

Stewart Island News

August 2003 \$2

Celebrating Stewart Island



Lions Catering Corps - "meeting and greeting"

Braving the wrath of the camera-shy crowd above produced this unforgettable image of the Stewart Island Lions Club hard at work over a well-stoked barbie. (Suggestions on what the photographer should do with the camera were ignored).

The occasion was the annual visit by the Publicans Fishing Contest competitors. This event has become an important revenue earner for many local businesses. The Lions are to be commended for their backing and assistance. (Janine hides behind Sinky).

Thank-you time again...

Ship to Shore continue their valued and unpaid service of displaying and selling our community publication. While many residents have taken up an annual subscription (this is also much appreciated) the bulk of our sales are still made through the shop. May we extend a big *Thank You* to the Managers and Staff for their efforts.

Cheers Guys!

STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE by Jenny Gell

This months Garden Circle although advertised as being held at Nancy Schofield's on the 14th August, was in fact held next door at Denise Schofield's. The weather was fantastic and everyone enjoyed being at Peter and Denise's temporary new house on the point with the amazing view.

We had a Roll Call of "A memory of Mothers or Grandmothers Garden" which uncovered numerous gems of information and took us all back to our younger days, everyone agreeing that it was really the smell of various flowers that had us remembering.

The Competition results were:

Flowering Shrub:	(1) Raylene Waddell	(2) Iris Tait	(3) Nancy Schofield
Interesting Container:	(1) Pat Bethune	(2) Anita Geeson	(3) Jenny Gell
Moss/Lichen	(1) Jenny Gell	(2) Nancy Schofield	(3) Lil Skipper

In-house prize was won by Wendy Hallet

Next month's Garden Circle which is the A.G.M. will be held at 1.30 at Church Hill Cafe on 11th September.

Stewart Island Health Committee Update by Hilli Maass-Barrett

DID YOU KNOW.....

The Health Committee was originally set up in early 1990 when official members from the Health Service in Invercargill came across conducting monthly meetings. Through political changes and restructuring of the *Southern Regional Health Authority* into *Southland District Health Board*, these meetings were no longer compulsory. Nevertheless it was decided to keep alive the existing Health Committee on Stewart Island. Its aim is to support our nurses, help co-ordinate health days, and do fundraising, etc. We have meetings through the year as matters arise.

The present members are: Alison Crawford, Belinda Dobbins (Chairperson), Philippa Fraser-Wilson, Elaine Hamilton, Lorraine Hansen, Hilli Maass-Barrett (Secretary/Treasurer), Margaret Rooney and Iris Tait.

If you have any health-related matters you would like to discuss or need help with (that do not need the attention of a nurse) or you would like to attend our meetings, please feel free to contact any of the above members.

PLEASE NOTE:

Over the last few years funds have been raised specifically to buy a computer for the Stewart Island Health Clinic/Nurses. However a computer has now kindly been donated and the money is no longer required for this purchase. Therefore the Health Committee would like to put the raised amount (\$2700) in a general fund so it can be used for the purchase of other health-related equipment when needed. (For example: suitable printer for computer, defibrillator, etc)

If any member of the community has an objection to the above proposal or wishes to discuss this matter further, please contact either Belinda or myself. If no objection is received by the end of September 2003 we will presume that you are all happy with the proposal.



Romantic lunch at Church Hill Café.

Trent Hibell (second from left) holds hands with his fiancée, Cherie, after their romantic lunch to celebrate her birthday. Trent shouted a helicopter flight from Invercargill airport and return for Cherie and her parents, Mr & Mrs Roderique (foreground).

The weather almost scuppered the flight as heavy fog at Invercargill delayed the take-off. However, in rather gloomy conditions, the Foveaux Helicopters Squirrel touched down safely at the Peterson's Hill helipad at 1230.

The party was collected and whisked down to the restaurant for a sumptuous three-course lunch of local seafood. Trent was very low-key about his surprise treat but Cherie was "blown away" by the trouble he had taken to wish her a happy birthday.



Foveaux Helicopters' Squirrel lifts off.

FRIENDS OF RAKIURA (FOR) OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER 30 July 2003

(ANOTHER!) APPLICATION FOR A JETTY AT FRESHWATER LANDING

Notice has been given of Receipt of Application for a Coastal Permit (D036-071 Department of Conservation) under Section 93 of the RMA 1991. Details are available for inspection at Environment Southland. (Kevin O'Sullivan, Consents Officer. Phone 03 215 6197.

Email service@envirosouth.govt.nz

Submissions must be in by Friday 15 August 2003.

Canine life rules: apply these and life should be a little less RUFF.

1. When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
2. Allow the experience of fresh air and wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
3. When it's in your best interest, practice obedience.
4. Let others know when they have invaded your territory.
5. Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
6. On hot days, drink lots of water and sit under a shady tree.
7. When you are happy, dance and wag your entire body.
8. No matter how often you are scolded, don't buy into the guilt things and pout; run right back and make friends
9. Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
10. Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.
11. If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
12. When someone you love is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.



Aug 03



Halfmoon Bay Beat

This month's Police news starts with a small problem of wilful damage. On the evening of Saturday the 12th July 2003, one of the Department of Conservation display signs at Lee Bay was ripped out of the ground, taken back into town and dumped on the grass frontage of the Ferndale Camping Ground.

The sign was damaged and the cost to fix it amounted to around \$600. I wonder if the idiot or idiots that committed this offence actually realise that it is not the Department of Conservation they are effecting but themselves along with the rest of us locally. With these sort of happenings DoC staff just carry on and have the item fixed and replaced so the general public and tourists that visit this Island and help support our town and infrastructure here can read or use the information that maybe needed.

For the senseless, stupid people that keep committing these sort offences on such items of property have you thought who pays for this damage being done by you? Well, it's you and the rest of us through taxes.

There are many words that can describe this type of person and behaviour and we do not need them in this community. If they are apprehended then arrest and court will be the only answer. Adults would have had to commit this offence so if anyone has any information regarding such damage please let me know. It would be nice to see if this immature childlike perpetrator would come in from the dark and own up to their actions.

I have recently had visits by Nick Perry the Southern Area District Commander along with my own Area Commander, Tony O'Neill. Comment was made in relation to traffic matters on Stewart Island including drink driving. There has be what could be

termed significant fallout over drink driving issues and how local Police act in dealing with these incidents. My comment is that once I am called to attend a scene because someone hasn't taken responsibility for their actions then I will carry out my duties and anyone who expects otherwise is a fool.

I will not place my job on the line, as some have thought I should, by not carrying out what is lawfully required of me because someone has not taken the responsibility for their own actions. So far Stewart Islanders have been lucky with the discretion I have given in relation to infringements for minor offences, however, this does not extend to serious issues in relation to drink driving. Whenever I am called out by the Invercargill Police Control or the Christchurch Police Communications Centre, then the incident I am attending is on record and I will carry out my duties as procedure directs. This Island is no longer isolated from the outside world of Policing and I am accountable when dealing with emergency call-outs and therefore those involved are also going to be held accountable for their actions, I won't make excuses or lie for those involved.

Lately a combined Customs and Police operation was conducted on Stewart Island. At the conclusion of this operation the Customs Officers and attending Police Detective Sergeant from Invercargill were openly abused by a local person who did not have any involvement in the operation or investigation itself. Due to the disorder, abuse, ignorance and arrogance of this person and a small percentage of local people who think laws don't apply to them, Police management are intending now to have Policing units travel to Stewart Island to support the road safety, drink driving and other operations.

Cont'd...

On the whole the Stewart Island community is a very supportive law abiding community and for those people the Police management intend to keep it that way. If there are issues which you feel need to be reported, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Search & Rescue Stewart Island

On a lighter note a public meeting in relation to Search & Rescue was held at the Stewart Island Community Centre on the 31st July.

About 25 people attended. The purpose of the meeting was to brief Stewart Islanders on the Police Search & Rescue Structure and how it operates. I also briefed those attending on how the National Rescue Co-ordination Centre operates, as this has been a very topical issue of late.

Over the past two years we have had a small team here on Stewart Island that combines to form a Search & Rescue reconnaissance team whenever Search & Rescue incidents arise. The team has attended 14 Land Search & Rescues since 2002 and there have been eight Marine incidents that have had some of the team operationally involved.

After those attending had been briefed a proposal was outlined to form a Search & Rescue (SAR) committee to assist in having a firmer base to work from in the future.

The team known as a Reconnaissance Search & Rescue Team would assist with any initial SAR call-outs or incidents. This is the same as the current team that is in place but with a few more members and with additional training in rescue and search methods. It would be a quick reactive team that would receive training to be able to attend and fulfil Search & Rescue tasks in a safe and efficient manner in and around Stewart Island.

If the local reconnaissance team is not able to initially find the missing person(s) then the Invercargill Police Search & Rescue Squad

and associated support teams will be involved

The Police Search & Rescue Squad will need volunteers to be part of a search party in the general search should it progress into a bigger event. These are people who can be used in the field as part of a search team.

If anyone who did not attend the meeting would like to forward their names as part of the reconnaissance search team or be a volunteer for a general search team member please contact me.

I am also wanting to have a contact list of names of people who would be able to assist with Logistics i.e. assisting with radios/communications, transporting personnel or equipment. Also assistance with meal preparation for searchers/headquarters staff, and general tasks in support of the search that do not involve being out in the field. If this sounds like something you may be able to support, please give me a call and I will give you further details.

The whole idea is to have a better arranged group of people so if there is an emergency situation or Search & Rescue locally then we are prepared and ready.

Our biggest concern is that should a search be initially conducted from NRCC in Wellington or elsewhere then we may not have much time to react when they finally decide to call locally for assistance. We need to be prepared and be able to uphold our end of the operation in a safe and efficient manner.

Next Search & Rescue meeting is on

27th August 2003 at 7.30 pm
Stewart Island Community Centre.
Election of Stewart Island Search & Rescue Committee.
Further update on training and call-outs lists.

ALL WELCOME

Regards,

Constable Rob Fox
Stewart Island Police

**STEWART ISLAND
COMMUNITY BOARD**

The last meeting took place on Monday, 11 August 2003. As a result of this meeting I can advise you that work is underway to cut back the vegetation on the sides of the roads. This has been an issue, particularly in the Leask Bay area where access for larger vehicles has been restricted.

The Council has made preliminary application to a Ministry of Health advisory committee for subsidy for the proposed sewerage scheme extension.

An Infrastructure Impacts review had been presented to the Board. The advent of the National Park has been a stimulus to development of Oban township. The objective of the report was to monitor growth and the effects of growth in the township. The conclusion was the visitor numbers so far are steadily increasing at 6% per annum. There has been a marked increase in local activity with a doubling of new dwelling construction activity in the last year. Power consumption has risen in the last four years and this is the largest impact on Council infrastructure to date.

It is quite clear that members of the public making requests for new signs are getting conflicting information. The Board has received information on what can and cannot be signed, as far as members of the public are concerned, when it comes to the erection of the AA type finger signs. Documents have been provided to support these decisions. These state that 'signs should be erected only where there is a demonstrated need'.

As a result of the earthworks at Golden Bay and the fact that the resulting appearance of the exposed rock and soil was unacceptable to many, it has been decided to speed up nature by establishing vegetation on the side of the bank. This, in time, will help to reduce the visual impact of the clearance. A Concept Plan has been prepared identifying some key features that would improve the overall

environment at Golden Bay. The Community Board accepted the proposal subject to the addition of a public toilet. There is a copy of the proposed 'Concept for long term development' on the public noticeboard in the Bay and on the noticeboard outside the Council office/Museum on the Island. There is a larger coloured laminated copy at the office. These are for perusal and comment. Comments are to be with the Area Officer by 12.00 noon on Friday, 3 October 2003.

The Board is recommending to the Council that it prohibit dogs from the areas of Ackers Point and Golden Bay walk tracks when undertaking the pending review of the Southland District Council Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.

The area of road line opposite the Community Centre is soon to be upgraded and tidied up for official use as a boat park. Boat owners are going to be identified and contacted informing them that as of 1 October 2003 there will be a cost of \$250.00 plus G.S.T. per annum to park their boats in this area in Ayr Street. If boat owners do not wish to accept this offer they will be expected to remove their boat/trailer by 30 September 2003 and make alternative arrangements for the storage of the vessel.

For the information of those unaware, the Community Board meets every two months on the second Monday of the month. In the winter months the meetings commence at 9.45 am. In the summer the meetings commence at 8.45 am. The meetings usually take place in the Pavilion, Ayr Street. This is why contributions are not submitted to S.I.N. on a monthly basis

If members of the public have an issue they wish to bring to the attention of the Board Members and/or be tabled/addressed at a meeting and, therefore, included on the Agenda, this information must be in the hands of the Area Officer by midday on the Monday before the meeting

Colleen Dawson
Oban Area Officer

TALKING-BOOK REVIEW

“A Matter of Honour” by Jeffrey Archer, read by David Rintoul

Talking books are obviously a boon to anyone with a sight impairment, but are also useful to lots of others. I suffer from migraines, and towards the end of these three or four day episodes, still unable to read, watch T.V., type, or to take much exercise, I am feeling sorry for myself, restless and bored. It is heaven then to listen to a talking book. (They are also great when attacking a metre high ironing basket, or while dressmaking, for instance.) And our library has quite a selection, with a regular supply of new titles coming in.

“A Matter of Honour” is fairly true to the Jeffrey Archer formula, essentially a Cold War spy thriller, with more ordinary mortals drawn into events of international importance. This one concerns a letter, left to Adam Scott (our “ordinary” hero!) by his recently deceased father. A Russian icon of considerable value, presently lodged in a Swiss bank, thus becomes Adam’s. However, it would seem that there is more to this icon than meets the eye. The simple plan - of flying to Geneva one morning, collecting the icon and flying home to take the icon to Sotherby’s the same day - receives more than one set-back, including murder, and leads Adam on a chase around Europe.

Fortunately, Adam has no way of knowing who is “us” and who is “them”, and so does his best to avoid everyone – with degrees of success. This is just as well, because some of “us” are playing their own game, and Adam is definitely an extraneous complication. The thing is, just why is the icon so important to both the Russians AND the Americans? There is no doubt about it, this book is a thrilling “read”, with the icon protecting an earth-shattering secret.

David Rintoul (of Mr. Darcy fame in the BBC TV production of Jane Austen’s “Pride & Prejudice”) is the reader, and his voice has the uncanny effect of being able to bring each character to life – even the women, and to use Jeffrey Archer’s descriptions of people and places so that you are drawn into the story. You will have to ration the 10 hours of playing time (in eight double-sided tapes) in order to fit in a few hours sleep somewhere.

Sue Ford.



**This month’s award goes to Fiona Hall for being probably the hardest working community member.
The chocolates this month were kindly donated by Bay Motel.**

Thought of Tomorrow

It is never too late to be what you might have been - *Geo Elliot*

Where's Wally?

Most long-term Stewart Island residents will know Wally Hockly, but many newer residents may be unaware that Wally has lived on the island and worked for the Department of Conservation and its predecessor, the New Zealand Forest Service, for the last 20-odd years. The reason why many newer residents may not have met Wally, is because he spends several months each year down on Enderby Island, working on sea lion research, then when he comes back he is usually out in the field – working on historic projects down at Pegasus, over at Mason Bay, or wherever.

In 1999 Wally took extended leave from the Department to walk the Appalachian Trail, up the east coast of the USA. This year he is tackling the Pacific Crest Trail - which extends from Mexico to Canada - a total of 2660 miles (4280km). Those interested, are able to keep in step with his travels on a day-to-day basis by reading his journal on the internet: www.trailjournals.com/apteryx www.trailjournals.com/apteryx> All walkers end up with a trail name and as Wally notes in his journal: "I named myself Aptyryx before starting my AT hike in 1999. I was concerned that if I waited to be given a trail name by my fellow hikers I would probably get called "Kiwi" as I am from New Zealand. As most Americans know a kiwi is a fruit, I didn't really want to be known as "that fruit". I'll leave it to you to check out what apteryx means. I carry an apteryx with me. Obviously not a real one."

Wally's journal is fascinating reading - if you don't have access to the internet but have an hour or two to spare, call into the Visitor Centre and staff will let you read what they've printed-off to date.

Sharon Pasco
Visitor Centre Manager
Stewart Island Visitor Centre
Phone: 03 2190005 or VPN 5903

ARTFULWEARS CATWALK CREATIONS 27 September 2003

Toi Rakiura Arts Trust is inviting entries for the above contest. If you are worried about a lack of creative genes – don't be! All you need is some basic materials and a sense of fun. The more outrageous your entries the better. Think OTT, think FUN.

Garments can be constructed so easily with the aid of strong cardboard, staples and gun, paints and brushes or spray paint cans, material scraps and lots of **imagination**. Singly or as part of a group have a go at designing a garment or garments to fit one or more of the following categories:

- Rakiura Warrior – using wood, metal, leather or fibre
- Bridal Fantasy - a marriage of traditional and the outrageous
- Today's Trash – Tomorrow's Treasure – garments using recycled materials
- Space Odyssey 3003 – Aliens, astronauts, or extraterrestrial life forms
- Undercover Story – Brief encounters with lingerie for torso or tush!
- Simply Red – Celebrating all the shades of this glorious colour

Give Caron Hodge (2191 505) a call for more information and entry forms.

Remember – Artrageous Rulz!

The person who gets a second-hand car knows how hard it is to drive a bargain.

MUSEUM NOTES.

First of all, an apology is due for the lack of news etc last issue. My fault entirely – somehow time caught up on me, and lo – too late!

Not much to report for now either. It has been very quiet on the visitor figures and several of our committee have been absent on vacation or for personal reasons.

ACQUISITIONS.

A couple of items were donated by Mr John Tolson – an earlier resident of the Island. These were:- a boar's tusk found in the Ruggedy area – a relic of the days when wild pig roamed the hills there for a short time, and a handful of brass "tacks" taken from the hulk of the **ENDEAVOUR** which was scuttled in Dusky Sound in the late 1700's

A lady from Christchurch has donated a C.D. of one of her family photo albums made up of Island pictures taken by her stepfather in the 1930's. A very interesting collection, which includes several boats and some views from the Auckland Islands as well. All very welcome additions to our collection.

NIGHTINGALE – This month's Boat.

A well-known vessel around Stewart Island in the 1930's & 40's, she was built in Invercargill in 1925 by John Rask on a site behind the Port Craig Timber Coy. She was originally named **OSLO**, a point which led to some confusion later on after she had been bought by George and Eric Leask in 1930 and renamed **NIGHTINGALE**.

Because she was very lightly built, the Leasks spent the next five years strengthening and rebuilding her, and the tradition developed that she had "been rebuilt from the Norwegian ship "OSLO"!"

Her original planking was 1 ¼" kauri on 2" x 1" ribs, with only fifteen 3"x3" frames as floors, and 1" tongue & groove decking covered with malthoid. The first engine was an American 40hp Miller, which ran on a mixture of petrol and kerosene. She was found to be somewhat underpowered.

After the strengthening work, she was used for general cargo work around the Island, Bluff, and Fiordland, also doing duty as a passenger and mail boat to the Island during the 1940's. Following W.W.2 she was given a further overhaul, with a new keel and garboards being fitted, as well as a new G.M. engine.

In 1958 she was sold off the Island, and for the next 20 years was fishing locally and further afield, to end up in Timaru as a trawler owned by Trevor Lister. In 1987 she was bought by Mike Gepp of Nelson for use as a pleasure craft, and he is now carrying out an extensive renovation program.

Well, folks, that's about it for now. See you next month.

Merv King.

Recognising and protecting Rakiura's historic heritage

A project which aims to identify and assess the importance of some of Stewart Island's built heritage in and around Half moon and Horseshoe Bays has been initiated by the NZ Historic Places Trust in collaboration with the Southland District Council. Many small towns throughout the Otago/Southland Region are experiencing economic growth and development and are relying more and more on the contribution their histories and remaining historic buildings and places play in the local economy. However there is a fine balance to manage between the preservation and development of these sites if we truly want to retain the island's special character.

Stewart Island has a unique and interesting landscape that has been recognised for over a century. The wilderness conservation values and the stories and layers of history that lie within this landscape are distinctive to the island. In a climate of increasing development opportunity on the island it seems timely that the community consider what should be retained that truly represents the island's past.

The Historic Places Trust has done an informal initial survey of heritage sites on the island, looking at everything from Ackers light house, boat houses in various bays, to old boarding houses, cemeteries, domestic dwellings and cribs of various era's to churches, the hotel & shop sites and memorials such as Wohlers monument. The survey has not taken into account historic sites on DOC land or included archaeological sites and has focused on the main built areas.

Some initial historical research has been achieved to try to assess and prioritise important historical connections that reflect some of the main themes on the island. The themes that we have identified so far include, fishing, whaling/sealing, sawmilling, tourism/accommodation houses,

shipping/transport navigation, conservation, iwi connections/values, cultural, traditional, religious association as well as the relationship of some sites to specific long standing local island families. It is important to take into account the landscape views and the heritage as seen from the bays or beaches. For instance there are a number of key buildings that can be clearly seen from the Oban Beach such as the Presbyterian church on the skyline, the church hall (ex Norwegian whalers base bunkhouse) the wharf buildings, hotel and a number of cribs and more substantial early homes set in bush both in the valley and nearer to the skyline. Also the notable buildings on prominent sites further around past Petersons hill. As well as the Oban township area of course there are all the bays and their associated sites like Lonnekers, Leask and Harrolds Bays to name a few. The project aims to achieve some long-term protection on identified heritage sites/areas in consultation with the community. Without some recognition and protection of these sites there could be significant loss of the islands heritage character in the near future through increasing development pressures.

We believe Stewart Island has a wonderful range of historic places that have the potential to continue to tell the island's story and play a strong part in retaining community identity, and island character. A significant issue is what do locals feel about their heritage and is there support for working towards getting more formal protection on some of these places?

If you would like to discuss this project or require more information please contact Rebecca Reid, Area coordinator
Otago/Southland NZ Historic Places Trust,
PO Box 5467 Dunedin. Ph 03 477 9871 or
rreid@historic.org.nz

Rebecca Reid
Area Coordinator

Stewart Island / Rakiura Community & Environment Trust

RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE: Last month the Trust met with Justin Reid of Southland District Council (SDC) to progress contract negotiations for the Resource Recovery Centre. It became clear very quickly that there was a huge disparity in the price each party considered reasonable for the contract on the table. To be fair to the Council, our Trust had been very conservative in its estimates, since we were looking at considerable risk. The job has never been done before, there are issues related to our location, and we are community volunteers, not professional waste managers. To be fair to our Trust, the Council had calculated a rough price based on what it currently costs to run some small resource recovery centres elsewhere in Southland. We all agreed that Stewart Island is not like anywhere else in Southland, but could not reach agreement on how this should affect the price.

In the circumstances SDC and the Trust agreed that the best way forward was to go to tender and test the market. If another operator can do the job properly for a much better price, the Trust is very keen to see that happen. We don't think we can do the job for much less than we first estimated, so we will not be tendering ourselves, but an established business might well be able to do it for much less. We would like to see the tender go to a local operator if possible. The Trust has a wealth of background information and research to share with any Stewart Island firms or individuals that are considering this contract. So please get in touch! If the tendering process is not successful for any reason, we are quite prepared to return to the table and pursue the negotiated contract process at that time.

We would like to acknowledge the awesome support of Jackie Kruger and the Community Employment Group since we decided to form the Trust.

ENVIRONMENT CENTRE: We have good news on the Environment Centre front. The Ministry for the Environment have awarded us \$20,000 to open our centre on Stewart Island. We are indebted to Dil and Cathy for giving us this space in the Glowing Sky Shop free of charge. We plan to spend the funds on three main areas:

1. Professional, moveable display stands and equipment.
2. An education programme and resources that we can deliver to the school and Rug Rats on an ongoing basis.
3. Helping sectors of our community adjust to the change in our waste management.

The last of these will be based on need and demand, e.g. we may be able to research ways to deal with particular types of waste, or help our visitor accommodation businesses find practical ways to deal with their waste. We aim to pay staff to find possible solutions from which the community can pick and chose.

We want the Environment Centre to provide the information you need, particularly about the transition to resource recovery, so please get in touch with any ideas or questions.

Jed Lewis & Chris Visser 494, Sandy King 102; Dil Belworthy 249, Jim Barrett 040, Fiona Hall 440, Rodney Hansen 512.

The Community Board Rep on our Trust is Barry Rhodes.

**The dictionary is the only place where
success comes before hard work**

Rakiura Sea Scouts - Quiz night by David Squire (Group Leader)

The Rakiura Sea Scout Group ran a very successful quiz night recently and raised over \$700 for the group. A fun night was enjoyed by all.

Quiz results were :-

1st	2nd Codpiece	Dan van der Lubbe, Jennifer Hoar, Malcom Wylie, Ann Pullen
2nd	4 of us	Noeline Fife, Belinda Dobbins, Jim Barrett, Hilli Barrett
3rd	LoLoma Ladies	Sue Ford, Lee Wadds, Dawn McLellan, Bonnie Leask

Raffle Results

Return Airfare	Steve Kenney
Whiskey & Glasses	Lesley Gray
Book Parcel	Hilli Barrett
Glowing Sky Vouchers	Marty Pepers
Polarfleece Vest	Dawn McLellan

We would like to thank our sponsors, without whose immense generosity the evening would not have been the success it was.

Stewart Island Flights	Kai Kart Ltd	Maas Mussels Ltd	Bay Motels Ltd
RA & BK Hicks Partnership	South Seas Hotel	Southern Workwear	Ship to Shore
Dave & Alison Crawford	Seabuzzz	Rex Dunlop Plumbing	Sanfords SI Ltd
Rakiura Adventures Ltd	Oban Taxi & Tours	Paper Plus, Invercargill	Glowing Sky
Church Hill Cafe & Bar	Clampett Industries	R & R Waddell	L & J Lord.

We would also like to thank all the teams that entered the quiz on the night because without them we wouldn't have had a quiz.

Urban kiwi

by Brent Beaven

“It just walked up to me and pecked at my boot!!” he said excitedly. A close up kiwi encounter is not an uncommon occurrence for most Stewart Islanders, but it is now happening more and more around the town.

Kiwi are common across Stewart Island, but noticeably absent from around the settled areas. It is suspected that this is due to attacks by stray dogs and cats. Despite the threat posed by cats and dogs, kiwi seem to be moving back to HMB. Seven urban kiwi have been reported in the last six months. These have been seen near Fern Gully, Thule Bay, Braggs Bay, Ryans Creek and Lee Bay.

With dog attacks on people and proposed new dog legislation dominating the national media, it is a timely reminder to dog owners to keep the old pooch under control - at all times. Kiwi are very susceptible to crushing (e.g. in a dogs jaws), as they do not possess a keel bone (wish bone). Put another way, every dog is capable of killing a kiwi.

If the threat of dogs is removed, we may yet see more kiwi in our backyards. Now, if only we could do something about wild cats.... ■

What's going on down at the school these days?

Quite a lot actually. We're gradually getting the hang of PrEP (Primary Enterprise Programme). Our Bankers are figuring out that if they don't get all the bits of paper in, the bank can find itself down on quite a few Gollins (school dollars). The company accountants are finding out that if they can't be bothered doing the maths the workers don't get paid, and if the workers don't get paid, look out! The workers are finding that if they don't get along, they don't work well, and there isn't much finished product to show. Since the workers are all shareholders, they aren't too happy with that. It seems that co-operation and fair-mindedness have a lot going for them!! And of course, there's nothing like finding these things out for yourself.

This year we decided to take part in the national Numeracy Project. This is the latest spin on teaching maths, and (amongst other things) looks at the different ways individuals solve problems. It's a departure from teaching one "right" way to get to the correct solution. Our teachers are doing a sterling job training for this online. More often than not they waste a lot of their time trying to get the technology to "behave". It's as much a course in computing as in numeracy. Still, we have reached the stage of delivering diagnostic tests to all our students, and will soon be doing some new style maths in class.

In amongst all this we have had a visit from Ronald Macdonald, First Aid with Ann Robbie, dancing with Belinda, Sara and Liz, and Spanish lessons for the seniors from Mrs Waddell. As usual Rob & Rach, and Ag, have provided regular fun in sport and fitness. This week we plan to visit Maori Beach with DoC, and learn about the historic site and old haulers that remain there. We really are grateful for all the support we have from the community and volunteers, and the children look forward to these activities especially.

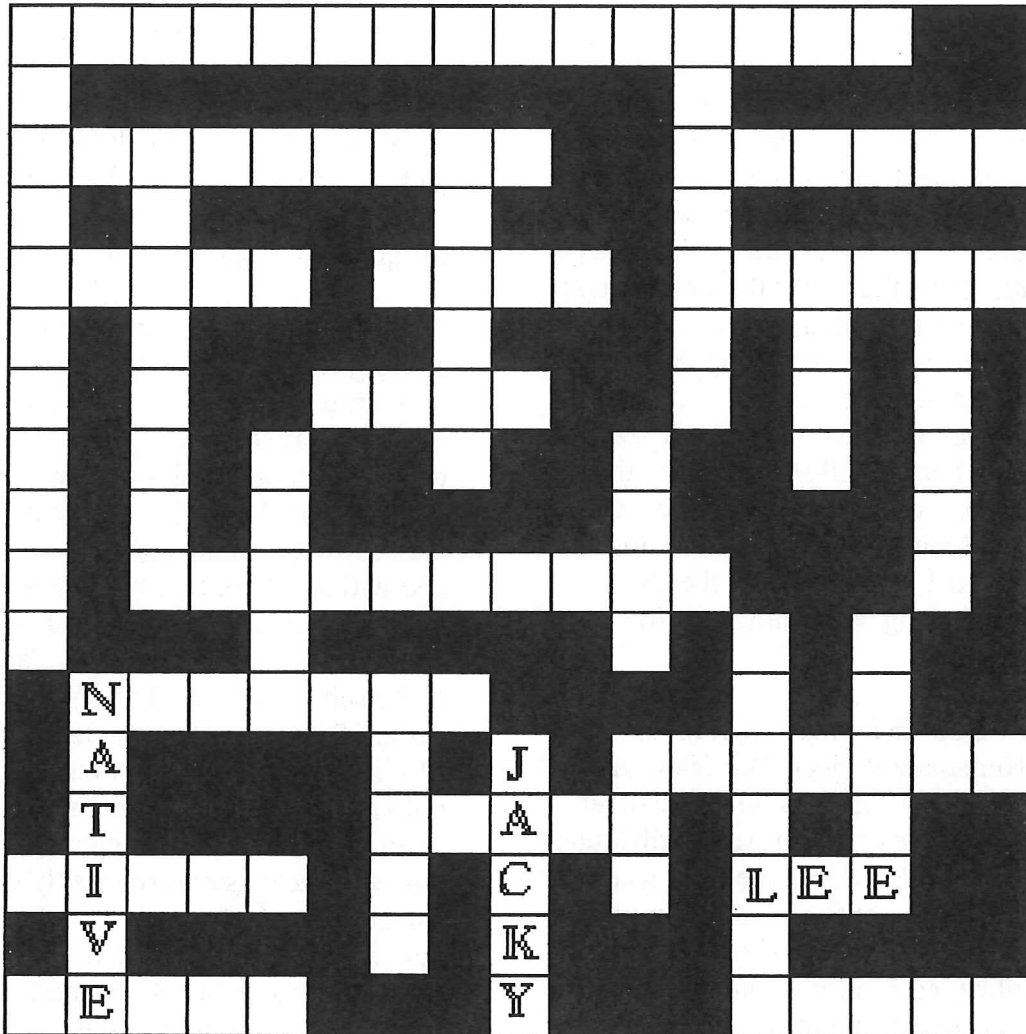
The Winter Sports Club trip takes place between 1st and 5th September. The senior class will be skiing and snowboarding in the South Island. They will all be wearing fleece jackets, which sport a specially designed logo by Tia Leask. A big thank you to Kathmandu for giving us a sporting price!

At the moment we are struggling along with staffing at half a teacher down. We have had very little interest in the Principal Release job, and have had to modify our programme to cope. On the whole this involves us having one "whole school" day per week, when the classes are taught together. This is not ideal, and will play havoc with our annual plan and targets for student achievement. We are also still uncertain about the future staffing levels at the school. We won't know anything for certain for another few weeks, until the Ministry notifies us in writing. It looks unlikely that we will reach the target roll of 25 in the near future, which would maintain our two teacher status (currently we have 21 students). If we do receive notification that our staffing is to be reduced, the Board will call a community meeting, and take things from there. Meanwhile, no news is good news!

Fiona Hall

Room 1 would like an old three-seater lounge chair. If you wish, Lee would be happy to pick it up.

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Rakiura Challenger Crossword - Solution next month.

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