

# STEWART ISLAND NEWS

## CELEBRATING RAKIURA

April—May 2012

\$2.00

Is Halfmoon Bay going to become an oil town? Greymouth Petroleum held an informational meeting at the Community Centre this month about their wish to drill an exploration well here. Don't buy your ten gallon hat just yet, it's all still in the talking stage. If they get a permit they plan to commence drilling in June and be finished in about two weeks. The BIG if is *IF* they do tap into a massive well of oil on Stewart Island...what then? Here is what they say: "This is an exploration well only — *IF* anything is found we will require further consents and will undertake further community consultation before any long term development." Stay tuned.

We don't have a big nodding donkey here yet, but we do have a happy wee horsey. Oban is once again a one-horse town, well, maybe a half-horse town.... The Crepery's Britt has acquired a pet miniature baby horse named Minty. Stop by for a crepe and say "Hay."

The Shop has a "little minty" too now. New Zealand guide books will have to be amended: Stewart Island is no longer ATMless. (The Oxford Dictionary will have to be amended too to include that word...). Ship to Shore's cash dispensing machine is by the eggs.

Ali and Jan recently organized an indoor bowls tournament at the Community Centre. 46 players from around Southland competed (p13).

Some of us found ourselves kneeling at our own indoor bowls sessions in an unpleasant way this month. A couple of nasty tummy bugs have made the rounds leaving stricken victims telling horror stories of dodgy plumbing and midnight runs. For the able-bodied, Easter weekend was massive: heaps of visitors were here, and the Pub had a New Years Eve level of business on the Saturday night. There were some unwell Island-

ers around the place

by the end of the long weekend, ailing from bugs or bugged

by too many ales... Also, a serious incident marred the holiday, see p2.

I'm happy to announce this month's issue debuts a column from a talented Island writer. See page 15 for *Shop Talk* — musings from Jules Retberg. Rakiura Riddle is back this month (p9).

The School has a brand new bass guitar and amplifier thanks to the South Sea Hotel Quiz.

Horseshoe oysters continue to receive a thrashing, on the weekends dawn until after dusk at any given time there are three to six boats out there!

Otago University student Fernando Oyarzun is on the Island this month studying the shark cage diving



Fluffed up baby kaka (mama on the left). Photo from Lee Wadds.

enterprise as it relates to our community, he'd like to talk to anyone who has anything to say on the subject, so give him a call at 0278997061. All of your information is confidential, a detailed description of the project is on page 12 .

Some Back Road users have come across deer offal carelessly biffed by hunter(s) on the roadside. The stench is repulsive and it's particularly vexing for dog walkers. Offal is awful: please dispose of it effectively and considerately.

Congratulations to Libby Bayne for her awesome achievements in cycling! (p9)

To Petra and Abel and your baby girls: Arohanui from the Island.

—Jess

Minty. Photo not actual size (but almost).

by too many ales... Also, a serious incident marred the holiday, see p2.

I'm happy to announce this month's issue debuts a column from a talented Island writer. See page 15 for *Shop Talk* — musings from Jules Retberg. Rakiura Riddle is back this month (p9).

The School has a brand new bass guitar and amplifier thanks to the South Sea Hotel Quiz.

Horseshoe oysters continue to receive a thrashing, on the weekends dawn until after dusk at any given time there are three to six boats out there!

Otago University student Fernando Oyarzun is on the Island this month studying the shark cage diving

**INVERCARGILL  
GLASS & MIRROR**



*Retro-fit Double Glazing into Existing Homes*

**Professional tradesmen, friendly service**

**03 214-0918**

**Cnr Bill Richardson Drive and Fox Street**

# The Island Beat



## Reported Crime:

- 34 meters of 3/8 short link galvanised chain valued at \$300 was reported stolen from a Peterson Hill address between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2012.
- 300 litres of Diesel was reported stolen from a Leask Bay road address between July last year and January this year.

A wallet containing approx \$200.00 cash was stolen from a Golden Bay road address on either the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2012

Any information about these thefts would be appreciated.

## Traffic:

Over the Easter weekend a passenger fell off the deck of a moving utility vehicle. The passenger received head injuries requiring medical attention. This incident has highlighted the risk involved in carrying unrestrained passengers. Drivers are required to ensure their vehicles are loaded safely so as not to cause injury \$600 instant fine, Passengers riding on a vehicle in a dangerous position \$150.00 instant fine.

Due to the number of persons riding on the back of vehicles I will be enforcing the above traffic laws to prevent any further accidents.

## Found Property:

Police are currently holding the following found items:

- Camera case containing a men's watch
- Camera case and SD memory card

Pair Sunglasses

*Constable D.C. JENKINS*

## HALFMOON BAY SCHOOL YEARLY PLAN.

The following is rough outline of the different 'topics and projects' we hope to undertake during the 2012 school year. If you have expertise any of these fields and would like to share your knowledge with the students please see

Kath or Bonnie at HMB School.

Kath Johnson, Principal, Halfmoon Bay School, PO Box 58, 03 2191179, [office@halfmoonbay.school.nz](mailto:office@halfmoonbay.school.nz)

"A choppy sea can be navigated."

"He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka."

	week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4	week 5	week 6	week 7	week 8	week 9	week 10	week 11	
<b>Term 1</b>	Swimming Athletics							Decathlon	Triathlon	Mary - Music		
<b>Term 2</b>	ANZAC Day	Social Studies Fair (Seniors)					Boat building			Mary - Music		
<b>Term 3</b>	London Olympics Science Fair (Seniors)				Farming (incl Blackmount visit)						Mary - Music	
<b>Term 4</b>	Healthy Eating			Christmas PrEP					Camp Columba (Year 4-8)	Mary - Music		

# Anzac Day Commemorations 2012

**Poppy Day** will be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April

**Anzac Day** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012

0700 hrs Parade will assemble outside shop

0715hrs Parade to the memorial  
 Lay remembrance wreath  
 Prayers  
 Defense force speech  
 Public to lay poppies and wreaths  
 Reading of the Ode  
 Last post and minutes silence observed  
 Parade dismissed

After the parade everyone is welcome to adjourn to the RSA pavilion on Ayr St for rum and coffee.

Any members of the public are welcome to make and lay a wreath.

### **Environment Award entries now open**

Will Stewart Islanders feature in this year's Southland Environment Awards? If you'd like the answer to be "YES!" then it's time to act.

Last year the Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre was highly commended in the Commercial section, and previous winner SIRCET was the highly commended Community Group at the awards.

There are seven categories to enter, ranging from schools, individuals and community groups to businesses, innovators, achievers and farmers. Prizes include cash, travel, services and native plants, and there are local connections to the spon-

sors, which include Real Journeys and DOC.

The criteria are really simple – projects and activities have to be either happening in Southland, or be of clear and obvious benefit to the Southland environment. If you've been nominated and highly commended before, you're welcome to enter again, though the judges will be looking for significant advances or improvements in projects that have been considered previously. Past winners may not enter the same project or activity for at least five years.

Download the entry form from [www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz) and enter before Friday 27 April. If you need more information contact the Council on 0800 76 88 45 or e-mail [service@es.govt.nz](mailto:service@es.govt.nz)



# LETTERS



To the Stewart Island Community:

Margaret, Clare, Jonet, Sally, and families wish to say a very sincere and heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you for your love, support and prayers during the last twelve months and especially in the final five difficult weeks of Ted's illness.

For those who sent cards and letters of sympathy, e-mails, phone and text messages, baking, meals, flowers, mowed lawns, put away wood and lent us their car, thank you.

To Debs and Marty for their concerned medical care over the years, thank you.

To Elaine and Bill, my couriers and support, we owe you a huge debt of gratitude.

Ted loved the Island and to be in such a caring Community has been a great blessing, thank you everyone.

*Margaret*



Time has come to go back to France after two month in Stewart.

Marko and I enjoyed very much staying here. It's such a beautiful place!

Every time I went for a walk (I know all the short tracks close to Oban) I was amazed by the landscape, seaside and bush as well. I have found resemblance with ours, in France: wild coasts, sand beaches and coves like in Brittany where we live, cliffs of Normandy, "calanques" of Marseille in the South....

I appreciate a lot people for their gentleness. Thank you for being patient, listening and helpful to my husband who lives sometimes in another world. I knew anywhere he went he was in security and so I could have time for myself.

Sorry for my poor English. It's "my own" words, coming from heart and feelings. So good bye Stewart Island and all of you. I hope coming back one day and we keep in touch through François Kitty and Kath!

*Geneviève GUIZIOU (François' mother)*



Hi

I am writing, as a competitor in the Round NZ race, to thank the people of Stewart Island for the unbelievable hospitality they showed us during the three day stop over we had on the Island. I have always believed that the majority of New Zealanders are very caring people and if I ever have to prove my beliefs I would the use people of Stewart Island as an example.



*(LETTERS Continued from page 4)*

To all those people who went out of their way make our stay so enjoyable  
THANK YOU.

*Paddy Greene  
Danaide*



The Lands End Garden Club would like to thank all members and helpers with the annual hospice collection. A special thanks to Luke Simeon. Money collected was \$1,239 from Bluff and \$88 from Stewart Island.



My name is Fernando Oyarzun. I'm a PhD student at the Tourism Department of the University of Otago. I'm currently doing a research about management in sustainable tourism operations. Specifically, I'm studying Shark Cage Diving in the Foveaux Strait and its relation and conflicts with the local community and other tour operators. See page 10 for a more detailed explanation about my research.

It would be extremely beneficial to my study to speak with you regarding my research. I'm currently on Stewart Island during April.

If you are available for a conversation I would be more than grateful. Please advise me of your availability and we can arrange a time and location to suit you.

Best regards,  
Fernando Oyarzun  
PhD Student  
Department of Tourism, University of Otago,  
PO Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand  
Tel: 0278997061  
[fernando.oyarzun@otago.ac.nz](mailto:fernando.oyarzun@otago.ac.nz)



*The following card was sent to the community c/ the South Sea Hotel. The World residents all made individual notes on the card, if you'd like to read them stop by reception or ask Helen Cave.*

The Residents of *The World*, who shared a beautiful day with you last week, have heard of the recent tragedy that has struck the island and we wish to express our condolences.

Our time on Stewart Island was unforgettable, thanks to the warm hospitality we encountered everywhere, and the beauty of the island. It was the people who we will remember, be it our guides, the lady in the post office, the staff in the shops and Museum, or the staff and patrons of the South Sea Hotel.

We ourselves are a small community and have known the loss of loved ones on board. Our hearts go out to those who have lost so many to a single, heartbreaking event. We trust that a tight net of friendship, love and support will sustain the bereaved in this difficult time

Please accept our deepest sympathies,

The Residents of *The World*

## TED ROONEY

### 29.08 1931 - 16 02 2012

When I think of Ted I think of a man with an easy smile, a cheeky laugh and a can do attitude. Not to mention a keen sense of humour.

But there was so much more to Ted. For 80 years he lived an incredibly varied and interesting life.

Ted was born in Hokitika in 1931, the eldest of six children.

His childhood is full of stories of fun and mischief.

He once tied his youngest sister Kathleen to the clothesline, while he went swimming – an early form of babysitting. He made this up to Kathleen by catching her a piglet, which eventually became her pet, having pride of place on trips to town on a lead.

By all accounts Ted was a fun and caring older brother, and this continued throughout his life. His three daughters tell many stories of hilarious family events, featuring large amounts of singing, joke-telling and gin drinking.

Life took the Rooney family to Southland, where Ted went to school in Otautau. But not every day. Instead, some days he would jump off the train and go fishing with his mate Socks – a passion of Ted's which would last a lifetime.

Ted left school at 13 and his first job was a bird scarer and horse logger.

This was to set the scene for a long and distinguished career in forestry. With this he travelled all over the country, and did jobs such as counting whiskey barrels for Customs in the tunnels of Dunedin and becoming one of the first surveyors in the Catlins.

His love of the bush was evident throughout his life, and it was here

that Ted's true pioneer spirit flourished. He was a real man of the land, and developed a passion for the outdoors. He loved a cup of tea from the billy, enjoyed hunting and was always inventing or building things like eel traps or fish smokers.

Ted was always keen to share his knowledge of the bush, and I'm sure he'd be pleased to know some of this has rubbed off on his children and grandchildren.

Such were Ted's skills that he was sent to Kenya in 1963 to teach forestry to the locals.

It was at a friend's wedding in Nairobi where Ted, working as a bartender, first set eyes on Margaret. And that, as they say, was that.

Ted stayed in Kenya until 1965, when he returned to New Zealand to soon be joined by Margaret for their wedding. Unfortunately, Ted had been a little remiss in telling his family that Margaret was coming until two or three weeks before her arrival.

Needless to say, Ted and Margaret were married on St Valentine's Day, 1966, and celebrated 46 years of marriage just last week. I know that their marriage is something their three daughters aspire to. 1966 was a busy year for the new couple, with a move to Harihari on the West Coast to head up the Forestry Camp.

Their first daughter, Clare, was born in December, followed by Jonet in 1968 and Sally in 1972.

1972 was also important not just for the birth of Sally but also for a purchase of land on Stewart Island, allegedly over a hand shake in a pub.

1974 saw the move to Tonga, followed by Tapawera in 1976, where Ted headed up Golden Downs For-

estry until his retirement in 1987.

Ted's three daughters have many happy memories of growing up in Tapawera. Midnight drives to the forest to watch the burn-offs, swimming in the river, holidays at Quinny's Bush and Collingwood – life was fun.

Eventually the three girls grew up and found their own paths. Clare as an accountant, Janet a nurse and Sally a physio. I know just how proud he was of his girls – all you needed to do was look at the grin of delight on his face at graduations and weddings to see that.

With his retirement came another phase in Ted's life when he and Margaret moved to Stewart Island, to live in the holiday home Ted started building in 1977. Not long after came the purchase of Ted's beloved boat, the Sonya May.

I don't think I've ever seen Ted as enlivened as I did one day when he was steering the Sonya May out of a storm back to Horseshoe Bay, rain-coat on, sucking on his pipe while Sally and I sat terrified on the stern.

The Island was a huge part of Ted's life, and I know many Islanders are here today. Ted worked on the roads, was Chairman of the Community Board and was involved in getting the Community Centre built. He truly loved the Island.

During this time he gained three sons-in-law. Speaking for Bruce, Dave and myself, I know we've always been made to feel so welcome by Margaret and Ted, with feeds of fish, oysters and all manner of other tasty delights.

With sons-in-law came the arrival of seven grandchildren – Alexander, Shannon, Jordan, Eden, Isabelle, Campbell and Sylvie.

I know that each of them have their own special memories of Ted. He has been such a marvellous presence in their lives and we have all been lucky enough to have spent time on the Island with him, not to mention the Christmases we have spent with Ted and Margaret every two years. It won't be the same without you Ted.

It's been fantastic to see how Ted has passed on his love of life to his grandchildren. From him they have learnt a lot. Go-karting, geology, a love of the bush, fishing, bird watching, to name a few. Not to mention maths – Ted always thought it was important to learn from a young age how much \$1 each way on number 5 would pay. And just two Christmases ago Ted was teaching his grandchildren how to pan for gold in Arrowtown.

It's hard to know how to finish. So I'll defer to some

words Clare wrote, which I think sum it up.

Ted was a man who had done many things, been many places, always had a story, knew many people (forgotten their names but always knew the association) but was an incredibly humble man, who always did his best never really expecting any rewards, but he was our Dad, and we loved him.

Rest in peace Ted. Yours was a life lived to the full.

But rest also in the comfort that there are people who love you who won't forget you and will in their own way carry part of you with them forever.

*Read by Brad Kidd at Ted's funeral  
Invercargill, 20 February 2012.*

## A TRIBUTE TO TED ROONEY

*Neville Peat*  
20 February 2012

Commitments in Central Otago prevent me from being here today to say a few words about Ted. Many of you will remember him as a good keen, sleeves-rolled-up Kiwi guy who loved in equal measure a laugh, a beer, a pipe, a cold-smoked fillet of blue cod, and a day's fishing in his wee boat. He also loved islands, especially Stewart/Rakiura.

Not surprisingly, "Island Rooneys" is what he and Margaret use for an email address, and it was on an island a long way from here that I first got to know Ted. The year was 1974, almost 40 years ago. He had been appointed Forest Officer to the Kingdom of Tonga and I was running the editorial side of the Tonga Government newspaper, the *Tonga Chronicle*. Ted was newsworthy and a true-blue Kiwi so we got on well, although we lived on different islands. Ted and Margaret and their three young daughters were based on the volcanic island of Eua where the kingdom's largest trees grew – a two-hour ferry ride from the capital Nukualofa. The King would visit his estates there, and Ted would show His Majesty around. The two got on famously, to the point where a forest road was named after Ted. In Tongan the R is replaced by an L. So Rooney Road became Hala Looney. I can still hear Ted laughing about that.

On Eua, it seemed to me, the Rooneys were like royalty. Ted had a

counterpart in the forestry department but he was clearly more than an ordinary Palangi (a European visitor). He appeared to belong to a community that revered him. He could get on with anyone in any culture, and in Tonga this included everyone from the King and Nobles through to members of the exclusive Nuku'alofa Club and the commoners who drank at the shed-based kava clubs.

On Eua, Ted and Margaret were generous hosts and at various times I took my family and friends across from the main island to stay with them. Today, at this sad time, it is possible to think of those happy days. In extending my sympathy to Margaret and daughters Claire, Jonet and Sally, I hope I can evoke something of Ted's upbeat and indomitable spirit through these words.

That spirit was tested in January 1975 when I went with Ted and some of his colleagues on a forest survey of the uninhabited island of Ata, a half-day's voyage in a fast Tongan naval patrol vessel. The rubber dinghy attempting to transfer Ted's party on to Ata was flipped over in surf close to the rocky shore and Ted, seriously injured, was trapped underneath. With superhuman strength, one of his Tongan forestry men lifted the dinghy off Ted and singlehandedly paddled it back to the navy boat, with three on board injured. Ted had a broken elbow and a badly bruised foot and shoulder. But he smiled his way through the extreme pain, puffing at his pipe all the way back to Nuku'alofa and hospital. Afterwards

Ted reckoned he had enough piano wire binding his repaired elbow to be able to play a tune.

I kept in touch with the Rooneys after those Tonga years, visiting them on my touring ten-speed bike at Tapawera in Nelson in 1981, while en route to Stewart Island. Ted was clearly a man of substance around any forestry project, including Nelson's Golden Downs, where I think he had been second-in-command.

As you know, Stewart Island beckoned upon his retirement, offering Ted not only plenty of trees but also fishing and sailing and sessions at the pub. But you couldn't keep Ted down, not a man as resourceful as him. His contribution to Stewart Island's development, through his time on the community board, is something I always think of when I visit the island. The community centre is an outstanding people's asset, the timber for which – the decorative stuff at least – was a Ted Rooney special deal. He accessed it through contacts and a deep knowledge of what would look good in the new community centre. He was also keen on roading improvements on Stewart Island and worked hard to achieve them.

Ted Rooney was a man of many parts – a man of the trees, an enthusiast for getting things done, a good clobber, in fact an all-round, down-to-earth people's man.

Rest easy, Ted, you friend of islands and islanders, and know that you will be remembered for a long time.





**WANTS YOU TO STEP FORWARD!!!!**

Calling on all super talented Islanders – young and old - to enter this exciting new competition.

From dancers, singers, beatboxers, musicians, magicians and comedians – to stunt artists, acrobats, animal trainers, aerialists, gymnasts, cheerleaders, trampoline champs, trick cyclists, hip hop artists and b-boys & girls throughout the land...

If you've got something special to show New Zealand, we want to see it!

Yes, TV ONE's new prime-time entertainment series *New Zealand's Got Talent* is coming to the small screen. It's a chance to proudly represent your home town. It's also a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase your talents on national television for all your friends and family to see - and vie for a grand prize of \$100,000!!!! Popular TV ONE roving weatherman Tamati Coffey (former What Now presenter and 2009 winner of Dancing with the Stars) is hosting what will be Aotearoa's biggest talent show, and will be coming to a centre near you for open auditions with the NZGT team soon.

"We'll be travelling the length and breadth of both the North and South Islands to search out our most talented Kiwi's," Tamati says. "No stone will be left unturned!"

Are you ready?

There's no entry fee, no age limit, and every type of talent imaginable is welcome, so tell everyone you know to get involved! If you can't make it to the first round of auditions on the mainland, no worries. Just apply on-line and we'll be in touch to let you know if you've made it through to the live televised heats.

For an application form and more information, including venue dates, locations and times, go to: <http://tvnz.co.nz/new-zealands-got-talent/zealand-s-get-involved-4801015>

**SSANZ Final Report**

*By Cameron Thorpe*

Congratulations to "Truxton" (Tiller 10.5m) winning both line and handicap finishing at 10:06 on the 17<sup>th</sup> beating "Surreal" (Beneteau 47.7m) by 1hr 27 mins, the race favourite, after 3 days 20 hours of sailing from Stewart Is in a tightly fought dual. Third to finish was Expedition Coppelia some 14 hours later with the rest of the fleet struggling against headwinds up the East Coast and light airs across Hawke's Bay. The last yacht to finish was Sunstone after 5 days and 18 hours finishing at 0822 on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Everyone was saddened to learn of the tragic sinking of the fishing vessel "Easy Rider" off the North West Coast of Stewart Island the day after their departure from the Island en-route to Napier. The fleet had sailed across that area of Foveaux Strait the week before as they neared the Leg 2 finish at Half Moon Bay.

The weather in Napier is usually dependably fine and sunny but unfortunately turned grey and wet for the

majority of the stopover but this did not deter the fleet from having a jolly good time and many yarns were related at the hospitable Napier Sailing Club where the yachts were berthed. Those lucky enough to have finished in time took full advantage of the clubbing that was to be had at the Ahuriri waterfront on Saturday night and all joined in the celebrations at the prize giving dinner on the Monday night.

The highlight of the stopover was the traditional Wine Trail on Tuesday afternoon with most of the crews and their support teams enjoying the local wines and very informative talks by some of the wine makers.

Unlike the previous leg from Mangonui to Stewart Island which saw the fleet sail through the weather bomb on the night of March 2<sup>nd</sup> there was little damage to repair with only the usual sail repairs and electronic breakdowns to contend with.

The Race restart on the 21 March was hampered by Sea fog and a container ship which lay across the fleet's course near their start line which was

delayed in trying to enter the port due to low visibility of, at times, less than 100m. The Pilot on board the ship was not amused that a bunch of yachts wanted to sail around him so it was not until the fog started lifting and the ship cleared our course and entered port that we were able to finally get the fleet underway at 1715.

During their first night at sea whilst approaching Mahia Peninsular the fleet were pounded by a nasty Nor'easterly gale which caused some minor damage to the yachts. Most notably to "Danaide" the Beale 38 which took on a lot of water after one of their cabin windows was stove in. They headed for shelter to effect repairs but with the wind and seas abating during the early morning they were able to continue racing.

This final leg to Auckland has seen the fleet battling against headwinds and light airs making what would usually be a 2-3 day leg a 3-4 day one with the fleet originally due in to Auckland on Saturday now not starting to arrive until early Sunday.



## Libby Bayne wins silver in cycle comp

Libby Bayne and Laura Heyward received silver medals at the recent Rabo Direct Age group Nationals that was held at the Velodrome late February with four days of racing.

Libby trained here on the island during the summer holidays, at the gym and back and forth on the limited roading and received very generous support from Real Journeys to travel to training at the Velodrome several times.

Unfortunately first day on the track at the National comps there was a big crash in the Under 17s girls and Libby was right amongst it. She spent some time on the medic table after being ridden over and hitting the deck at 40+ km per hour, I was picking the wood splinters from her skin suit for several days.

However in true staunch Libby fashion she got up, we bought a new helmet, had her race wheels fixed at the bike shop and she was riding again that night. The burns were quite extensive on her legs and caused considerable discomfort and a suspected broken nose made for difficult riding however on the Friday all the pain paid off as Laura and she rode (twice) to secure a silver medal in the Team Sprint, Canterbury taking the Gold and Auckland the Bronze.

Libby is off next week to represent Southland in road riding this time. Two other under 17 boys and Lib will travel to Wagawaga Australia, where she will compete for three days in a road event with several stages on a very hilly course. She is back on the Island training this week as a perfect hill course and to spend some time with other ex Halfmoon Bay school pupils, so watch out for bikers on the hills and all the best for taking the yellow jersey in Wagawaga!

—Diana Morris



First podium: Libby Bayne and Laura Heyward

The search for the missing from *Easy Rider* was just underway when the last issue of *SIN* was going to print.

Several Stewart Island boats, manned by dozens of local volunteers, joined the grid search with the Navy, Coast Guard, and Bluff boats. Four bodies were recovered during the three-day effort.

The Navy located *Easy Rider* on the sea floor.

A dinghy from *Easy Rider* was found washed up at Mason Bay 10 days after the sinking.

Seven men and one child perished.

They were:

- Shane Ronald Topi, 29
- Boe Taikawa Gillies, 28
- John Henry Karetai, 58
- Peter Glen Pekamu-Bloxham, 53
- William Rewai Desmond Karetai, 47
- Paul Jason Fowler-Karetai, 40
- Odin Karetai, 7,
- and David George Fowler, 50

Dallas Reedy, the sole survivor, has since told his remarkable story on TV.

A combined funeral service for four men was held in Rugby Park Stadium in Invercargill. Halfmoon Bay's Gwen Neave coordinated the tangi.

Gwen remarked: "It was a harrowing week for them all and the police and

Victim Support did a marvellous job of supporting the families through very stressful and challenging times. And of course it is not over for the families who still have loved ones who are missing.... The island boats and skippers were there helping search as soon as they were able. These sea disasters touch our island community very acutely."

(Sadly, Gwen had only just presided over the marriage of Rewai Karetai and Gloria Davis —Brock's sister—in February 2011.)

The loss of the *Easy Rider* leaves a legacy of grief for the loved ones left behind. And as *this* issue goes to print, a month on, some family members are still searching Foveaux Strait for the missing men. —Ed

## DOC Spot

by Sharon Pasco, Programme Manager Community Relations / Field Centre Supervisor

### Tieke returned to Titi Islands

DOC has been working with the Rakiura Titi Island Administering Body (RTIAB) and Rakiura Titi Committee to continue the programme for the long term protection of South Island Saddleback / tieke. A DOC team assisted by birders transferred 30 birds from Kundy Island to Taukihepa / Big South Cape in March to supplement the 38 birds that were transferred there from Big Island last year. Due to the size of Taukihepa and the presence of weka, which are known to predate saddlebacks, the more birds that can be released the faster the new population will establish.

These releases on Taukihepa more than double the area inhabited by this species. Also, with Taukihepa being the last natural stronghold of the species prior to the arrivals of rats there in the 1960s, returning the birds to this island completes the circle after the removal of rats from the island in a 2006 programme led by the birders through Ka Mate Nga Kiore. Breeding has already been confirmed on both Taukihepa and Mokonui / Big Moggy following last year's transfers (38 birds were transferred from Mokonui to Kundy Island last year). In addition to the Taukihepa transfer this year, 10 birds were released on Mokoiti / Little Moggy, which had weka removed in 2007. These transfers were funded by the RTIAB.

As part of the same programme the Titi Committee/ Ka Mate Nga Kiore funded the transfer of eight birds from Pohowaitai to Solomon Island. While it had been hoped that more birds would be transferred to Solomon Island, the project was interrupted by the search for the crew of the Easy Rider. These transfers were all made possible following the rat and weka removal in 2006.

Special thanks to Colin and Margaret Hopkins of Aurora Charters for transporting the team to the islands for free and to Chris Green and Southern Lakes Helicopters for subsidising the flying required. A big thank you must also go to the Trow whānau for accommodating the team on Kundy.  
(Photo sent through separately to accompany this)

### Other items in brief:

**Ulva Island Update** – Regular trap checks on Ulva continue to show no evidence of rats on Ulva. A specialist rat-detecting dog will return for a further check of the island in May. If nothing is found following this check we are very hopeful that Ulva will soon be able to be declared rat-free once more. A debrief of the rat eradication is to be held in the Stewart Island Community Centre on June 22. This will be open to the public and we encourage everyone who has an interest in Ulva to attend.

**Possum Control** – Monitoring of potential areas for possum control in 2012/13 has been undertaken, with Rakeahua and forest adjoining the Freshwater Flats being the likely areas for control this year.

**Dotterel Flock Counts** – Simultaneous flock counts are being carried out by DOC bio-diversity staff at various locations around the island and at Awarua Bay this year, to try to get an accurate idea of population size. This year staff will also attempt to catch a small number of birds to extract DNA to analyse whether these Southern birds are actually a separate species from their Northern counter-parts.

**Mason Bay Marram Control** – Work has concluded for the season.

**Weed Work Around Halfmoon Bay** – This is continuing with a team of six employed through until the end of May to continue the blitz on Barberry around the bay.



Teresa Trow releases a tieke /South Island Saddleback on Mokoiti / Little Moggy Island.



**Bottlenose Dolphin Survey** – The Department has issued a permit for Otago University to study bottlenose dolphins in Paterson Inlet. This study is primarily aimed at determining whether dolphins seen here are part of the Fiordland group and to gain a better understanding of population dynamics.

**Track Trims** – Track trimming from Mason Bay to Doughboy Bay has been completed. The visitor assets team has also made a start on the section from Yankee to Christmas Village.

**Maintenance of Historic Assets at Pegasus** – A team of volunteers spent a week aboard the DOC vessel Southern Winds, assisting staff with maintenance of the sluice guns and vegetation clearance and drainage work around the Surveyors Track and Tramline leading up to the Tin Range. They also checked out other historic sites in the Pegasus area.

**Rakiura Track Upgrade Nearing Completion** – Graveling has now been completed, with just some boardwalk removal to be carried out before this upgrade is officially completed.

**Rakiura Track Marketing Plan** – Progress is being made on a marketing plan to encourage more people to travel to Stewart Island / Rakiura to walk the Rakiura Track. The Rakiura Track is one of the Department's Great Walks and this marketing plan aims to link into that branding and promote the fact that the Rakiura can be walked year-round by anyone with a reasonable level of fitness.

**North Arm Hut Upgrade** – Materials have been transported in preparation for an upgrade of North Arm Hut, on the Rakiura track. Included in the upgrade is a 4.8m extension to the living section of the hut. The hut will be closed from the 1<sup>st</sup> of May for approximately two months to allow this work to take place.

**Field Centre to be Re-roofed** – The DOC field centre is to be re-roofed in late April / early May. SI-ESA has removed the solar panels and recording equipment in preparation for this to happen.

## RAKIURA RIDDLE

I'm new in the Bay  
but you've seen me  
before

On streets in town,  
or inside a store

I'm a "box of birds"  
– not all –  
just one rep:  
the karearea  
(no whio or yeps)

Can't guess who I am?  
Don't feel  
bereft  
Go pick out a movie  
Then look to your  
left

*The Mystery of the Missing Silver Beet:  
Solved.*



**ADAPTIVE CO-MANAGEMENT AS AN APPROACH TO MANAGING  
WILDLIFE TOURISM**

*Fernando's Shark  
Cage Diving study  
info. See Letter page 5.*

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Thank you for showing an interest in this project. Please read this information sheet carefully before deciding whether or not to participate. If you decide to participate we thank you. If you decide not to take part there will be no disadvantage to you and we thank you for considering our request.

**What is the Aim of the Project?**

This project is being undertaken as part of the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy in Tourism at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. The aim of this project is to analyse the feasibility of using Adaptive Co-management (ACM) as an alternative approach to sustainable wildlife tourism management. In particular, the management of shark cage diving in Stewart Island. Key aspects of the research include the interrelation of stakeholders and the roles that they play in the context of shark cage diving, in order to identify the critical factors in the application of the ACM approach.

**What Type of Participants are being sought?**

The participants being sought for this project are stakeholders with a direct or indirect relationship with shark cage diving in Stewart Island. This includes individuals, community representatives, governmental and non-governmental organisation's representatives, experts, entrepreneurs, tourists, and other key informants.

**What will Participants be Asked to Do?**

Should you agree to take part in this project, you will be asked to participate in a semi-structured interview, answering some questions relating to the role that you or your organisation play as a stakeholder in relation to shark cage diving whether in the particular case of Stewart Island or in general, and the relations amongst stakeholders. The interview will last up to 30 minutes. In some cases, when the researcher is not possible to make contact in person with the interviewee, a phone interview will be conducted, or an e-mail with questions will be sent.

**What Data or Information will be Collected and What Use will be Made of it?**

The researcher will be collecting information concerning the role that you or your organisation play as a stakeholder in relation to shark cage diving, particularly in Stewart Island, and the relations amongst stakeholders. All the interviews will be audio taped. In the case of individuals, no personal information will be asked and pseudonymous will be used to identify the interviewees. Only in the case of organisations' representatives, name, job title, organisational affiliation, and contact details will be asked. This information will be destroyed as soon as the interviews have been completed such that the stored interviews cannot be identified with specific individuals.

This project involves a semi structured-questioning technique. The general line of questioning is focused on understanding the way in which shark cage diving is managed in Stewart Island, the perceptions of the different stakeholders directly or indirectly involved, and the implications that this activity has for them.

The precise nature of the questions which will be asked have not been determined in advance, but will depend on the way in which the interview develops. Consequently, although the University of Otago Human Ethics Committee is aware of the general areas to be explored in the interview, the Committee has not been able to review the precise questions to be used. In the event that the line of questioning does develop in such a way that you feel hesitant or uncomfortable you are reminded of your right to decline to answer any particular question(s) and also that you may withdraw from the project at any stage without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind.

Raw data will only be available to the researcher and their supervisors (see below). The results of the project may be published and available in the library but every attempt will be made to preserve your anonymity. The data collected will be securely stored in such a way that only those mentioned above will be able to gain access to it. At the end of the project any personal information will be destroyed immediately except that, as required by the University's research policy, any raw data on which the results of the project depend will be retained in secure storage for five years, after which it will be destroyed. Reasonable precautions will be taken to protect and destroy data gathered by email. However, the security of electronically transmitted information cannot be guaranteed. Caution is advised in the electronic transmission of sensitive material.

**Can Participants Change their Mind and Withdraw from the Project?**

You may withdraw from participation in the project at any time and without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind.

**What if Participants have any Questions?**

If you have any questions about our project, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact either:-

Fernando Oyarzun  
Department of Tourism  
+64 (3) 479 8107

fernando.oyarzun@otago.ac.nz  
Ph: 0278997061

Asoc. Prof. Brent Lovelock  
Department of Tourism  
+64 (3) 479 8069

brent.lovelock@otago.ac.nz

Asoc. Prof. Neil Carr  
Department of Tourism  
+64 (3) 479 5048

neil.carr@otago.ac.nz

This study has been approved by the Department of Tourism, University of Otago. If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the Committee through the Human Ethics Committee Administrator (ph 03 479-8256). Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated and you will be informed of the outcome.

## Stewart Island visitor levy becomes law

The Stewart Island/Rakiura visitor levy has become law after being read for a third and final time by Parliament today.

Senior policy analyst Wayne Heerdegen said the levy is a great example of a council, MPs and the community working together for the betterment of that community.

“Council thanks all members of Parliament for their support of this Bill. Thanks must be especially given to MP Eric Roy for sponsoring the Bill, steering it through the intricacies of Parliament and keeping it on track whenever it was faced with obstacles,” Mr Heerdegen said.

Today's developments will be well received by the Stewart Island community as the levy will provide an alternative source of revenue to rates that is dedicated to the infrastructure, services and amenities for visitors to the island.

Mayor Frana Cardno and chief executive David Adamson have welcomed the final reading.

The new law allows Council to formally receive and spend the income generated from the proposed levy on behalf of the Stewart Island/Rakiura community and work with the Stewart Island Community Board and tourism industry to administer the levy.

“Visitor levies are common throughout Europe, the US and Australia. Stewart Island is the third largest island of New Zealand and a levy is a reliable, fair and efficient way to collect money for subsidising the costs of international and domestic visitors to the island,” Mr Heerdegen said.





**BOOK REVIEW**

“Northern Lights” by Nora Roberts  
*from Sue Ford*

The Guardian review on the cover quotes this as: ‘Sheer entertainment’ – and that’s just what I found it to be. Ignatius Burke of the Baltimore police has had a hellish couple of years, first in his private life, and then – and almost fatally – in his working life. Sunk in the blackest of depressions, Burke hands in his badge and accepts a new one – as Chief of Police in Lunacy, Alaska, population 506! Then, as the dark Alaskan winter creeps over Lunacy, he sets about dealing with small town routine: vandalism, drunks, petty theft, car accidents. He meets oddball characters: Jake, the enigmatic native Alaskan; Meg, the beautiful but crazy bush pilot (Roberts doesn’t miss the chance for more than a touch of romance!); Charlene - Meg’s “nymphomaniac” mother and Burke’s landlady at The Lodge; Ed, the pin-striped banker; Hopp, the salt-of-the-earth mayor, who took on the job following in her husband’s footsteps after he died; ‘The Professor’, John, schoolteacher; ‘Bing’, the county employee who has ‘anger issues’ .... And so it goes on – a rich tapestry of village characters and life. Until, by sheer accident, an ice cave is uncovered and Patrick Galloway’s frozen body is revealed – with an ice-axe through the chest.

Charming dilettante hippy Patrick was partner of Charlene and father of Meg. It had always been thought that Patrick had – as was his wont – just ambled off about his own business, leaving girl and small daughter to fend for themselves. However, an axe through the chest does rather dispel that theory! A 16-year old murder mystery stirs up more than old memories though, and it isn’t long before the people of Lunacy are wondering if Nate Burke has jinxed the town and brought a dormant criminal element to the surface. You might guess that Nate will solve the mysteries and find the killer, but will he find himself?

The story is told against a background of the sort of snow and cold that we will (hopefully!) never experience here, a winter when there are only a few hours of dusky daylight each day, but where the nights are splendidly lit by Northern Lights. It is told with some humour – superb ‘one-liners’ and the kind of humorous understatement that we know is often typical of small communities. With the sizzling romance developing between Nate and Meg as a counterpoint, this is a story that spans chic-lit, boys own adventure and murder mystery, all rolled into one and with the requisite tension building. Excellent autumn evening reading.



INDOOR BOWLS TOURNAMENT at the Community Centre included 46 players from all over Southland.



**HAZEL**  
**or**  
**move over, Jim Hickey**

*from Jenny Gell*

We have always had bantams; in fact we brought 6 hens and a rooster with us from Auckland, (we got some strange looks from folk at the airport.) Hazel a four year old wonderful mum sat on guinea fowl eggs last year and hatched two (Gadget and Gismo).

The guinea fowl nested this year and after two accidents with their nest, tried a third time only to have a dog attack them, we thought we had lost them with the amount of feathers etc, so stuck 6 eggs under Hazel, who hatched two again, the weka got one and the remaining one is now 6 weeks old and thriving.

Now is the interesting bit – the other night on my nightly check of the chook house couldn't locate Hazel or the chick, till I looked up into the tree the guineas nest in, and there she was, with a protective wing over the baby. Not strange you would say, but Hazel has never nested in the tree before, always spending the night in the chook house, AND she only nests in the tree if the weather is fine otherwise she takes the baby into the chook house.

So to our friend Jim Hickey – Hazel is proving him wrong, Jim says it is going to rain down here but Hazel knows that it is not so. So if you are planning a b.b.q or outside event, just give us a ring, ask "is Hazel in the tree?" if the answer is "yes", be assured you will have a fine evening.

Who says life is dull down here?



Ann Pullen shares these photos of her recent visitor. "I watched the bird for over 1/2 hour, you can see by one of the photos just how close to the house he was in the warm sunshine, after awhile he walked into the undergrowth, then came back out later and sat in the sun again, later going off down the drive for a short way before going into the undergrowth again."

## SHOP TALK

by Jules Retberg

### *From check-in to check-out*

Some of you may have noticed me hanging around the chocolate counter in the shop a bit more often than usual - but hopefully stocking the shelves rather than emptying them. In March I joined the Four Square team and will now be seeing you at the check-out in the shop, instead of the check-in at the wharf!

A while ago Jess asked me if I'd be interested in writing in the *Stewart Island News* about the amusing goings-on at the wharf. She even had a cracking title in mind - Ferry Tales! No matter, we figured. The shop is THE place for a chat while you're grabbing a newspaper or your daily bread and with plenty of visitors coming through the door, I'm sure to find *something* to write about.

I didn't have to wait long.

On my second day, a visitor came into the shop asking if we had any Marmite. The next customer also asked for Marmite. And the next. Was this some bizarre initiation ceremony for new shop staff? If the next person asked if we sold left-handed screwdrivers, then I knew it was a set-up ... but they also asked for Marmite. That morning on the TV news, Sanitarium had announced Marmite supplies were low due to earthquake damage at its manufacturing plant in Christchurch.

The announcement apparently sparked panic buying throughout the country and most supermarkets were devoid of New Zealand's favourite spread. ***Step up Stewart Island Four Square!*** We had plenty. That status was soon to change however, but we still have the individual portion sized packets if you're desperate!

The national media had a field day with Marmite-related puns; my personal favourite is "Marmite supplies on a knife edge" but I'm not so sure about "Marmageddon"!

Allegations of jars of "black gold" being sold for over \$700 began circulating and it even made it to the international news. UK newspaper "The Guardian" ran a story about how Kiwis had been told to use Marmite on hot toast because it spreads more thinly and would last longer! However, before we get the British Army to parachute in some Marmite care packages, UK manufacturers use a different recipe and Kiwis wouldn't like the taste. Who'd have thought??!

It gets even more crazy. The declining Marmite supply could affect Whitebait! Who'd have thought that those little fishes could (a) use a knife and (b) eat Marmite on their little fishy toast? OK, I'm kidding. They don't have toast for breakfast but they do eat Marmite. I read an article (no, it was not April Fool's Day) about a group of Christchurch biologists using Marmite to catch whitebait and tag them to research spawning patterns. Seriously. It's on the internet, it MUST be true!

Whether the whole Marmite thing is a marketing ploy by Sanitarium remains to be seen. Weetbix was also made at the same Christchurch factory, but production for this particular breakfast cereal has been moved up to Auckland. So, no need to stockpile Weetbix just yet!

As always, we try to have a wide choice available for locals, but as the main visitor season gets quieter, we will be letting stocks get a little lower. If you have a specific product or a bulk order you'd like to place, we need to know before Monday afternoons please.

Jules

*And from the whole Four Square team, we're always here to look after the locals. Keep warm!*



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

**40 years' experience in local government  
and I know how to achieve results.**

- planning
- resource management/consents
- mediation
- facilitation



**WILLIAM J WATT CONSULTING LTD**

**phone 03 217 0114 mobile 027 495 9288**  
williamwatt@ihug.co.nz www.williamjwatt.co.nz

# CONGRATULATIONS

*Newlyweds*

Bevan and Gary

*Newlyweds*

Kiri and Chris



Tomtit from Lee Wadds.

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



Do you like weather sites?  
Here's a random goody from my uncle-in-law Ernie Cave's friend's brother-in-law. It's from Norway.

[http://www.yr.no/place/New\\_Zealand/Southland/Oban~2190349/](http://www.yr.no/place/New_Zealand/Southland/Oban~2190349/)

Check it out... It has Oban weather reports which is more than can be said about our local meteorologists! Well...according to Jenny Gell we do have an accurate local weather reporter. See page 14 for more.

## STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE



**WILL MEET AT  
STEWART ISLAND  
LODGE  
AT 2.00pm  
THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY**



*Stewart Island News* is published on a monthly basis as material permits.

**Please send articles and enquiries to Jess at  
PO Box 156, Stewart Island News, HMB Post Office  
or to [editor@stewart-island-news.com](mailto:editor@stewart-island-news.com)**

### Advertise in the STEWART ISLAND NEWS

This little paper ends up in most island households and is sent to over 150 bach owners, former residents, and other subscribers around New Zealand and the world. Dozens of visitors see this too. So tell all of those people about your business!

Contact editor for rates.  
Jess 03 2191 367  
[editor@stewart-island-news.com](mailto:editor@stewart-island-news.com)

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

Name of Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_