

Stewart Island News

December 2003

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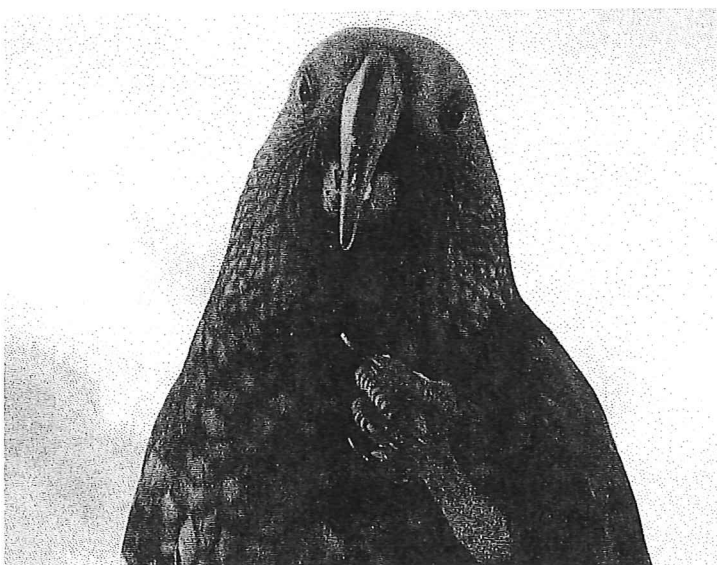
Celebrating Stewart Island



"I heard the Kai Kart is looking for me. Don't tell them I live at Empress Pearl please!"

Merry Christmas to all our Readers

This will be the last *News* until February to allow everyone a bit of a breather. There have been some sad events on the Island over the past few weeks so here's hoping we have seen the last of them and happier times are on the way



This kaka was asked to stop sliding down the roof of a certain caravan. This was the answer!

The following contributors wish to send a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year message to all our readers:-

**Ship to Shore
Southland District Council
Kai Kart
Stewart Island Community Board
Church Hill Restaurant
S.I.E.S.A
New Zealand Police (Rob Fox)
Stewart Island Garden Circle
Stewart Island Lions Club
Oban Museum - Merv King
Rakiura Environment Trust
Sharon Pasco
Friends of Rakiura
Halfmoon Bay School
Toi Rakiura Arts Trust
Kari Farmer
Brent Beaven
Chris Visser
Fiona Hall
Rhys Leask
Phillip Smith
Kerry & David Squire
Stewart Island Promotions Association
Sue Ford
Rakiura Community & Environment Trust
Bill Todd
Stewart Island Health Committee
Dancing Star Foundation
All our chocolate award suppliers
And anyone else I have omitted**

**Thanks to our loyal and valued sponsors:
Stewart Island Flights
Jed's Electrical**

All the best for the festivities! Stewart D

LIONS CLUB OF STEWART ISLAND

Stewart Island Lions Club meets monthly (1st Wednesday each month) to share a meal, conduct on-going business and enjoy some fellowship. Recently, we have been fortunate to have a variety of interesting and entertaining guest speakers to join us. These have included Nurse Debs, Stewart Dovey, Sandy King and students from Otago University speaking about their research on Ulva Island.

Stewart Island Lions would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who donated used spectacles during their Lions World Sight Day project. Over 20 pairs were forwarded for recycling.

The glasses will be cleaned and graded at one of the Lions Clubs eyeglass recycling centres and distributed to areas in New Zealand by Lions Clubs. The South Pacific is distributed by Voluntary Ophthalmic Services Overseas (VOSO), a New Zealand side charity that produces eye examinations and surgery to South Pacific nations.

Last year Lions Clubs in New Zealand collected 15,500 pairs of spectacles. Worldwide Lions Clubs International have, since the year 2000, collected more than five million pair of unwanted glasses for distribution – these have helped to improve the quality of life for the 180 million people world wide who are visually impaired.

Glasses will be collected again next October, so if you still have some, don't discard them – keep them for recycling in 2004.

We would also like to thank all those who sponsored Janine to dye her hair purple in another one of our fundraisers for the Life Education Trust. Locally, \$412 was raised, which was really great (considering not everyone was approached). Southland-wide the final total was \$25,000 raised and this

money will be spent on our very own Southland children including Stewart Island. This is spent on drug awareness education and life education.

We have also given Paul and Kerri-lee \$1,000 from our barbecue fundraiser. These barbecue fundraisers, which we are forever doing every year are proving very popular. They are our only income for times such as this.

We would very much welcome new members, so if you think you would like to come along and share with us – get in touch. Our President is Ian Sinclair - ph: 2191 045 and our Secretary is Janine Murray - ph: 2191 545 or get in touch with any other member of Stewart Island Lions.

STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE by Jenny Gell

The December meeting was held in the Anglican Church Hall at 2pm on the 11th and certainly had a distinct Christmas feeling with everyone taking along a Christmas Table Decoration which gave the hall a festive appearance and we all shared a special Christmas memory.

Everyone took part in a Lucky Dip followed by afternoon tea.

The next meeting will be held at Lorraine Squires on 12th February at 2pm.

THE GARDEN CIRCLE WOULD LIKE TO
THANK STEWART AND THE 'SIN' TEAM
FOR A YEAR'S INTERESTING READING
AND WISH EVERYONE
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

STEWART ISLAND COMMUNITY BOARD

An ordinary meeting of the Community Board took place on Monday, 8 December 2003.

The Board received a request to affix a wall sign on the 'Ship to Shore' building at 20 Elgin Terrace in the Bay. A request was received for a waiver from the Southland District Plan requirements relating to advertising signage in order to erect the sign. It was proposed that this sign would not be located on the site where the business activity was to take place. The District Plan requires this. It was decided by the Community Board members that District Plan requirements are to be enforced and the signage, as requested, was declined.

The Rakiura Sea Scouts requested the use of Traill Park Hall for the 2004 year and this was granted.

One application for subdivision was approved, as was an application for Resource Consent.

A Gambling Venue Policy is in a draft form at the present time. Submissions on the draft are invited, with submissions closing 31 January 2004. In developing the draft, Council considered two options. The status quo, with a reduction in the maximum number of machines in an individual site, to comply with the Gambling Act 2003, and an alternative that restricted the location of sites within a specific distance of community facilities such as churches, schools etc. A copy of this draft policy can be obtained from the Area Office if required.

Location of the recycling bins was discussed with it being decided that one set be placed between the school and Community centre and a further set along from Ship to Shore, near the bank toward the street to the wharf. These bins are not for residential use. The reason for the bins is for visitors and casual

foot traffic. The setting needed to be visual, useable and accessible for visitors.

It was decided that the Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre at Horseshoe Point Road be open between 1.30 – 4.30 pm. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There is a gate there and this will be closed and locked when the Centre is not open. Please be assured that free public pedestrian access will be maintained along Horseshoe Point Road at all times.

With regard to refuse, community members seem to be aware that they can uplift their rubbish bags from the Area Office but, unfortunately, a lot of folk do not realise that they have to bring the letter, which was posted to them on 20 November, to enable the bags to be issued. There is a number on the letter. This number has to be recorded and the letter stamped as proof of issue. Please, try to remember that letter when attempting to uplift the bags, as, without it, there will be a time delay and quite a bit of extra work for staff, both here and in Invercargill.

The members of the Stewart Island Community Board would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable festive season filled with laughter and happiness. May the New Year be all that you could wish it to be. If you are travelling long distances over this holiday time please, be careful and keep safe. You never know what is around the corner. Merry Christmas.

Colleen Dawson

Brett Twaddle Builders Ltd

Brett (Lucy), Jenny, Stu and Jarrod wish all their clients on Stewart Island a Merry Christmas. For all your building requirements, phone 219 1366

We are also looking forward to having "Billy the Bus" joining us in 2004 as a mobile workshop and smoko room.

RAKIURA SEA SCOUTS

On the weekend of 29-30 November the Scouts went on their first overnight camp at Millars Beach.

Although the weather did its best to deter us from going, a very enjoyable camp was completed. After arriving and setting up camp, a light lunch was had then off to explore the Whalers Base. We then came back to base and the Scouts made model canoes and yachts which were then released into the sea to establish which models could (a) float and which could (b) go furthest.

A scavenger hunt was then held and then it was off into the bush to learn some bush skills. After Tea, materials were gathered for a camp fire where the scouts sat around and cooked some damper. After Supper, the scouts hit the sack and believe it or not peace and quiet by 11.15pm.

Sunday dawned brighter and after a leisurely breakfast it was off on another bush walk to explore the immediate area. With deteriorating weather conditions a decision was made to come home early so it was pack up and back to the wharf for pickup and lunch at Traill Park.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ken and Anita Geeson for transporting us to and from Millars Beach and also Stewart Island Marine for allowing us to Camp in the Shelter. Thanks must also go to Lindsay Lord for allowing us on the land. Thanks also go to Debs Kennett and Norm Adams for giving up their time to assist for the weekend.

Monday the 8th of December was our final night for the year and an enjoyable family BBQ was held. Sadly we farewelled four Scouts who are moving to the Mainland to further their education and farewelled the McGinity family. We also temporarily farewelled Debs who is taking time out next year to further her Nursing Studies. We wish her well.

THE AMAZING TIN FOREST

(A review of the school concert by Abi Fay)

Halfmoon Bay school pupils delighted audiences last month, with their end of year production of *The Tin Forest*.

The massive effort of students, teacher and parents were evident in what was an excellent group performance. The children told a story of a sad world that had been turned to metal after genetic modification had gone too far, and the successful quest of a scientist to turn back the clock and return the forest to its former green glory.

Costumes glowed and glittered, songs which were all especially written for the show were sung with gusto. The performance was both funny and entertaining, with great staging, backdrop and audience interaction. Mean Machines, The Rusty Tin Band, Tin Trees and Humans and Animals galore were delightful.

Special mention should be made of Fiona Forester of the *Cats Pyjamas Theatre Company* who returned to the island to aid in the schools efforts after having such a brilliant time a couple of years ago. And Nigel whose artistic talents have lain undiscovered for too long.

Highlights were the amazing costume transformation from tin to green and an encore performance of the song *Rakiura*. An outstanding effort! The community looks forward to next year's masterpiece.

Ferndale Boarding House

A re-union is proposed of staff and past guests of the old Ferndale Boarding House in Oban, Stewart Island, sometime in 2004.

**Would readers who would be interested in attending or who can contribute photographs and/or anecdotes for a proposed booklet, please contact:
Stewart Dovey, P O Box 87, Stewart Island**

Letter from Ashburton.

My wife and I have just completed a year working in Oban and during that time have experienced the wild winds, rocking building (earthquakes), good rains and many fine, beautiful days. Oh yes, also snow and cold! The hundreds of photos we have taken are proof of our enthusiasm for Stewart Island. Of course we have by no means seen all of the Island but, in time, we will rectify that.

Places don't work without people and we have enjoyed the interaction with people in the shops, library, D.O.C., Post Office, etc. where our enquiries or requests were of no trouble. Residents we met or spoke with made us feel very welcome and at home.

To those people we were unable to catch up with before our departure – many thanks for making our stay all the more enjoyable.

With the festive season almost here, and, if by chance you have turkey on the menu – read the following.

Regards, Sue & Kelvin Holliday

The Twelve Days of Christmas, or the Everlasting Turkey

On the first day of Christmas, my true love said to me,
I've bought a big fresh turkey, and a proper Christmas tree.

On the second day of Christmas, much laughter can be heard,
As we tucked into our turkey, a most delicious bird.

On the third day of Christmas, came the people from next door,
The turkey tasted just as good as it had before.

On the fourth day of Christmas, some wine and cheese we had,
We were bright and happy, the turkey a little sad.

On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes scurried,
But we were nice and warm inside, we had the turkey curried.

On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died,
The children fought and bickered, we had the turkey fried.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love he did wince,
When he sat down at the table, and was offered turkey mince.

On the eighth day of Christmas, the dog had run for shelter,
He'd seen our turkey pancakes, and the glass of Alka-Seltzer.

On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunchtime Dad was blotto,
He knew the bird was back again, this time as a risotto.

On the tenth day of Christmas, we were drinking homemade brew,
As if that wasn't bad enough, we were eating turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Christmas tree was moulting,
With chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, we had smiles upon our lips,
The guests had gone, the turkey too, so we dined on fish and chips.



SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2004

Sport Southland, Venture Southland and the Southland District Council are running a Summer Holiday Programme for 5 – 13 year olds in Stewart Island.

Venue: Halfmoon Bay School
– if wet Community Centre

When: Thursday 8 & Friday 9 January 2004

Time: 10am – 3.00pm,
Lunchtime is 12pm – 12.30pm

Cost: \$4.00 per day per child or \$6.00 per family
(family – 2 children or more)

What to bring: - Adequate clothing, sunscreen, hat, lunch and togs.

Registration: All children must register on the morning of the programme, registration forms to be completed by a parent or adult caregiver.

**LOTS OF FUN
GAMES & ACTIVITIES**



Southland District Council

The Summer Holiday Programme is running in the following Southland District communities from 10.00am – 3.30pm, venues and dates as follows;

Waikaia	30 – 31 December	Community Centre
Riverton	30 – 31 December	Aparima College
Te Anau	5 – 7 January	Fiordland College
Tuatapere	8 – 9 January	Tuatapere Community College
Nightcaps	10 January	Takitimu Primary School
Bluff	10 January	Bluff School – if wet Bluff Town Hall
Lumsden	12 – 13 January	Northern Southland College
Winton	12 January	Central Southland College
Limehills	13 January	Limehills School – if wet Limehills Hall
Otautau	14 – 15 January	Holt Park – if wet Sports Complex
Riversdale	14 – 15 January	Riversdale School – if wet Community Centre
Tokanui	16 January	Tokanui School – if wet Tokanui Hall
Wyndham	16 January	Menzies College
Wallacetown	17 January	Wallacetown Community Centre
Woodlands	17 January	Woodlands School – if wet Woodlands Rugby clubrooms

**For more information: Julie Gill @ Sport Southland
(03) 214 7150 or 027 204 7209**



New Zealand
POLICE
Nga Pirihimana O Aotearoa

Dec 03



Halfmoon Bay Beat

This is the only business that does not need business to stay working, the less the better when it comes to Policing. However, the past week or so has been very busy with a raft of events and incidents that I was only used to while working in Auckland. Sadly it has also been a tragic week something we as a community did not need especially around Christmas. I will not harp on about the recent tragedy, however, what I will say is that although I have the powers to stop, detain and if required arrest and prosecute first of all we must as community start to change our attitudes towards drinking driving and general vehicle/traffic safety

A safe and common sense attitude and responsibility towards others and ourselves is the start of a safer community especially when it comes to traffic and criminal offending. Firstly we must look after each other, as we are too small of a community to lose a friend or family member. Secondly we should also not have to live in fear of reprisal if you have been offended against. It is only a minority of spineless, gutless individuals who continually hide amongst so called associates or a haze of alcohol or drugs that brings this about the problem. Police can only work on what we are told, this is not the movies, it is a community problem that if left unfixed will only grow into a larger problem with more serious crime happening.

If you have a crime committed against you or a friend is victimised I need to know to be able to rectify the problem. Offenders in this community are not tolerated and as I have seen with this community nobody will stand alone against threats, violence, intimidation or crime.

I must have the information to keep this a safe community, please report all criminal activity.

We are also seeing greater numbers of people on Stewart Island, to this end we must also safe guard ourselves against dishonesty offences such as theft and damage.

Remember:

- Don't leave valuables within eyesight
- Don't leave vehicle ignition keys in the ignition
- Don't advertise your absence from home
- Watch your wallets and credit cards while out and about
- Report anything suspicious

Well Christmas is nearly here, from myself Rachael and the family we wish you all a Merry Christmas – stay safe, don't drink and drive and have a Happy New Year.

Rob Fox Stewart Island Police



As it is Christmas, we have two chocolate awards to give out courtesy of Bravo Cruises/Diane Smith and secondly from Ulva's Guided walks. The awards go to:-

1. The entire Oban Volunteer Fire Brigade
2. Mark (Mad) Donald

Both are awarded for being so willing to dive in (literally in Mark's case) to help the Community, usually in times of difficult, stressful and dangerous situations. Thanks, Guys!

LOCAL BUSINESS CHANGES HANDS

The hatchery located at Horseshoe Bay Stewart Island, was established in 1994. It was first known as Island Hatcheries, then with the addition of package holders, changed its name to Abalone NZ Ltd in 2000.

In August this year, after having already spent approx. \$2.5 million on land, buildings, equipment and stock, the company went into receivership. This was after being unable to raise a further \$4.2 million through a share float which was for 28.9% of the company. So in early December the hatchery was sold to Stewart Island Paua Ltd.

Stewart Island Paua Ltd's owners consist of Roger Beattie (Blue Pearls Co), Jeremy Cooper (CEO NZ Paua Management Co), Janine Murray (Manager), Kevin Pollock (GM Ideal Electrical) and John Seccombe (Aquahort), there are no outside financial investors. The company will be focusing solely on the production of 10mm juveniles to supply the reseeded and ongrowing trades and will remain solely as a hatchery.

The hatchery itself will not experience many changes except for the landscaping of the frontage and the erection of a safety fence, in the very early part of the New Year.

Stewart Island Paua Ltd hopes to have their website up and running soon and this will be – www.sipl.co.nz - but, in the meantime, if anybody has any further inquiries, please contact Janine, who will be remaining as Manager of the new company.

Stewart Island Paua Ltd
331 Horseshoe Bay Road
Stewart Island

Phone 2191 226
Fax: 2191 369

Card-making day by Margaret Rooney

Another successful card making day was held on Saturday November 29th in the Community Hall. About 15 Adults and 4 children took part, not as many as last time but everyone had their heads down and ideas pouring out. The day had a Christmas theme and some beautiful cards were made as well as gift tags

In the afternoon we learnt how to make Christmas Crackers and "angels" which were made from shells and pasta and then spray painted gold. These made a lovely Christmas Tree decoration. The idea originated from Diane Smith's daughter Rebecca.

Again a big thank you to Hilli who helped me set up the Hall and thank you to those who helped clean up, especially Ag on the Lux & Brenda in the sink. The biggest *thanks* goes to all of you who turned up and made another enjoyable and fun day.

Toi Rakiura Arts Trust

wishes to announce

Billy Connelly's

World Tour of Stewart Island

will commence on January 31st 2004 and conclude that evening with a concert at 8pm at the Community Hall, Oban.

Tickets \$35

(children under 16 years will not be admitted)

Tickets will go on sale in the township only.

around the first week of January on a

"first come, first serve" basis.

Exact date follows.

Maximum sale of four tickets to any one person. Sorry, no reservations.

Stewart Island Promotion Association

Accommodation/Bookings We are asking those folks with accommodation facilities to please ensure that they advise the Visitor Centre of your booking information. Please advise the dates when you have confirmed bookings, when you decide not to have guests and if you get cancellations. The staff at i-SITE/V.I.N. just want to make sure the prospective visitors get the right information. If this information is provided the staff don't end up making so many calls.

Clearfiles The Clearfiles, with advertising from Association members, were updated recently and have been sent to many locations throughout the country. If you think someone you deal with would benefit from having a copy, let Lesley know as she still has some available. Accommodation providers need to ensure the clearfiles at their places are kept up to date so please contact other operators direct for their latest information & menus etc. Thank you to all those who helped with getting the updates posted out.

Laminated Park Maps Laminated Stewart Island Park maps are available at the Visitor Centre at \$25 for members & \$30 for non-members.

Tear Off Street Maps The 2003 Stewart Island tear off maps are a teal colour and available from the Visitor Centre. Any 2002 maps should be destroyed.

Brochures Stewart Island brochures are also available at the Visitor Centre.

Lakers House of Travel Expo/Christchurch A & P Show The Association had a stall/site at the Travel Expo held at Stadium Southland on 1 & 2 November and the A & P Show held in Christchurch later in the month. A group of willing helpers attended each of these functions. It is felt that the House of

Travel Expo didn't quite meet the needs of the Association - maybe the criteria/target wasn't quite right for us. The Christchurch effort was, once again, quite worthwhile and very successful.

A big thank you to those who gave their time to attend these events on behalf of all the operators. A big thank you to all operators kind enough to donate prizes for both of these activities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and with out this support the exercise would not have been so worthwhile.

Website If anyone wants to alter their details or to have an advertisement on the www.stewartisland.co.nz website then see Colleen Dawson for the application form.

Constitution Legal advice has been sought regarding proposed changes to the constitution. We have been advised that the proposed changes are acceptable. A Special meeting is planned to take place in the New Year to formalise these proposed changes.

Banner/Photos The Association has recently purchased a rather striking banner for use at promotional shows. Now, we also have some wonderful photographs for generic promotional use.

We congratulate our President, Sue Graham on the birth of George Roy.

Our sincere condolences are extended to the family of Nathan Pasco following his tragic death.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a fun filled and happy Christmas. Please take care out there in the boats and on the roads. Be safe in your travels. We trust the New Year will be everything you wish it to be.

*** A door is what a dog is perpetually on the wrong side of. ***

Kerbside Collection

Most ratepayers have collected their allotment of prepaid refuse bags. And with each kerbside collection, more people are participating.

Brian Cronin (Operations Manager) is pleased to see people putting out their bin, bucket and bag. Brian mentioned getting 7 drums of glass from the last collection.

Don't forget to claim your prepaid bags from the Southland District Council Stewart Island office – bring along your letter and get your bags. If you've lost or destroyed your letter, just contact Colleen (219 1049) or Donna Peterson (218 7259) and a duplicate letter will be faxed to the office for you to collect.



Back row: Brian Cronin, Hugh McEwan (Fullcircle)
Front row: Lousia Palmer (Fullcircle), John Warren

Refuse Site Amnesty finished!

The three week amnesty at the refuse site was a great success. As the amnesty finished on 7 December normal charges again apply (tokens can be purchased from the Stewart Island District Office or Ship-to-shore).

For more information please contact either the Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) on 219 1581 or Southland District Council on 218 7259. Information is also available on the following website – www.southlanddcwaste.govt.nz

Member of Parliament's Bench

Mark Peck

MP for Invercargill

Office Hours

Monday 10am – 4pm
Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm
Phone 218 8231 Fax 218 8234

Post Parliament Buildings
Wellington (Freepost)
Phone 04 471 9578



Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre – Official Opening

Stewart Island put on a beautiful day for the opening of the Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) on 1 December. Our thanks go out to all those people that helped us open the facility, especially the children of Halfmoon Bay School and those members of the public that attended.

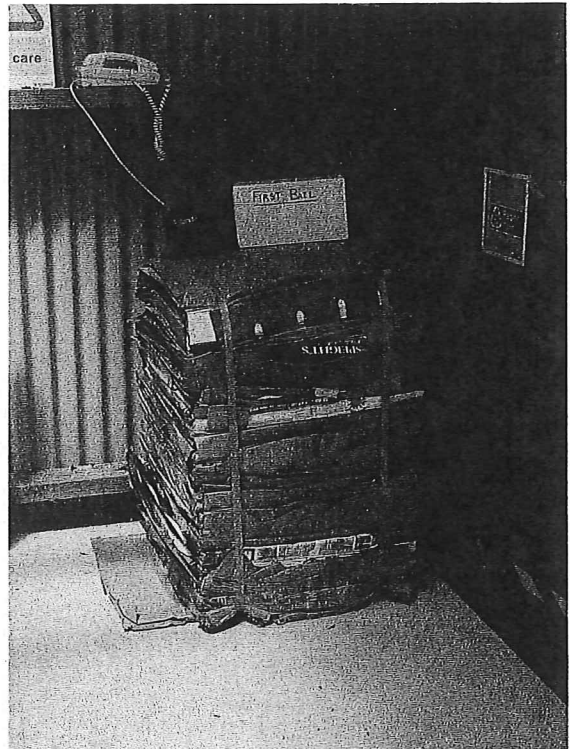
Deputy Mayor Jim Copland officially opened the Centre graciously untying the ribbon instead of cutting it (doing his part for reuse). John Warren from SIESA welcomed everyone and explained the processes involved. Craig Foreman (Chief Executive Officer of Fullcircle) and Louisa Palmer (Fullcircle) spoke of their involvement with the project and encouraged people to use the facilities.

RRC now open for Business

Entrance to the center is by tokens which can be purchased from the Southland District Council Stewart Island office or Ship-to-shore.

For December only, both the Refuse site and RRC will be open, to allow the contractor (SIESA) to sort out any teething problems.

Charges for recycling at the Centre are discounted for domestic type recycling – a car load is FREE, and half charges apply for trailer, van and ute loads of recycling.



Stewart Island first bale of cardboard – ready for recycling.

There is also a second chance shop at the RRC where items that other people are likely to have a use for, can be dropped off and you might pick up something you want there.

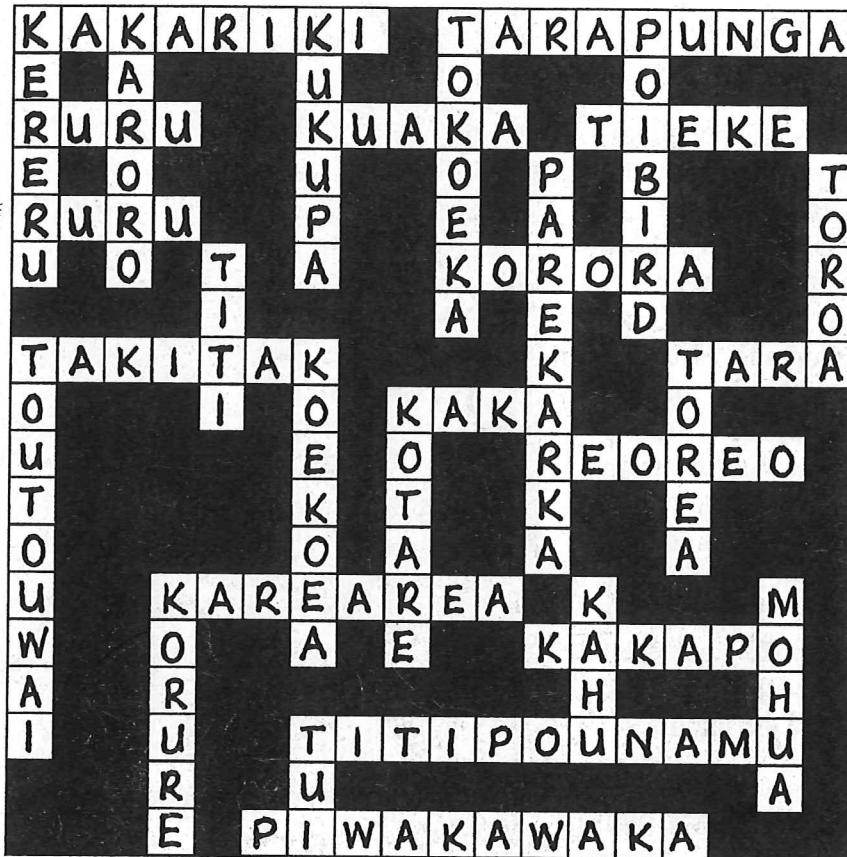
Don't forget recycling is just one way to minimize your waste. You can also reduce and reuse.

**Do the Right thing
Reduce, Reuse,
Recycle!**



*Have an Environmentally
Friendly Christmas*

Stewart Island News - Prize Crossword November 2003 - Solution



SORRY!

In conjunction with Church Hill Restaurant

It seems the crossword was a bit too difficult for most people. Only one completed entry was received. However a spelling mistake and a duplicate word made life more difficult - apologies from the compiler!

The theme was Maori names for the birds found on Stewart Island. The birds and their Maori names can be found in several locations including the library and the Visitor Information Centre.

The winner was Karin Ludwig, an MSc student currently doing research on Ulva Island. She took 4.5 hours to do the puzzle so will feel justified at receiving an excellent meal as reward for her skill and patience.

All future crosswords will be less difficult - promise! Any sponsors for some more prize challenges please?

Stewart Island News - Celebrating Stewart Island is usually published monthly. There has been some feedback that this is too often. Please let the editor know if you agree or not.
 Published by Stewart Dovey, P O Box 87, Stewart Island. Email: sdovey@es.co.nz
 Please forward your contributions (preferably as an MSWord™ attachment)

**Due to the busy Christmas/ New Year period the next publication will be in February 2004
 Deadline will be Friday 13th February 2004**

Subscription Request

Please return this form to: Stewart Dovey, P O Box 87, Stewart Island
 Subscription to Stewart Island News for.....
 To be posted to:.....

Ten issues to an Oban P O Box (\$20)* or
 Ten issues to a New Zealand mainland address (\$25)*
 (*Please delete one.)

Please enclose cheque made payable to "Stewart Island News" with this form.