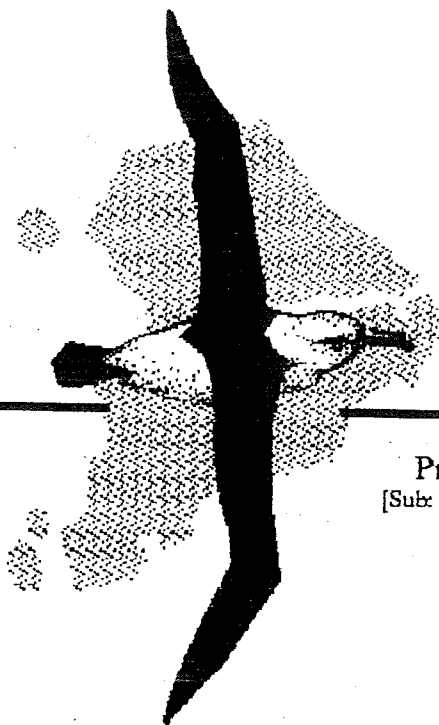


Stewart Island News

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No: 12 June 21st 1989



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There's been a bit going on since the last copies of SIN, hit the news-stands at Anchor Merchants. We've had a couple of earthquakes to keep us on our toes, and everyone got another big jolt when last month's power bills arrived. Talking of jolts, Michael Squires was very lucky he didn't get a whopper when he hit the power-pole just below Ferndale. If it had been the next one up the road, Peter Taylor and team wouldn't have had us hooked up quite as quickly as they did - it must be one of the more crucial ones on the Island. Let's hope Kevin Anderson sticks to the drive when he comes out of his garage!

There are a number of new features this time round. A new-style events diary, a computer page, and lots of pictures for Peter Goomes to colour in. It seems we've all been good, for Ross has nothing to Rumble about this month - let's keep it that way, he needs plenty of golf practice!

The *Hatches/Matches/Despatches* column was to appear, and is part built, but I need more information. If you've got any scurrilous details on friends who have arrived or left the Island let's have them soon.

SICC has a limited life-span with the upcoming change in Local Body structures - we'll have more on what is in store for the Island next issue. DOC is in for another bout of restructuring too - changes come thick and fast. Fortunately today's snow didn't come too thick and fast, but it's a sure sign that we're now in the heart of winter. Fortunately the Lions Club got the annual wood-chop for the Golden Oldies done in time. Thanks to the members of the YWAM team who gave a hand!

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STEWART ISLAND
New Zealand

Stewart Island News is an irregular publication produced in Oban, Stewart Island. It aims to foster interest in the natural and past and present human history of this, New Zealand's southernmost community. It is computer typeset on an Ultra-AT, using the Timeworks *Publish-It!* program and photocopied at Stewart Island Travel. by a *Sorta-Edita* - -

- Sam Sampson [who isn't responsible]

Yeah Gidday,

So here we are, Mid-Winter's Day, *SIN's* second birthday, and the end of the first subscription for *Original SINners*. On top of that, we're getting back into semi-regular production - for winter, at least, though I hope we'll do better over the coming summer than we did this year.

One of the biggest problems of a tourist-related job is that most work is over summer, when most folks take their holidays. With all those visitors, we could make a killing selling casual copies of *SIN*, [at least a couple more], but unfortunately it takes time to produce. But ... go to the beginning of the paragraph.....

It's a vicious circle - but one that I trust we'll break out of in time.

I guess we can't complain too much about the weather this winter. By this time last year we had had a couple of real snowfalls, one of which was deep enough for the kids to build snowmen. It was almost like a traditional "White Xmas".

Mid-Winter's Day has an interesting background in the Northern Hemisphere. There of course it occurs at the end of December. There were many pagan festivals associated with that time of year, some of which have been converted to Christian celebrations. New Year, for example celebrated the lengthening days - a sign that even though the hardest part of winter was still to come, it wouldn't last forever. Spring would soon be on the way, with a new season of growth. In fact, it was the start of a NEW year.

The Scots, started the tradition with their Hogmanny Celebrations. Canny race that they are, weren't prepared to waste good Whisky and Haggis on an event that wasn't certain to occur. They waited a few days, just to make sure that the days really were getting longer. The actual celebration is a week, after the northern hemisphere's shortest day, December 23rd.

When you think of it, mid-winter is a good time for festivities here on the Island. Most of us find that the work pace isn't too horrendous. It's too wet and miserable for DOC workers to be doing much in the field. The salmon aren't particularly hungry, those in tourist related jobs need to be convinced that the world hasn't ended because beds, boats and planes are nearly empty, it's much too cold to even contemplate paua diving, and of course every crayfisherman has the bottom scrubbed on his freshly surveyed and painted boat, pots are all tared and roped, and he's just ready for a bit of relaxation before the hard slog of the new season!

Jack Frew seems to be the only person getting frazzled and in a lather, keeping us all up to date with our ool [even though he doesn't deliver right to a certain "edita's" door!]

I see that the 1990 Committee is planning a Mid-Winter Festival for next year. Wouldn't it be great if all the groups on the Island got in behind it? We could have a southern hemisphere Xmas and New Year rolled into one. I'm not suggesting we celebrate the religious side of *Christmas*, but rather that we have the traditional orgy of roast dinners and Xmas pud, that is generally [and realistically] slowly dying a natural death in NZ. with our summertime celebration.

So put your thinking caps on now folks. We've only got a year to go.

Y'know, if we played our cards right, Tommy "Jock", Wally Fisher and Ron Tindal might even build us a king-size haggis!

"No, No, No!" I hear Tommy say.

"Ach Lad - there's ane problem the noo' - we'd hae t' wait t' see t' sun, afore we'd ken that a' was richt and the days are gettin' langer. Och No, no, no, pr'haps October-r-r would be best! We may see the sun by then!"

Cheers the Nool



"Sorta-edita"
- McSam

Have a Jolly Mid-Winter!
Happy New Year!

15 Years Ago

Freak Seas Batter Stewart Island

"Another couple of tides and the pub would have been on its way out into the Bay" a Stewart Island resident said last night, describing a day of uncanny high tide and surge conditions around the island.

Island residents awoke yesterday to an exceptionally high tide and then a strange surge. As the morning dawned into a sunny day there was a noticeable lack of sea birds.

By noon the Butterfield's Beach road was under water and the Stewart Island County Council immediately began efforts to save the road. Aircraft pilots last night described the conditions as uncanny, no wind, but a strong tidal surge like after the Peruvian earthquakes several years ago.

Times - 27th June 1979

10 Years Ago

Islanders on Visit to Mainland

A group of Stewart Island Primary School pupils arrived in Invercargill last night for a four-day stay "on the mainland". The 32 pupils from Std 3 to Form 2 classes have been billeted with Wallace-town people.

A disco was held in their honour at the Wallace-town Hall last night and they are going ice skating today. A sports tournament will be held tomorrow and on Monday the children will visit factories around Invercargill, the Southland Museum and the Coldstream Pool.

The pupils raised most of the money for the trip themselves. Five parents are chaperoning the group. The pupils will return home on the Wairua on Tuesday morning.

Times - 23rd June 1979

Past Island News

Compiled by Peggy Wilson

LOCALS STUNNED

News = Southland Daily News
Times = Southland Times



5 Years Ago

In May 1984 there was a lot in the paper about Government's plans to replace the Wairua - headlines from the Times included:

Anger About Replacement

Ferry Plan Decried

Ship Fairly Austere

Deputation to Minister

Mr Prebble Optimistic About Ferry

Plenty of Time to Discuss Vessel

Deputation to Minister

WANTED

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And on the Court

Netball Players

Saturdays at 2pm

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"Wires" Squires

Saturday 10th June ended on a gloomy note for the whole community, when we were all plunged into darkness just after 11:30pm. Dark thoughts flashed through many minds and insults were hurled at Peter "23 1/2 Hr Pwr" Taylor, as residents groped for candles. When light hadn't been restored to the Bay some 15min later most folk decided it wasn't the usual generator glitch, fuel-line foul-up or computer crash.

After half an hour, almost everyone gave up and went to bed, as Peter obviously wasn't going to get us lit-up with his usual speed. There were several possible alternatives, the most likely being:-

- He'd broken into the Batch of Home Brew that he and Barry Rhodes had just bottled that afternoon.
- Something serious had happened!

It was actually the second alternative, not the first, which had Peter looking like he had a monumental hangover on Sunday. He'd been up most of the night tidying up a mess of wires and electricity that was running round with nowhere to go. The blackout resulted from a power pole making an unprovoked attack on Michael "Wires" Squires as he drove home in brother Chris's car.

The accident occurred just below the Ferndale corner. The pole which Michael hit snapped on impact, as it is designed to do, but also dragged a second pole down in falling.

At times it pays to live in rural districts rather than in town, for Horseshoe Bay residents were up and running again within six minutes. Everyone else had to wait until the initial safety work was finished at 1:31am, when pole-fuses and out-outs could be restored to normal. Not bad going for a couple of hours in the dark.

Power to Shirley Whipp, the wharf and Presbyterian Church was cut completely until Peter could make a temporary connection on Sunday.

As Shirley Whipp was away, it was only the visiting Moderator of the Synod and his friends staying at the Manse who were affected for any length of time.

Quite a team were involved in getting power restored. David Bowman, Barry Rhodes, Peter Davis and Ross Dymook, assisted on Saturday night SICC staff, "Arkwright", Jack Frew and his "Hi-Ab" and Diok Langdon, with "Gerry Giraffe" were involved in later work. We've seen Arky's vehicles running away to park themselves in all sorts of places over the years, but this is the first time one has been parked several days to stop a power pole running away.

Poles were replaced on Monday 12th, with re-stringing of wires beginning on the 15th and final reconections were made on the 19th. Vehicles could finally use the road once again, and traffic levels round the Dress Circle returned to normal.

Congratulations to "23 1/2" Taylor and his team of helpers for restoring conditions to normal so quickly. Congratulations also to Chris Squires who's car was relatively unscathed, and doesn't look much different than usual.

Despite having demolished two power poles, with a borrowed car, Michael "The Wires" Squires escaped uninjured - so deserves congratulations on that score, if not on his driving skills. Incidentally, Greg Dawson, who also got off lightly when he brought down the Island's first power pole by the Leask Bay Turnoff last December, was riding a borrowed motorbike. Makes you wonder!

PS For the benefit of newer residents it was young Michael Squires who was responsible, not "Mickey" of the *John A Settree* Squires, [who isn't really]!

- Sam [TIC]

Seriously, though, two power poles knocked down before the power scheme has been commissioned a year, isn't a very good average, is it!

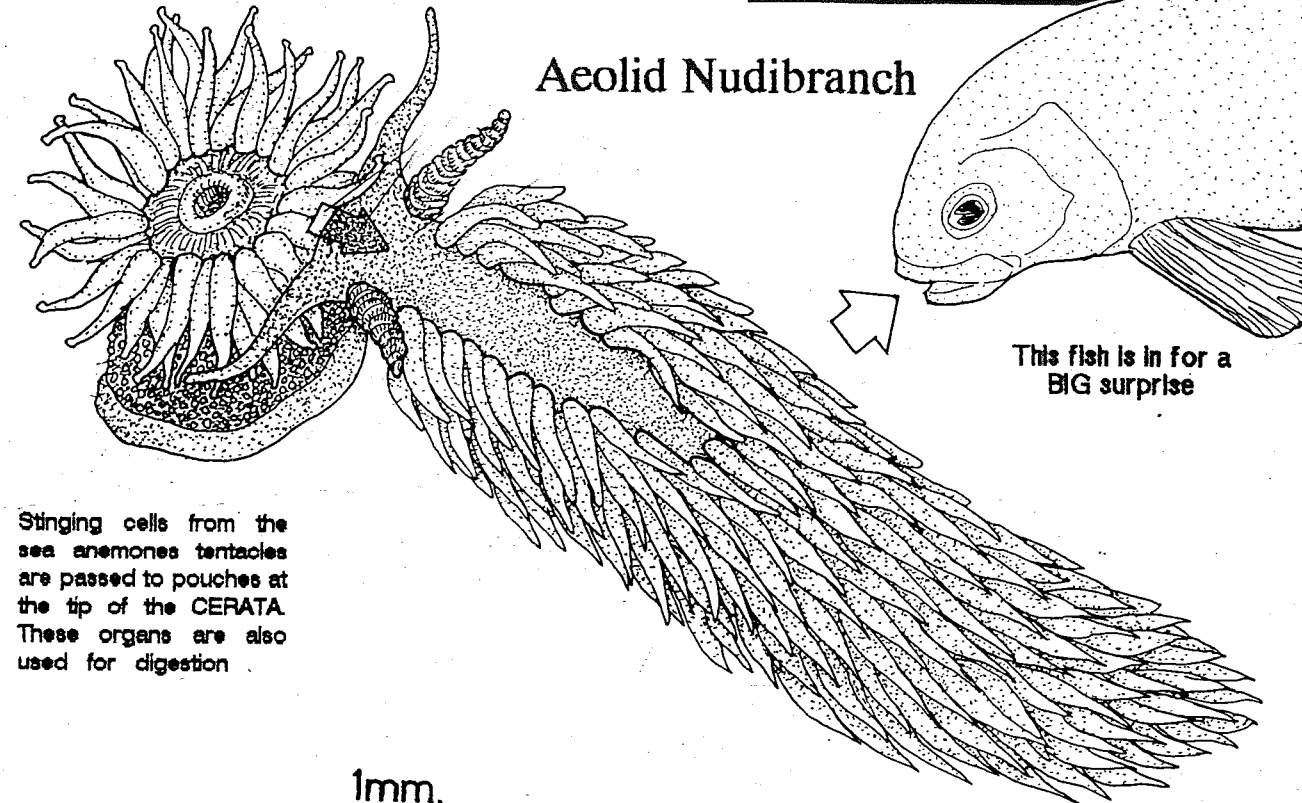
Maureen Jones Long-John Appeal

The lack of power on the wharf over the weekend of 10-11 June brought to light the intolerable conditions endured in the Co-op Chandlery. Despite the 18 hr stoppage meat was still solid in the freezers on Monday morning. Obviously "Mo" must be working in sub-zero temperatures.

It has been decided to launch an appeal to buy her a new set of Long-Johns. Potential contributors are asked to make their pledges on the next ZLRZ-Radio Talkback.

- Sam [TIC]

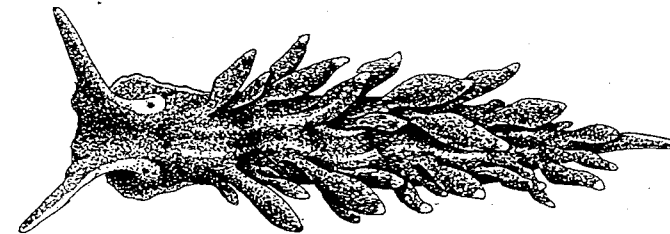
Sea Anemone



Aeolid Nudibranch

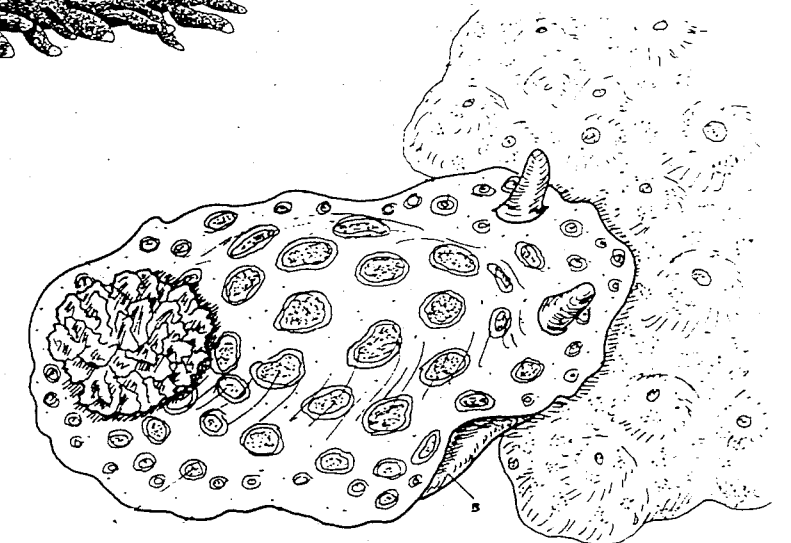
Stinging cells from the sea anemones tentacles are passed to pouches at the tip of the CERATA. These organs are also used for digestion.

1mm.



Stiliger

Stiliger is an Aeolid nudibranch - this one was found near Wellington, but its probably common round Stewart Island too.



Dorid Nudibranch

Dorid nudibranchs are flatter than the Aeolids, with more delicate colours. There's a fan of anal gills at the rear, and two prominent tentacles at the "front-end".

The Peter Goomes Colouring-In Page

From
the
SIN-
BIN!



SIN No:12 June 1989 P 16

This is part of a letter from Mrs Betty Asher of Otakau, who spent her childhood here. Like so many others have had to do, her family moved to the mainland in 1936 when it came time for secondary schooling - so much for free education

- Sam

Let's Have More . . .

People come and people go from Stewart Island, some for just a day, others for a holiday that can turn into a life-time. Anyone who lives here for any length of time seems to leave more than a little of themselves behind when they go. Even casual visitors can recall holidays they had here half a century ago in vivid detail.

In recent weeks I've met quite a number of folk on bus tour who have returned to the island for the first time in many years. Some of the reminiscences have been fascinating. There have been others, too, who are descendants of old island families coming here for the first time, who have had little snippets of interesting information about their ancestors.

I'd like to be able to include more items like Mrs Asher's reminiscences in SIN - so, if you once lived here, and something in our pages brings back memories, please share them with us.

You never know, it could be the start of a literary career. Flying Phil, our Aviation Correspondent, began his writing in these pages, and has now graduated to writing for the Southland Times - writing about whitebaiting in Fiordland, with more to come. He's doing so well that he's been christened Phil the Phlying Quill.

Many of our readers really enjoy Peggy Wilson's Past News and other articles about life on the island in the "Good Old Days", so don't hesitate to jot down your recollections and send them in. I'll tidy the English up if it needs it, but generally I find that most folk's writing needs very little editing - so give it a go, I'd really appreciate it!

- Sam

Wanted

Contributions from clubs,
organisations and individuals
who have something to tell us
about Stewart Island.

- Betty Asher (nee Bragg)

P 7 SIN No:12 June 1989

Like all schools in New Zealand, we are working our way through the introduction and formulation of *Tomorrow's School*. As many of you will be aware, the new Board of Directors are as follows:

Chairman	Ross Dymock
Secretary	Peter Taylor
Treasurer	Wayne Frew
Members	Marilyn Taylor
	Charlie Davis
	Peter Cox
	Barry Rhodes

One of the major responsibilities is the development of a budget. Work on this is progressing well and we are "importing" expertise for a day seminar on 11th July.

The development of the Charter is also well underway and a series of public meetings will be called shortly for community input.

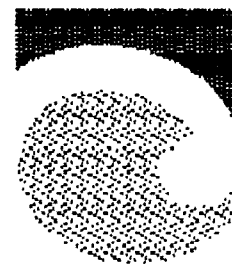
With the demise of the Southland Education Board on October 1st, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the Board on behalf of the Community. While things in the past have not always been as straightforward as we would have



wished on regional projects and policies, all members of the Board and its staff have been sympathetic and helpful to Halfmoon Bay School, Committee, and its Community.

Plans are well underway, in conjunction with the Winter Sports Club, for the school trip to Queenstown. The travelling party leave Stewart Island on Monday 24th July, returning on Friday 28th.

- Barry Rhodes
Principal



Diagnosis

O
C

CONSERVATION

It was good to see some of our Stewart Island celebrities looking their best on the TV programme "That's Fairly Interesting" on 15th June. The stars "Merv" and "Basil" were two of the nine male kakapo moved to Codfish Island in January. They performed well for the TFI film crew, with support from Ralph and Ron. Unfortunately a more recent trip to the kakapo area on Stewart Island failed to turn up any more birds, but some feeding sign was found. Another longer trip is being planned for August/September and will start in the vicinity of the feeding sign.

The kakapo's number one enemy on Stewart Island, feral cats, have caught the attention of the Forest Research Institute. FRI is interested in researching methods of control and possibly eradication of feral cats on the island. Although a bit late for the kakapo, if achieved, this would have tremendous benefits for other bird species.

An individual of another species, not as well known but no less endangered than the kakapo was discovered on the sand dunes at West Ruggedy by staff, while on a dune survey of the western beaches. Only four colonies of *Gunnera hamiltonii*, a small creeping dune plant, were known on Stewart Island before this discovery. Its problems stem from introduced nasties such as marram grass and lupins taking over the dunes.

Their Excellencies, Sir Paul and Lady Reeves, enjoyed a peaceful visit to the island in May. Local staff accompanied them to Ulva island and showed them through some of the bush walks. Later Sir Paul visited the stone house at Harrold's Bay and Lady Reeves talked to members of the Women's Institute.

There is yet another attempt underway to restructure the Department. A Southland Conservancy will be set up, of which Stewart Island will be part, as will the sub-antarctic islands. At this stage it looks as though we won't be too severely affected here and changes, if any, are months away yet. Meanwhile, work goes on.

- Sandy King
Conservation Officer
Department of Conservation

Stewart Island Diary

July 1989



Well Folks, this is the new look Stewart Island Events Diary - It's taken a lot of effort to get it to this stage, and it still needs a few refinements.

There's bound to be things missing, but I'm slowly building up a database of who's who in the island's clubs so I can keep in touch better. If you want to be included, get in touch - I'm home most nights -

391-408

Over the next couple of weeks I hope to get a year's worth of these monthly Planners set up. I'll leave copies at the Post Office and Stewart Island Travel, so events can be added as you pass by.

This will only work if people from clubs and organisations DO add their events in anticipation -

Thanks Folks!

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
26 ← Lockstone Ltd → 11:00am-12:15pm Jeff Grant [Pub Lounge]	27 → Reding + Casserabrie 6:00pm-Lions Club [RSA]	28	29	31	1 Mid Term Break	2 Mid Term Break
3 7-45 ITC [School] Mid Term Break	4 Mid Term Break	5 School Trustees Mid Term Break	6 Mid Term Break	7 Mid Term Break	8 Mid Term Break	9 10:30am-Anglican Church Mid Term Break
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Garry Clark [Author] 7:45pm-ITC [School]	18	19 School Trustees	20	21 WHITE HORSE INN [Hall]	22 WHITE HORSE INN [Hall]	23 10:30am- Anglican Church
24	25 6:00pm- Lions Club [RSA]	26	27	28	29	30

Weekly Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
3:00pm Busy Bees 7:00pm Fire Practice	2:30pm Netball/Rugby 9:45am Playcentre 10-11am Bible Study Phone Myra [391-199]	3:00pm Brownies/Keas 3:00pm Guides 11:00am-Noon Library 8:00pm Darts [Pub]	9:45 Playcentre 3:00pm Cubs	11:00am-Noon Library 2:30pm Netball/Rugby	11-Noon Library 1-2pm Prayer Meeting [Phone: Innes 391-080] 2pm Netball	10am Ang S/School 10:30am Presby S/S 10:30am Presby Church



Oban Presbyterian Church

The Moderator's View

J Murray Rose, of Waitahuna, is the Moderator of the Synod of Otago and Southland, and preached at the Presbyterian Church of Oban on Sun June 11th. Here are some of his thoughts.

Have you noticed that in our society a number of trends are becoming evident?

- People are under increasing stress and marriages are breaking up or not being undertaken in the first place.
- Gambling [eg Lotto] and crime are increasing.
- Government seems impotent at dealing with employment related issues.

Have you also noted, that church membership is declining, children are not going to Sunday School, and people are not being baptised.

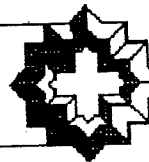
I believe there is a strong link between these trends. As people have reduced their commitment to God, the Church and the wellbeing of others, so we are all paying the price. On present trends it will get worse.

I am encouraging small groups of people who are willing to seek better for themselves and their community to gather together, to give God's word in the bible a central place and to enjoy frequent fellowship with one another. In the past God has honoured such faithfulness. Please be open to following those who lead in this direction.

The alternative is resistance and rebellion, with increasing stress for you and others. It is Not an attractive proposition for Stewart Island or anywhere else, is it?

- J Murray Rose

St Andrew's Anglican Church



Rakiura Cubs

Our cub group is growing rapidly with boys joining as they turn eight and we now have 12 boys in regular attendance. I have to thank Richard Hare for his assistance in helping with us.

At Queens Birthday Weekend a group of five adults and 18 children from the guides cubs and brownies participated in a sponsored walk to Maori Beach to raise money for 1990's celebrations. We had a lovely day, and thank all the people who sponsored the children.

Our New Zealand flag has disappeared and we would be grateful if anyone who may have borrowed it would return it. Or if anyone has a spare flag we would appreciate being able to use it.

Erica Clelland
Cub Leader

Services continue to be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month, at 10:30am

At present real concern is being felt over the saving of the Sunday School Hall, which is sited near the Museum. This Parish Hall is of tremendous historic value in that it was, until 1935, the the Church at the Neck, serving both the Maori & Pakeha population in the early days of settlement at Stewart Island.

The Hall was moved to its present site in 1935, and was warm and snug, until the road serving the area was sealed. Since that period the lack of drainage has made the section wet and soggy. Unless it is moved to higher ground the building is expected to have only a life expectancy of five years.

All avenues to save this historic building are being searched and it seems that the Historic Places Trust may be interested in its survival. St Andrews would be happy to hear from any persons with suggestion that may assist in removing the hall to the dry site situated alongside the present Church.

- Rev^d Airdry Dyson-Leask
Vicar

Target 2000 Torch Run Comes to Island

You see some strange things these days, and Monday 29th May was one such day. You'd have thought the Olympics had come to the island, as running round the roads was a group of young people carrying a flaming torch. Not the Olympics, but rather an International Torch Run, organized by Youth With A Mission [an interdenominational missionary organization]. The torch has been run on every continent and in every country throughout the world, in an effort to fulfill Christ's commission "to go into the world and make disciples of all men" [Mathew 28: 19-20].

The torch was originally lit in Jerusalem, Israel, at Easter 1988, and has since been carried all over the world by enthusiastic young people, eager to see Christ's commission fulfilled.

The torch was run on Stewart Island from the Wohlers Monument at Ringaringa, to Observation Rock, and on to Horseshoe Bay, finishing at Lee Bay. The YWAM team wish to acknowledge the support of Val Dymock, who kindly provided transport [namely the Police wagon - my first time in such a vehicle!]

It is our prayer that the flame of God's gospel will be rekindled on the island and that the inhabitants would come to know the greatness of God's love, and the abundant life that he desires for us all, because there is hope, there is a future and someone does care.

- Keith Greig

YWAM

Stewart Island

Waves are tumbling on a quiet beach
Fish are dancing out of reach
Seldom a footprint on this white sand
It's another day on Stewart Island

Come white dove on ocean spray
Spread your wings out over the bay
Let your spirit soar, O Lord we pray
Over this fair Isle, today, on Stewart Island

From rugged cliff to ocean farm,
From white-capped peaks to glassy calm
There's beauty in this remote south land
It's another day on Stewart Island

Weathered face has a twinkle in his eye
Slept beneath many an open sky,
Tomorrow's hope will never die,
perhaps today, on Stewart Island.

- Kim L Greig
28 May 1989

Last verse dedicated to "Captain Kettle" of Stewart Island. First performed publicly at South Sea Hotel by Kim L Greig and Brent Richardson, 27 May 1989.

Thanks a lot fellas!



Stewart Island Players

It's that time of year when somewhere near ten percent of the adult population of the island can be seen wandering the streets, muttering to themselves and breaking into dance steps.

Yes, rehearsals are well underway for the Stewart Island Players 1989 extravaganza which is due to hit the stage on Fri 21st and Sat 22nd July.

This year's show is White Horse Inn a musical set in Switzerland, full of rousing songs, and the usual dose of confused romances and humour.

There's a good sprinkling of new faces appearing to join all the familiar players who are back "strutting the boards". They're giving up their evenings to rehearse at the hall, polishing words and actions [and sometimes the floor too when a

slip-up occurs]. Weekends go by the board too, as they are coaxed, cajoled and otherwise beaten into submission by Owen Gerrard, who's once more giving up his spare time to come to the island to direct the show. Mrs "B"uxton has been keeping them on the beat in her role of rehearsal pianist.

White Horse Inn promises to be one of the more ambitious productions staged by the Players to date, both in content and staging. It should reach and surpass the standards the community are coming to expect from our local "Thespians".

So, make sure you're on the island for the weekend of the 21st/22nd of July, when this musical has its grand premier and stupendous final night.

- Sam

Nature Notes

A few weeks back Ron Dennis brought a small marine "slug" to show Ron Tindal, then a subscriber complained there weren't enough pictures to colour in the last issue. These incidents have prompted me to get onto a long-deferred project. Three years ago I bought *The Marine Biology Coloring Book*, which has excellent illustrations, useful for Nature Notes. As you'll guess from the spelling of the title it's American, but most plants and animals shown are very similar to ones found around Stewart Island. So here goes on a new series about the wee beasties of the sea.

Nudibranchs

We're used to thinking of molluscs as animals protected by a shell, but there are also quite a few "snails" who run round naked. One group, which range in size from tiny brightly coloured creatures only a few millimeters long, right up ones like a good-sized paua [minus shell], are called *nudibranchs* [yes, it is pronounced "nudie", and does mean naked, but the branch bit is pronounced "bran-A", and refers to their gills, so all up, the name means they have exposed gills]

Aeolids

I didn't see the one that Ronald George brought in from his foray in the deep, but from his description it sounded like *Stiliger*, an Aeolid Nudibranch. The wee fellow in the drawing was quite a deep wine-red, and during the several weeks he lived in a lunch-box in my bedroom, the lighter lines and the tips of the *cerata* on his back alternated between a very pale lemon, almost white, and quite a bright yellow. I've also seen other examples of this, or a closely related species with colours from orange to green.

This bright colouration is like that of wasps - a warning to keep clear. Nudibranchs may lack a shell, but they have developed biological and chemical "warfare" to a high degree. Some are foul-tasting or secrete strong acids from their skins.

Stiliger, along with a number of other aeolids has an even more cunning means of defense. Most folk know that sea anemones have stinging cells in their tentacles, not usually potent enough to affect our horny hands, but enough to kill small animals and to make a very unpleasant mouthful for a fish. Generally they're left severely alone.

Some of the aeolid nudibranchs are able to eat the anemone tentacles without triggering off the stinging cells. To add insult to injury, although they digest the rest of the tentacle, they can pass the stinging cells, still undischarged to special pouches at the tips of the *cerata*, where they are once again set for action, but now in the nudibranch's defense.

When the *cerata* are handled roughly by a fish moving in for a tasty morsel, the stinging cells are expelled, to embed themselves in the predator's tongue or other soft tissues in the mouth. A few encounters of this kind are enough for any small fish to cross *Stiliger* off its menu of culinary delights.

Incidentally, even if a few *cerata* are eaten by a fish, it's no problem to the nudibranch, as they are replaced within a few days - along with another crop of stinging cells from the nearest anemone. The finger-shaped protrusions also act as an extension of the gut, and for respiration - so they're pretty versatile organs.

Dorids

Instead of having *cerata* for respiration, the DORID nudibranchs have a plume of gills round the "you-know-what" at the stern - which has always seemed to me to be a pretty torrid place to have to breathe. They've managed to survive a few million years, so I guess it works out OK.

Dorids are generally not as flamboyant as the Aeolids, and some of the smaller ones are almost translucent white, spotted with delicate colours like lemon, pale orange and light greens or browns. Larger ones, around 7-8cm long or bigger have quite a tough mantle, that is often warty in appearance, and can change colour to a degree to blend with their feeding grounds.

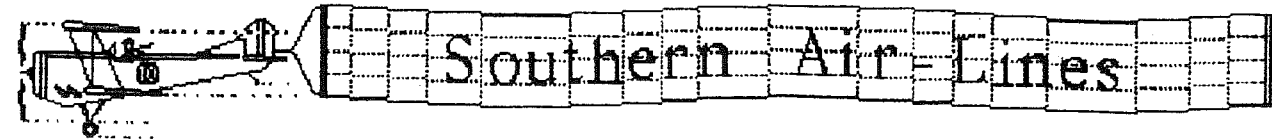
They often have poison glands or bundles of prickly spikes as a method of defense. I'm not sure, but seem to recall reading that these spikes are also often taken from their source of food - in this case encrusting sponges. It's these bundles of spicules of calcium carbonate that once made the "skeleton" of the sponge so useful for scrubbing grimy backs.

So, there we have a bit of the story of a couple of the less commonly noticed denizens of the deep, that are also found in the intertidal zone. On top of having an interesting life-style, some of them are incredibly beautiful - and don't take my word for it, ask Ron Dennis!

- Sam

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The shortest day has arrived, which means only six months until Xmas and of course the longer warmer days. This year, so far, has been a beauty as far as flight disruptions with weather goes. Please bear with us on those foggy or windy days - we don't like being idle either. Nothing is more frustrating to our office staff than to have people keep ringing up for parcels etc when the weather is below flying minimum, and ask & ask & ask why we aren't flying!

At present we are down on staff, with Steve and Anne in Sydney on a travel promotion, Murray and Kieth in Samoa, dismantling an aeroplane to bring back to NZ, and Nicki is having a rest over winter.

Remember Garth McGearty who used to fly the Widgeon? Well, he is now a co-pilot on a 747 Jumbo Jet. Actually, a lot of the Widgeon pilots have done themselves proud. Bruce Kivi??? is Captain of an Air NZ B737 and Harold Bennett is a Civil Aviation Flight Testing Officer.

Johnny Hassett is now retired at Woodlands on a little farm. Max Paulin who was here for seven years is still in Bahrain, as Captain of a Friendship-type aircraft.

Well, that's about it for the month folks.

Over and out
- Flying Phil

[Alias - Phil the Phlying Quill]

Stewart Island Territorial Army Unit

Over the past few months, attempts have been made to establish a Territorial Army Unit on the island. At present we have three Junior Non-Commissioned Officers and one Junior Officer. These are Lance Lequesne, Sandra Jenkins and Trish and Peter Wederell.

Territorial Training is paid, part-time work, encompassing all aspects of the Regular Army, with extra perks for those who fulfill their training requirements for the year.

Recruiting efforts on the island have established a small amount of notoriety within the Army, with widespread support coming from everyone from the Chief of General Staff down to Privates in Invercargill and the surrounding area. At first it was

a bit of a battle to obtain permission to establish a unit here, but with that approval now official, it would be nice to see us with a good strong unit.

We currently have four recruits waiting to have medical examinations prior to their enlistment, but we need a lot more. If anyone is interested, contact Trish or Peter on 391-356, or, if you prefer, ring the Invercargill Army Office on 87-309.

[Here's hoping the four recruits all pass their medicals - they'll balance out the number of NCO's and Officers. Good Luck with the Unit, I'm too long in the tooth now to join up again - more like *Rakura Republican Army* material now - 678894 Sampson ex-"Sorta-Sgt"]



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International Training in Communication

Stewart Island ITC held their Impromptu Speech and Evaluation Contest on Monday 22nd May. Programme leaders Loloma Slingsby and Andrew Riksem used the theme Radio Days to provide topics for the speech competition ranging from Radio Serials to Talkback Hosts.

- 1st Iris Tait
- 2nd H G Slingsby
- 3rd Helen Bissland

Harold Slingsby reminisced about radios he remembered, from a crystal set, complete with cat's-whisker to a wet-plate battery wireless, famed for going flat during his mother's favourite programmes. The use of notes, uneven delivery and wild waving of glasses provide the eight entrants with plenty of material for their two minute evaluation speeches.

- 1st Helen Bissland
- 2nd Joanne Firestone
- 3rd Iris Tait & Colleen Dawson

Contest winners qualify to attend the Council 13 quarterly meeting at Riverton, to compete with the other Southland Branches.

Thanks must go to the three judges, Helen Cave, the Rev^d Airdry Dyson-Leask and Tom Hotchkiss of Boise, Idaho.

Stewart Island ITC, formerly known as Toastmistresses, is the 3,434th group to be chartered internationally. The group meets in Room 4, Half-moon Bay School, on the first and third Mondays of the month, starting at 7:45pm. All interested are welcome to attend and are assured of an entertaining evening.

- Helen Bissland

Brown Owl's Hooting

What a great start to the year, having a Tawny Owl [Irish from Grey-mouth] and regular help from Fern.

We have seven girls in our Pack, with Amy and Christie flying up [well they were piggy-backed] to the Guides at the end of last year. Also Annabel and Renee were enrolled towards the end of '88.

Elizabeth's enrolment got us going this year, and shortly afterwards we had a guest Brownie from Australia, who brought us some badges from her district. That same day we had an Outdoor Challenge - on of the objects being a bird's feather. The visiting Brownie was so keen to complete her challenge, that she walked back to Lonnekers where she had seen a dead bird earlier that day.

We had a Girl Scout [as they are called in the USA] spend a night with our family in early January. She was the only one chosen from all the States to do a two month study with scientists doing research on penguins in the Antarctic.

The aim was to catch big Emperor Penguins by running up from behind and embracing them so bleepers could be attached. It seems to be a mystery where they go in the off-season. Julie said the inside of her arms were black and blue with bruising, as once caught the penguins would flap their flippers with fury. The research team made a point of padding the inside of their arms.

A Badge Julie presented to us was most attractive, with the penguin featured on it. Our International Badge collection is looking good.

We've tried a bit of chenille art [with large pipe-cleaners] this term, which the girls found very challenging. We will be doing more. Our French knitting is growing too. When we were spraying dried ragwort with white aerosol paint to make decorations, I thought I explained in great detail about spraying down wind, so the girls who have white spray on their uniforms are the one's who didn't listen. Some of the girls are working very hard at their roller-skating badges. It isn't easy, but all good things come in the end.

Thank you to everyone who supported us in our biscuit sales - we have one carton left.

Good to see the girls at the Dawn Service on that cold April morning.

Last Brownie Day was all pleasure. It looked like a scene from "Little Women", with all the girls sitting learning embroidery. We're looking forward to Lorna helping us with this again. It's good to see DOC and the PMaster doing the odd memory test with the Brownies - Thank You!

It's quite old news now, but we made \$320 profit the night of the Bridal Parade and we have a video of the evening. If anyone would like to see it, give me a ring on 391-353, and a small donation to Brownies would be much appreciated.

- Carolyn Squires <Right> Brown Owl

Towards

There's very little to report on local activities for 1990, as most are still in the planning stage. However, here's an excerpt from the 1990 Commission Newsletter.

'This month's focus is on Southland which was the first region in the South Island to give its enthusiastic support to 1990. The central event of the year will be the commemoration of the signing of the Treaty at Ruapuke Island on June 10th. Planning for other events and projects is already well advanced with highlights being the 1990 Stampede, the Waihopai Maori Committee's Goodwill Run from Cape Reinga, the Bluff Oyster Festival and a mid-winter sound and light show at the Southland Museum. 1990 Community Committees are well established with good support from the local media. Involvement in 1990 events and projects is continuing more steadily as groups in the region enter enthusiastically into the spirit of the year.'

Heritage New Zealand

A couple of years back a computer information system called Doomsday, which recorded information about the UK received quite a lot of publicity. A similar project called Heritage New Zealand was mooted at the same time, and work has been going on steadily ever since.

This education-based project was launched in March, and aims to create a data base of images, sound, text and statistical data about New Zealand, which can be accessed through computers and optical discs. [The same sort of CD technology that is used in compact disc music and video players can also be used for storing masses of information for a computer, and all three can be integrated.]

It will include historical as well as present day information. There will be a nationwide community survey to collect local information. Much of this will be done by schools [mainly secondary] using an information kit designed by the Education Department - similar kits are in the pipeline for other community groups.

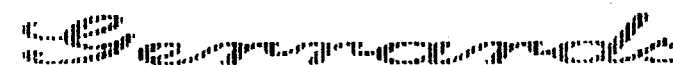
It will be a decidedly challenging project for those setting it up, and should produce a significant educational resource, provided it is updated regularly. There will be several levels of use, from Primary School "browsing" through to a professional system for accessing information.

Final decisions haven't been made yet on the "hardware" that will be needed to drive the system. With requirements of driving compact discs for sound, still pictures and computer data, it'll undoubtedly cost more than the schools Apple II computers did, but it'll probably be into 1992 before the new School Directors even have a chance of contemplating purchase.

In the meantime, gathering information is the main chore, as no matter what the hardware is, the essential part is the actual database of information. One feature of using CD's for storing computer data is that it can't be changed, as it can on a magnetic disc. Just like you can't change the music on a record, but can on a tape by re-recording. This can be an advantage, in that you can't make a boo-boo and erase or change data, but it also means that the information has to be right first time round. It will be up to us to make sure that anything on Stewart Island is as correct as possible!

I've written away for more information on Heritage New Zealand, and will be gathering Stewart Island guff as my personal 1990 project [I want it for SIN anyway]. I know there are a number of other folk collecting Island memorabilia, so get in touch - I'll keep everyone posted.

- Sam



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Return of the Tooth Fairy

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A few parents became suspicious that something was rotten in the state of Denmark, that wasn't caries, when stray teeth began appearing at their children's bedsides last week - with no corresponding gaps in young mouths. This outbreak of surplus choppers was, in fact, a direct result of the return of the "Tooth Fairy".

Charles Goldsmith is probably the only qualified resident dentist the Island has ever had. Undoubtedly in the early days untold teeth were withdrawn [under *Conba* anaesthetic] by a string tied to the nearest door knob. There's also bound to have been at least one set of basic dental pliers, probes and other instruments of torture wielded by a semi-qualified practitioner. Does anyone know?

Charlie's early dentistry here was done on flying visits from his base in Balclutha. His first flight succeeded in taking a couple of feet off the top of the rimu that stands behind the seat where the road dips down to Horseshoe Bay - "flight instructor" Bruce Hoffman went just that much too far when he kept telling Pilot Charlie to go "Lower yet!" on the approach to "Horseshoe Airfield".

Charles took this close scrape to heart [in mouth], and in the quest for safer aviation became

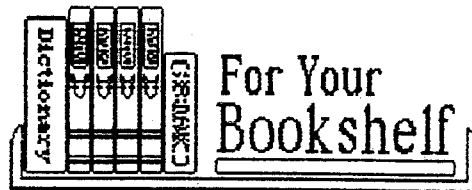
one of the founders of the Stewart Island Aero Club, and was involved in the plans for the airstrip that was started on Jones' property off Back Road.

Having had enough of bad-mouthed patients, Charles moved to the Island full-time, to practice dentistry between taking visitors to sea in the Riko Riko. Having done a number of trips with him, I have my suspicions that Charlie actually looked for patches of rough water, in the hope that some of his patients would lose their dentures over the side. He wasn't too successful, as a heap of teeth remained on Stewart Island when he left for King Island, [Australia]. It was some of these that resurfaced last week, when he and Mary [who used to be receptionist at the South Sea Hotel] returned for a brief visit.

They are now living in Geelong, Victoria, where Charles is back to practicing his trade full time. [No wonder some of us are nervous about visiting doctors and dentists - they never seem to get beyond the practice stage!]

As well as the teeth, Charles also left the Island's dental surgery well equipped with drills and other implements of destruction - for which, on behalf of the community - Many Thanks Charles.

- Sam



The Stewart Island Library has a wealth of new books to encourage both present and intending members to renew their subscriptions, due on 1st June. Librarian, Pat King, has purchased a number of books of Stewart Island interest eg Sealers & Whalers - by Don Grady; Black Robin Country - by David Cemmick & Dick Veitch; Martin's Bay - by John Hall-Jones.

Another book is The Totorore Voyage by Gerry Clarke, who will be here on 17th July to talk about his four year voyage in the Southern Ocean.

As well, the Library now returns its Country Library Books to Invercargill, and can exchange them at any time on a one-for-one basis. About 60 were changed in the May holidays, and are now on the shelves.

So, for entertainment, educational and general relaxation, visit the Stewart Island Library, where you are certain to find a book to suit.

- Helen Bissland

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Dinner 6-7:00pm

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Raklura Museum

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Other Times Phone

☎Margaret Hopkins 391-126

☎Nancy Schofield 391-340

☎Wally Fisher 391-099

DOC Info Centre

8am-4:30pm Mon/Fri
[Other times see notice on
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[Scheduled Flights]

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1:00	- 1:20pm	1:30	- 1:50pm		
4:00	- 4:20pm	4:30	- 4:50pm		

Saturday/Sunday

10:00	- 10:20am	10:30	- 10:50
1:00	- 1:20pm	1:30	- 1:50pm
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Reporting Times

Invercargill Airport 30min before departure
Stewart Island Travel 40min before departure

Stewart Island Charter Service

Box 24 - Halfmoon Bay STEWART ISLAND

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9:00	- 11:15am			2:00	- 3:45pm

Ticketing - From 1 hour before sailing

Boarding - From 15 min before sailing

Thanks again to all contributors -
without you it would be much harder,
and to our readers - without you it
would be a waste of time!