married Dennison Urban [Yankee] Smith, an American Whaler in 1863, gathered on Rakiura. They returned to their ancestral land on Bravo Island, in Paterson's Inlet, where it all began. Their Great Grandparents had 14 children, raised on Bravo. It was an emotional time as some remains of the old home were uncovered.

Those present descend from the eldest son, John Urban Smith, who was the Bluff Harbour Board Pilot for many years, and

Samuel Austin Smith, one of whose descendants , Phillip Smith, still lives on Rakiura today. Family travelled from Vanuatu and Tahiti, Australia, North Auckland, Wellington, Nelson, Canterbury and Central Otago for this happy and historic occasion. Some had never met before, and many tales were told. Those attending are of course just a small group of many descendants. Plans are to repeat this event in two years time in Kawa Kawa.



Front Row: *Left to right* Sam Smith, Den Smith, Helen Hayward, Phillip and Diane Smith. **Second Row:** Sandie Hayward, Jack Hayward, Drew Hayward, Anne Hayward, Bill Hayward, Merrell Smith, Alan Appleton, Debbie Appleton, Justin Smith and Martine, Nicola Smith, Sally Hunt, Rosie Smith and Peter Brickland. **Third Row:** Christian Smith, Guy Appleton, Tom Brickland, Forrest Wilson Jennings. **Top row:** Savannah Smith, Nicola Hayward, Rosie Hunt, Gemma Hayward, Rose Hayward, Zane Smith.

 Department of Conservation **DoC**
Te Papa Atawhai **SPOT**

New faces at DOC ...

Hi, I'm Laura Batchelor and I've just joined the weeds team at DOC. I'm originally from Christchurch and have recently returned from an overseas adventure. Before this I was studying biology at Canterbury University where I spent a lot of time running around with the tramping club. I love any outdoor activities, this summer I spent some time learning to sail, and am keen to learn more. I've really enjoyed myself so far, it's awesome to be in such a beautiful place!

Kia Ora, my name is Chauncy Ardell, and I have recently joined the biodiversity team here, specifically working on problem weed control. I am predominantly interested in the evolution and protection of native plants ecosystems, especially those in an island or remote area; this is what has



New DOC staff, from left: Chauncy, Tim and Laura

drawn me to beautiful Rakiura/Stewart Island.

Hi, my name is Tim Brady. I have come from the Arthur's Pass visitor assets team, where I was doing track and hut maintenance for the last few years. Some people might say I have turned to the dark side of DOC, to the Biodiversity weed team here on Stewart Island. So it will be great to get out and see this beautiful spot and eradicate any weeds I come across. I am really into my fishing and hunting, and it would be awesome to meet all the locals while I'm here.

Possum Traps

A private land owner informed us recently that he had found two possum traps set on his property. What's the problem you may ask - aren't possums a

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Free to Air Digital Television (Freeview)

by Chris Dillon

Freeview is a collective of New Zealand's leading broadcasters including TVNZ, TVWorks (owners of TV3 and C4), Maori Television Service, and Radio New Zealand. They formed a collective called Freeview to bring you New Zealand's favourite TV programs in crystal clear digital quality for free. A one off payment is required for a digital receiver and, unless you already have one, a satellite dish .

Freeview is available to all New Zealanders, via the satellite service . The satellite service covers all of New Zealand and is available now! Once you have purchased the digital receiver and, if you need one, installed a satellite dish, you can watch and listen to Freeview's channels for free.

The Government has announced that the current analogue service (your normal TV reception from an aerial) will eventually be switched off, probably in the next 4-7 years. The current policy is that a target date will be set once 60% of homes have digital television and a switch off date finalized once 75% of homes have digital TV. We are currently at approximately 47%.

What channels are available on Freeview?

Currently channels 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, Maori, Stratos, Cue, Parliament & TVNZ Sport making a total of 11 channels at present. Note that Prime Television is not broadcast on Freeview but is available free by calling Prime Television on **0800 SEE PRIME (0800 733 774)**

What do you need to receive free digital television ?

- 1/ A set top box (digital reciever) .
- 2/ Quality coaxial cable of a twin screen low loss type.
- 3/ A satellite dish , LNB and mounting hardware.

How do I get Freeview installed?

Locally both Steve Lawrence and myself have installed free to air receivers and can probably advise you on the best options.

Several companies in Invercargill offer supply and installation of FTA equipment.

You can of course install you own reciever and dish, some simple skills in mounting and aligning the dish

are required to achieve this. Following the technical information below should get you through this. Technical Information for Freeview

Sattelite	Optus D1
LNB Frequency	Usually 11300 or 10750 but is written on the LNB
TP Frequency's	12456 & 12483
Symbol Rate	22500
Polarity	Horizontal (18 volts)
Azumuth	324.1 degrees
Elevation	35.4 degrees

This info relates to Optus D1 and Freeview , other satellites are accessible from here and many more channels, mostly of a religious or foreign language nature.

Some useful web addresses for products and technical help:

- www.satnet.net.nz
- www.hooktech.co.nz
- www.lyngsat.com
- www.satmax.co.nz
- www.dse.co.nz

Do's and Don't's

Most importantly don't buy cheap cable or try to use some you have in the shed "trust me" it just won't work. Cable marked as RG6 "sky approved" is a minimum.

Do buy the strongest and largest dish you can afford it will last longer and get you more signal, minimum dish size is 600mm.

Don't expect an installer to use bits you have purchased elsewhere, they like to use receivers and hardware they are confident in.

Do follow the tech stuff precisely. Close enough isn't good enough, even if you get a picture it will fail as soon as we get some rain or fog. Spend some extra time getting the highest signal level possible, it counts

Do remember that if you have a Sky dish on your house it belongs to sky and they know it is there. Accepting that, it is aligned to the satellite and will work really well for free to air receivers.

Do try to buy a receiver that is pre-programmed for Freeview channels, this will save considerable time and frustration.

Girl Guide Biscuits are on sale now
 at the Information Centre. *Packet of Plain \$2.80*
Packet of Chocolate \$3.00 Packet of Minis \$3.00
 Opening hours are 9am - 7pm daily
 All proceeds to the Girl Guide Association

CONGRATULATIONS
Proud Parents Lania and Laurence
Welcome Ngakau Nathan Edwards!

To the Stewart Island Community,

I would like to say sorry for stealing a car, which I crashed causing a lot of inconvenience to the community and also for the fact that I could have killed my friends. I want to apologise to the people that were called out in the middle of the night, like the nurses and the cop. I also want to apologise to Chris Dillon for having to work on his birthday and to everyone else who worked long hours to restore the power to the Horseshoe Bay community and businesses.

I am very sorry for all the grief I have caused to the community, including my parents and brother.

I know that it will be a long time before anyone trusts me again, but I am working hard to restore your trust and am working at paying reparation for all the costs associated with restoring the power, providing emergency generators, the petrol to run the generators, labour and the cost of a new power pole.

I feel really bad for stealing Alan and Colleen's car and have already paid them for the car but I intend to go and do some odd jobs for them so they really know how sorry I am.

Yours sincerely
Rhys Leask

Congratulations to Caity Kenny who has represented the Island well: she won the 9 year old girls high jump at Southland primary schools athletics champs!

Storage on the road margin.

The storage of boats, trailers, machinery and other various items along the verges of roads is once again becoming a significant problem. Council's policy on Roadside storage is very clear - it is not permitted except in extraordinary circumstances and only with a permit from Council.

This storage, as well as being an eyesore, creates a hazard to vehicles and pedestrians, makes mowing difficult and can cause damage to water tables and road shoulders.

There is a significant amount of road work planned for this year beginning after Easter (some dependant on resource consents being gained). Items stored on road reserve will hinder this work. The Council and Community Board ask that residents move items stored on the road verge to a more appropriate location i.e. private property or RRRC. If necessary we will be contacting individuals to remove items still on road reserve. As a last resort Council may arrange for the removal of items still on road reserve with the cost passed on to the owner.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation to ensure work can continue without delays and to keep the Island looking its best.

Irwin Harvey
 Area Engineer, Southland District Council

The Craftee Cod



Winter's coming!!! Grab yer woollies, and if you haven't got any come and grab ours!

We have a wide range of knitted and crocheted hats and scarves, some using homespun wool, starting from just \$ 10

We also have xd and sd cards for your camera and lgb memory sticks, starting from \$ 20

Don't forget all our crafts are made right here on the Island—you can come and read about the artists in the shop.

And finally...thanks everyone for all of your support during our summer season, we appreciate it!!

BOOK TRAVELS: *Read and Release*
by Vicki Coats

If like me you love reading and swapping books, this is for you!

www.bookcrossing.com
 is a free service which allows you to share books and track their progress around the world!

1. Register on the website for free
2. Read and register a book. The book will be allocated a unique book number. You can print labels for free or write the number inside the book.
3. Release the book! This can be an official book crossing point (The Craftee Cod and the Pub for example) or wherever you like.
4. You will receive email notifications when people find your book and enter the unique book code into the website!
5. Track your book around the world!




If you would like to release some books but don't have the internet or are having problems using the site, pop in and see me and I'll give you some pointers.
Make the whole world a library!

STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE

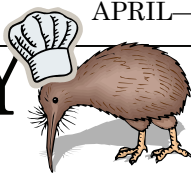
The next meeting of the Garden Circle will be held at 2.0 on Thursday 9th May at the home of Wendy Hallett

Competition:
 A Chrysanthemum Something Edible Gardeners choice

BUS TRIP.
 Garden Circle plan to have a Bus Trip during Anzac Weekend for Locals and Visitors. Please watch Notice Board for details.

the GALLEY



Whitetail have been wandering down into our gardens...some have ended up on our kitchen benches...

Here's an idea for a tasty

VENISON RUMP ROAST:

Make a bunch of nicks with a sharp knife and press whole garlic cloves into them—the more the merrier. Slather the whole thing with a few Tablespoons of mustard. Dust with Thai spice or mixed herbs. Set on a bed of fresh rosemary (or not) and place in roasting dish with some wine or stock (any splash of liquid) and bake until done, an hour or so on low heat, longer if it's a bigger piece of meat. The



baked mustard and herbs make a tasty crust which seals in much of the moisture.

*This recipe has been borrowed and changed from *Making the Most of Your Deer* by Dennis Walrod (available at your Library).

KAI KART KETCH-UP

Days are drawing in. That means it is getting quieter and we are closing the Kai Kart after the school holidays (5th May)

With only 4 eateries open, it was a busy season for us with lots of wonderful customers. This made it rather hard to decide on a local person to be our customer of the season.

So many of you made us laugh or brought a smile into our sometimes stressful working days! So thank you all!

The customer of the season this year is: *Daniel* We will see you for your freebee!

We wish everyone a restful winter. Until next season, *Vanessa and Hilli*

Island Power

Last month Power Station Pete Wilson brought a wee gadget into the Library which displayed how much electricity the room was using, and in case I didn't understand the numbers, it also displayed a frowny face. A local used the gadget at her home to figure out what exactly constitutes the bills: that kettle sitting innocently on the bench or the freezer humming so pleasantly out the back might just surprise you with the dread frowny face.

Solar panels arrived on the ferry on 18th April to be installed at the Post Office and other buildings; we have already read about bio-diesel, and there are plans for wind power. Power is a hot topic on the Island and over the years people have discussed many options.

Some folks think a \$9 million extension cord under the Strait connecting us to the mainland grid is the ticket. Margaret Fairhall sent me an interesting newsclip about Fair Isle (pop. 80), a wee island between Orkney and Shetland which successfully produces its own electricity with a windmill.

Another local sent me an article about Energetech Australia, a company developing a large-scale commercial wave energy converter. Wouldn't it be great if we could harness those white horses screaming across the bay? And what about tidal energy? Did you hear that when homes generate extra solar power it goes "back into the grid" and they get energy *credit*?

Next month with the help of Pete (because I don't know what I'm talking about) *SIN* will explore this topic. If you have any ideas or comments, send them to *SIN*—anonymously if you like—it's interesting to hear what everyone has to say on the subject. —*Jess*

Our Easter book sale / raffle fundraiser was a great success, we raised \$1700 for new books. Thanks to everyone who helped, including: Megan, Kerry, Ulva and MandyG for setting up; the Community Trust for the venue; Megan for the Fernery gift certificate; John F and Ulva and other donors of books for the sale; Stu for the crayfish; the Hotel kitchen for preparing the crayfish; Carolyn S for fish-shed poly boxes; Helen C for magnet supplies and for purchasing the leftovers; and to everyone who cheerfully showed up and spent some money! Barbara Wilson showed up with a laundry basket for her book shopping!



Stewart Island Classic Multisport, Triathlon, Duathlon, Walk

12.00 noon, Sat 17th May, 2008

Event based at HMB school, proceeds to the School/Community Pool

Get out you kayak, mountain bike, running/walking shoes and join the "lycra set" from the Mainland for a jaunt around the Bays!!

Entry forms and info at www.sportsouthland.co.nz or see Jon & the crew at the Ferry Terminal

(DoC SPOT *Continued from page 7*)

pest? The fact is that not only had the person who had set these traps not sought permission to do so from the landowner, but they had also set them on the ground, in an area known to be frequented by kiwi and possibly weka. If you wish to trap possums please ensure that you are doing it legally and in a professional manner. If the area you want to trap is private land you need the land owner's permission, if the area is public conservation land you need a permit, which is easily obtained from the DOC office. All traps must be set well clear of the ground. The safest way to trap possums and avoid catching kiwi, or other ground birds, is to place the traps on a board, 70cm off the ground.

Rakiura Conservation Planning Process

The latest public workshops were held in Oban on the 1st of April and in Invercargill on the 8th of April for the revision of the Stewart Island / Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy (SIRCMS) and the

preparation of the Rakiura National Park Management Plan (RNPMP). Approximately a dozen people attended each workshop. Discussion was con-

structive regarding the future of the conservation lands near Oban, as well as the management of the northern and southern part Rakiura National Park. Thank you to all those who attended, as this direction will be considered as part of the drafting of the SIRCMS and RNPMP.

Willing women workers

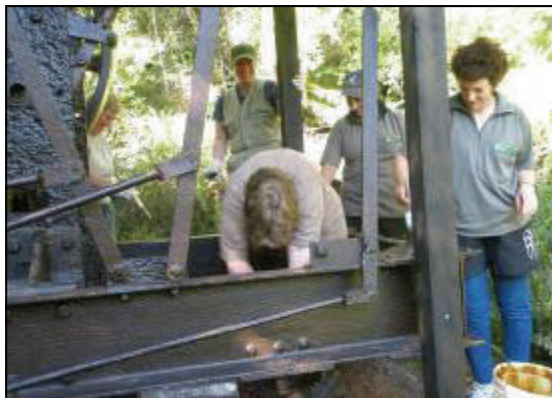
Monday the 17th March saw a small group of women descend on Stewart Island. Women working for DOC in Invercargill were invited to join their island colleagues for a Women in Conservation trip. This is a DOC initiative that enables office staff to get out into the field on an annual basis and work together on a project. The first morning was spent out at Ackers Point, where Kari Beaven explained about SIRCET and the work the Trust is doing. Next stop was the community nursery for a BBQ lunch with some of the local women involved in con-

servation, followed by an afternoon spent weeding and re-potting plants. On Tuesday the group headed to Port William, where they were fascinated to hear about the ill-fated attempt to establish a town there in

1873. Rachael Egerton (DOC's Historic Heritage technical support officer) pointed out some of the remaining historic features, before leading the group along the track and through the proposed track realignment to the log haulers left behind when the Maori Beach sawmilling operation ceased in the 1930s. After a modified explanation on how steam engines work, half the team remained to work on protecting the haulers from further decay by



Work is currently underway upgrading and extending Port William Hut. The hut will remain closed to the public until the work is completed, which expected to be around the end of May.



Who said women don't like getting their hands dirty? DOC staff apply a liberal layer of protective 'gloop' to the Maori Beach log haulers.

rust, while the others returned to pull weeds around the hut. The final day was spent in Prices Inlet, at the Whalers Base, removing the encroaching vegetation. Left to grow, roots would break up the concrete foundations of the buildings that once stood there and slowly all evidence of the site would disappear. The weather for all three days was absolutely fabulous - so it was a sad group that headed back to Invercargill to catch up with the inevitable mountain of paper work that would have accumulated in their absence.

Famous UK TV presenter Ben Fogle recently did a show on NZ including SI. Go to www.newzealand.com and click on UK-Ireland to find his video diary, or just go to youtube.com and do a search for "Ben Fogle Stewart Island." Days 7-8 of the video diary feature Stewart Island Flights, Ulva Goodwillie on Ulva Island, Phil Smith at Little Glory, and Liz Cave at Thule.

South Sea Hotel update
The Winter Buffet is back! First one is Tuesday, 22nd April and every fortnight afterward.
MEALS on WHEELS starts 30th April. Interested parties please register with Hotel reception before this date.



Jamie and Logan meet a butterfly.

The Fernery

Gallery & Gift Shop

Stockists of...

New Zealand made products including glass, wood, silks, cards, pottery, baby clothes and souvenirs.

Etchings, prints and photographs by local and New Zealand artists. An extensive range of children's book as well as books on birds, plants and Stewart Island. The Fernery is the Booking Office for Ulva's Guided Walks.

12 noon to 5pm
7 days

29 Golden Bay Road
(on the way to Ulva Island)

Phone: 2191 453
after hours phone: 2191 216

We can open by appointment if you wish to shop outside of these times.

KAKAPO ENCOUNTER 2008

The Ulva Island Trust would like to invite interested parties to attend a public meeting concerning the upcoming Kakapo Encounter. The Trust wishes to present their operational requirements with regards to both the transport of viewers from Halfmoon Bay to Ulva Island and the subsequent guiding of clients to and from the Kakapo enclosure.

The Trust wishes to present the above in two separate sessions:

7:30pm – Transport
8:15pm – Guiding

Tuesday 13th May at the RSA Pavilion

ANZAC DAY

Everyone Sang

Poppy Day is 23rd April.



The parade will take place at 8am on

Friday, 25th April. Meet at 7:45am at the War Memorial on the waterfront.

Coffee and rum afterwards.

All are welcome.

Everyone suddenly burst out singing; And I was filled with such delight As prisoned birds must find in freedom, Winging wildly across the white Orchards and dark-green fields; on — on — and out of sight.

Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted; And beauty came like the setting sun: My heart was shaken with tears; and horror Drifted away ... O, but Everyone Was a bird; and the song was wordless; the singing will never be done.



by Siegfried Sassoon, WWI poet, 1886-1967

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Please send articles and enquiries to Jess Kany at Box 156, or to editor@stewart-island-news.com
The deadline for the next issue Tuesday 13th May.

www.stewart-island-news.com

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- 12 issues to an Oban address or Internet address \$24
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Do you have a website for your local accommodation or activity? Give folks a reason to visit the Island and boost your shoulder season bookings: tell prospective visitors about Kakapo Encounter which will take place this Sept-Oct. Just add this link to your website: www.kakapoencounter.com