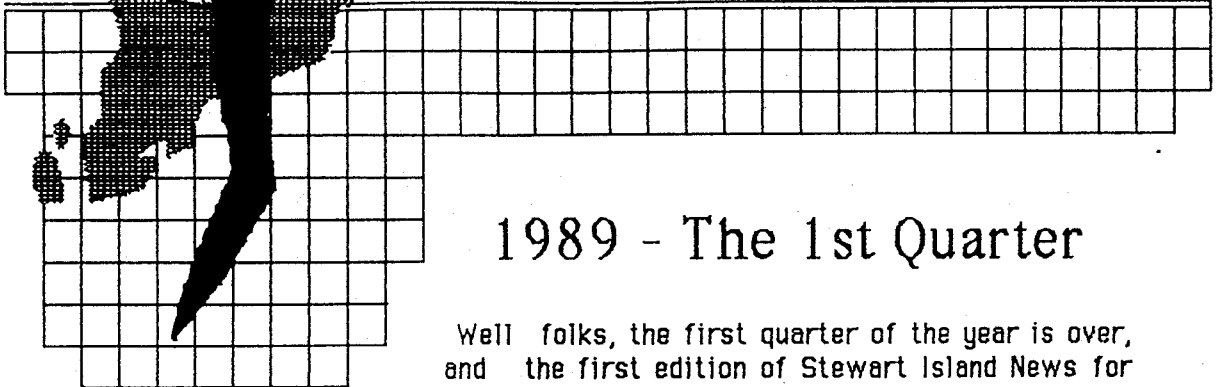


March 1989

No: 10

Stewart Island News

PO Box 65 Halfmoon Bay STEWART ISLAND New Zealand



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1989 - The 1st Quarter

Well folks, the first quarter of the year is over, and the first edition of Stewart Island News for 1989 has just appeared. Full thanks for this are due to Margaret Hopkins who has written most of this issue. Now winter is almost with us. I hope we'll be back to more regular SIN.

The Island has had two major setbacks since the last issue - neither are covered this time. Tail measurement regulations for crayfish certainly had the effects predicted, but the algal bloom in Big Glory Bay was a bolt from the blue. Both will have long term effects on the Island. Who from the industries is prepared to comment?

Positive events like the opening of *Shearwater Inn* have taken place and general attitudes on the Island still seem positive. Let's see where 1989 will take us. It is after all a lead in to 1990, the year of national celebration. Let's give it our best!

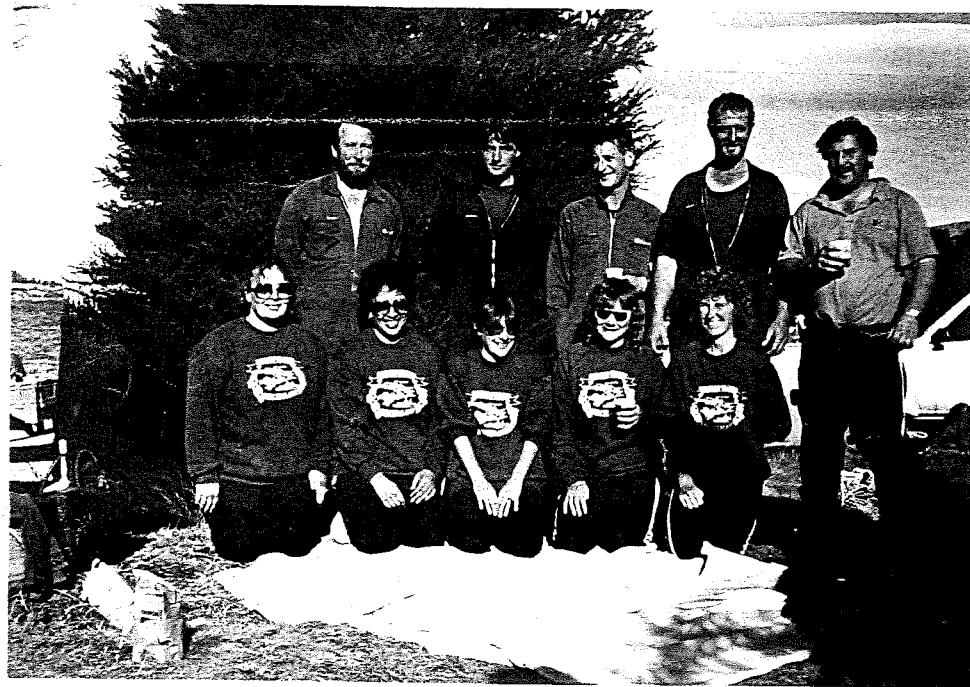
- Sam

PRICE
\$1.00

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Stewart Island News is produced in Oban, Stewart Island, and attempts to foster interest in this, New Zealand's southernmost community. Production Team: Sam Sampson, Margaret Hopkins, Barry Rhodes, Kathy Walker.

Oban Fire Brigade Win Wajax Contest



Oban Volunteer Fire Brigade was reduced to a skeleton crew on the weekend of 18-19 March, when a large proportion of members were in Wanaka for the Southern Brigades annual Wajax Competitions.

The competitions involve setting up portable *Wajax* fire pumps to a water supply, connecting them up and running out hoses to knock down targets. Points are awarded for speed with penalty points deducted for incorrect use of equipment. Several runs are made using equipment in different ways.

In recent years *Wajax Weather* has disrupted plans for the competitions. In 1987 over a hundred competitors and supporters were delayed overnight in Invercargill en-route to the Island. Last years local team went to Bluff by fishing boat when it seemed fog would delay their departure - the planes started flying again within a half hour of their departure by sea.

This year the teams got away in good time, but reports of weather conditions up-country suggested they should have been equipped with snow shoes. Fortunately the weather improved as the convoy of vehicles moved inland and Wanaka turned on a brilliant day for the competitions on the Saturday - so hot in fact that plunging into the lake with suction hoses was almost pleasurable.

For several weeks before the event Oban echoed to the scream of pumps as Terry Morecraft put the Island's men's and women's teams through their paces at Traill Park.

This strenuous training paid handsome dividends, as the two teams returned to the island bearing seven of the nine Trophies awarded at the Competition. This was the first time since the contest began about two decades ago that teams from one Fire Brigade have made a clean sweep of all the major trophies.

One trophy that wasn't collected was the *Bumblefoot Award* - not one that any team really wants to collect anyway. The other was for the lowest number of penalty points - a trophy that is seldom won by teams with the fastest runs and highest aggregate points.

The Island's teams were accompanied by a group of a dozen enthusiastic local supporters who were joined by a number of ex-Islanders. The Knowles and Gregory families deserted current allegiances to Wanaka to support our team, while the Scurrs also favoured the Island over their home-team. Founding Fire Brigade members Mike Goomes and Elvin Holt were to the fore, though unfortunately Dave Wilson and Graeme Amos couldn't make it, so the original Stewart Island Wajax team couldn't do a Geriatrics run as had been hoped.

Congratulations to both teams for the rewards of hard work at practices - incidentally the girls had second fastest run at the competitions, only two seconds behind the guys. Special thanks to Trainer Terry Morecraft for his efforts in getting them up to scratch. The teams obviously had full confidence in Terry, for they let him risk life and limb doing a *Bungy Jump* while they were on their way to the contest!

Mens Team: Charlie Davis, Terry Morecraft, Peter Newton, Dave Valli - Murray Ford [Capt/Reserve runner]

Ladies Team: Fern Davis, Shirley Newton, Beryl Wilcox, Jane Wilson - Cathy Morecraft [Capt/Reserve runner]

Coming Events

Sat 1 April
Southland Aero Club
Grand Tour du Suds
- Air Tour round Stewart Island - ends over HMB Wharf around 3.30pm.

Sat 1 April - 6.00pm - Hall
Stewart Is ITC Charter Night

W/E 7-9 April
Western S'thland Fire Brigades Visit

Sat 8 April
SI Players - Owen Gerrard visits

W/E 15-16 April
SI Gun Club
South Sea Hotel/DB Trophy Shoot

W/E 22-23 April
Ringa Ringa Heights Golf Club
Golf Tournament
Electrix Challenge Trophy

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County Comment

News in Brief from Meetings of the Stewart Island County Council held September, October and November 1988.

Honorary Dog Ranger Warrants

The County Clerk recommended that because of arguments which have arisen with some ratepayers about who is legally authorised to impound dogs, even though anyone can take a dog to the pound, Council is specifically empowered to do so under the Dog Control and Hydatids Act 1982, it would be advisable to issue Honorary dog ranger warrants to Councillors and outside staff.

Senior Building Inspector Permit Survey 1987/88

The senior building inspector had tabled the figures of Building permits and their values for Southland including Stewart Island. This showed that on a per capita basis our building permits were much higher in number and value than that of other areas.

Royal Humane Society

Council decided to donate \$30 to the Royal Humane Society.

Application for Hawkers Licence - M.W. & J.A. Soper

A request for a licence to operate a take-away Fish and Chip service using a caravan parked in the vicinity of the H.M.B. Post Office between 4pm and midnight on Friday and Saturday nights, subject to alteration depending on demand. The Council granted a licence conditional upon the operation meeting all the requirements set by the health inspector.

Southland Harbour Board - Wharves

Southland Harbour Board to be advised that Council wished to discuss the future of the Stewart Island wharves in general terms, with particular reference to public access and the revenue structure.

Crossing Applications

Applications were received for 2 proposed crossings. County Foreman and Works Chairman to inspect these. It was also resolved that where materials were supplied to people doing their own crossings the material would be charged for. The fee for a crossing is \$30 plus G.S.T.

New Councillor

Philip Clarke who won the recent by-election in a closely contested election was sworn in as a County Councillor at the November meeting. Mr Clarke will also serve on the Works Committee. About 56% of island residents voted in the by-election.

The result of the by-election was:
Philip Clarke 78 votes
Lloyd Wilcox 76 votes.

Submissions on Noxious Plants Control

Submissions were received from the Senior Noxious Plants Inspector, the Department of Conservation, the Anti-Spray Group, Rakiura 2000 and the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society. These submissions along with draft proposals submitted by Councillors will be considered by the Council at a discussion meeting of the Works Committee.

A detailed report on the Council's Noxious Plant Control Plan appears in this issue.

Street Lighting

After considerable discussion Councillors felt that street lighting on all Stewart Island roads would not be welcomed by the majority of residents so it was agreed to put new lights outside the County Hall and one outside the new Shearwater Inn development, with the possibility of an additional light in the Main Road opposite the Department of Conservation.

Public Participation at Council Meetings

Councillor Kershaw requested that half an hour be made available at the beginning of Council and Works Committee meetings for members of the public to discuss any issues of Council business. All Councillors agreed that this would be a good public relations exercise but emphasised that a request to speak and the nature of the business must be made in writing to the Council several days before the meeting.

Smoking in the Workplace

A request was made by a staff member that the Council consider the County Office as a possible smoke free zone. Information supplied by the Health Department highlighted the dangers of side-stream smoke to those who come in regular contact with it. Council resolved that the matter be decided by the staff and if a majority requested a smoke free office then it would be so.

Licence for Sand for Sewerage Scheme

Application has been made to the Department of Conservation for a licence to remove 200 cubic metres of sand for use as bedding material for the sewerage pipes.

Tipping of Old Cars on Braggs Bay Road

A letter of complaint was received from Rakiura 2000 about the dumping of old cars on the side of the Braggs Bay road. Councillors agreed that this unsightly practise does nothing for road stability and is extremely unsightly.

Public Excluded Meetings

A letter of concern was received from Rakiura 2000 about the amount and the nature of business conducted by the SICC in Public Excluded sessions. An assurance was given by the Chairman and County Clerk that only business fitting the criteria of the Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 was discussed in Public Excluded.

Dumping of Spoil in Miro Street

Councillor Hopkins requested that immediate action be taken to tidy up Miro Street and to remove the illegally dumped topsoil from the side of the road. The nature of the road has been completely changed with all roadside bush at one end completely desecrated and



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unsightly heaps of spoil tipped on the road edge along with broken down vehicles and building material. Some people take little pride in the neighbourhood they live in which is a pity for those who do make an effort.

1989/90 Forward Roading Programme

The County Engineer advised that the total Road Works Programme for 1989/90 would be \$153,800, of which the NRB subsidy at 70% would be \$107,700 leaving \$46,100 as local cost to be allowed for in estimates.

Catchment Board Visit

Members of the Southland Catchment Board visited the Island on 22 February and met with SICC members to discuss the proposed sewerage scheme and salmon farming. The visit was a familiarisation one as many members had not been to the Island before.

Careless Use of Herbicides on Roadsides

Several letters and a petition were received by the Council regarding the careless roadside spraying carried out in January. Of most concern was damage done to the Thule roadside banks in preparation for road sealing. Letters pointed out the value of these banks as a tourist attraction and felt that cutting and spraying of ferns and other plant colonies at the height of the tourist season seemed particularly inappropriate. The letters were received.

Deferral of Sewerage Scheme

The SICC has deferred the proposed sewerage scheme. Reasons for the deferral were stated as: "Delays in administrative project development and acceptable tendering have resulted in the possible loss of the reticulation subsidy. Application has been made to the Department of Health in Wellington for deferral of this subsidy deadline. This has been submitted for Ministerial approval but no advice has been received to date. This would also include an extension of the time in which to complete the contract."

Sealing of Thule Road

The County foreman advised that sealing of the Thule Road has been completed along with sealing repairs in other areas.

Library

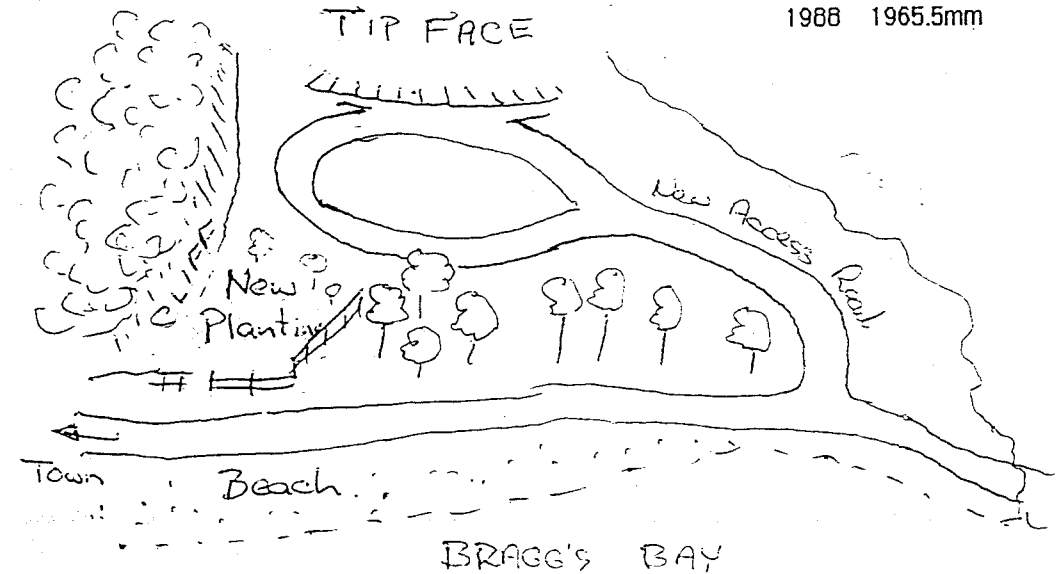
The Halfmoon Bay library will open on Saturday mornings from 11 am to noon as well as Wed. 2-3 pm and Friday 11-noon. Librarian Mrs Pat King said the Saturday opening is to enable those who work during the week to make use of the library and hopefully encourage new members.

The present library has suffered space restrictions for some time now. Proposals for a new library are being investigated and we hope to give details in *SI* shortly.

Rubbish Tip

With winter and bad weather approaching County staff are endeavouring to bring the rubbish tip up to a standard that will assure access year round for individuals wanting to dump rubbish. In the past problems have been caused by vehicles becoming stuck in the mud and tipping their rubbish right at the gateway instead of right back at the tip face. This causes a danger to vehicle tyres and prevents others from getting in to tip rubbish, as well as the unsightly mess of rubbish being littered all over the road and beach. Members of Rakiura 2000 recently spent some time cleaning up the area surrounding the tip and their effort is to be commended.

The new plan for the tip is to block off the present access and create a new entry further along towards the creek. Once inside the gateway there will be a metalled loop track enabling vehicle drivers to drive around, unload their rubbish over the tip edge only in spots designated by signs and then drive on out on the loop track. If members of the public will cooperate with this scheme and not tip rubbish in the gateway or on the metal track then better maintenance of the tip will be possible. This scheme is to be given a trial period and if not successful the tip will have to be closed and only opened on certain days by an attendant with a dumping fee charged. The choice is yours so please cooperate.



Wet Weather

If you thought last year was an unusually wet year then you are right. Figures from D.O.C. make very interesting reading. I'm sure the poor farmers of Canterbury would be green with envy if they knew that we had 31 days of rain in October, in fact it seems normal for rain to fall on at least 20 days of any month over here.

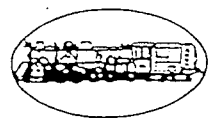
The heaviest days of rain last year were:
 28 Feb 35.7mm 14 May 52.6mm
 25 June 33.0mm 16 Aug 35.5mm

Previous years high rainfall days were:

15.5.79	75.7mm	4.1.86	40.2mm
16.1.80	62.3mm	11.6.86	54.3mm
23.5.80	44.8mm	6.9.86	53.3mm
2.10.81	40.9mm	2.10.86	48.5mm
13.1.82	41.2mm	26.4.87	51.3mm
11.7.82	44.6mm	1.10.87	42.9mm
10.1.83	46.2mm	28.2.88	35.7mm
9.3.83	46.1mm	14.5.88	52.6mm
		16.8.88	35.5mm

Total rainfall figures for the past 9 years are as follows:

1979	1431.3mm
1980	1468.5mm
1981	1562.6mm
1982	1621.5mm
1983	1644.3mm
1984	1508.3mm
1985	1424.6mm
1986	1877.9mm
1987	1770.9mm
1988	1965.5mm



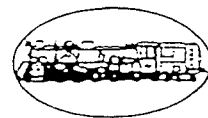
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DOC's Diagnosis

Last January another kakapo search took place on Stewart Island which resulted in nine male birds being moved to Codfish Island. Only one of these birds had ever been touched by human hands before, the rest were "new" birds. Shifting so many birds during a single trip was a great morale booster but the situation still isn't as good as it might seem.

No more females are known of on Stewart Island and in the past they have proven much harder to find and catch than the males. There are still only five female kakapo on Codfish, and twenty males - the girls can afford to be choosy.

The really good news is that at least the guys out there are trying to do something about saving themselves from extinction. In early March there was at least one male kakapo "booming" and several other birds near by making a bit of noise. Booming is the sound made by the males when they want to attract a mate and they only give it a go every three or four years. Let's hope one of the other birds was a female who liked the sound of his voice

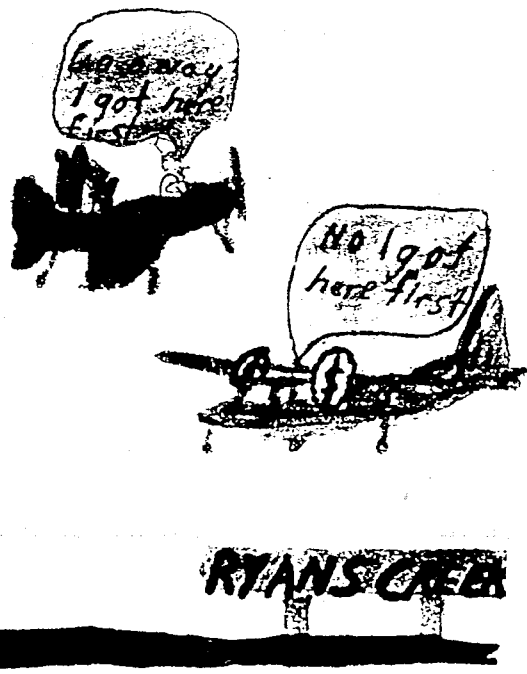
Our feathered friends have attracted attention from other sources lately. A team from BBC radio spent a couple of days on Codfish recently and were lucky enough to see a kakapo. The man responsible for the series 'A Hitch-hikers Guide to the Galaxy', is going to write a book and do a radio series on some of the endangered animals in the world and kakapo are one of the chosen subjects. It's not just the kakapo that are

attracting international attention, the kiwi has come in for its share of the limelight too. Andy Roberts spent a week at Mason Bay with a film crew from Germany filming kiwi for German television. Having become a fluent speaker of English with-a-German-accent, Andy is now brushing up on his Japanese. He'll be helping a Japanese newspaper reporter see and appreciate a bit about the kiwi and its habitat for a couple of days at Easter.

February and March were busy months for the divers at D.O.C. with the continuation of the coastal inventory that was begun last summer. Almost every fine day was used to dive, anywhere from Paterson Inlet to Port Adventure and out to Bench Islands. To get an idea of the marine habitat and species in different areas, a 100m line was run at right angles to the shore. Divers then recorded plant and animal life every 5m along the line. To begin with, trying to identify and learn names of the algae and many different animals was mind boggling. There is a growing collection of funny wrinkled things in bottles in the office, some of which we can now put names to and recognise. It's only slightly less mind boggling now but we are getting there. When you really start looking, there is a fantastic assortment of shapes and sizes and colours down there, enough to keep you looking for hours if only the air supply would last that long!

Sandra King
Conservation Officer

By: Ivan Tait
HMB School
1988



Dictionary of NZ Biography

1990 is to see the launching of the first in a series of the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. The published volumes of the DNZB will, as national biographical dictionaries must, give due place to the pre-eminent figures from the past - the major politicians, soldiers, business people, scientists, writers, sports people, ecclesiastics and criminals who have become widely known and whose presence will be confidently expected. But they will also include individuals of less than national stature - for example, those whose importance had a more limited regional, ethnic or social character. In particular, an effort is being made to include a number of individuals partly for the sake of their representative significance.

Mrs June Stark an historian and researcher from Wellington who is working on the DNZB, recently visited Stewart Island and Invercargill to talk about the project. For Mrs Starke her first visit to Stewart Island was very special as she recently edited the journal of John Boulton which was published as 'The Journal of a Rambler'. Boulton was an English gentleman turned sealer who lived around the rugged, unexplored west coast of New Zealand and on Stewart and Ruapuke Islands in the mid 1820s. Mrs Starke discovered his journal in England while doing research for the Alexander Turnbull library and her resulting book is a valuable and interesting look at a period of New Zealand's history that is little known to many. John Boulton is one of the notable Southlanders who will appear in the N.Z.D.B. volume 2 which is being compiled for release next year.

Mrs Starke is anxious that some of Stewart Island's colourful characters appear in the DNZB. There are obviously many wonderful people who have helped shape Stewart Island's community and development over the years and there may be a place for some of these in the dictionary.

A lot of the research material collected may not make it into the Dictionary but it will be stored on computer and become part of a large biographical data base which will become available to researchers and individuals in the future. Anyone who feels they have information or ideas to put forward for the NZDB please contact Margaret Hopkins.

- Margaret Hopkins

ITC Charter

April 1st will see the chartering of a new club on Stewart Island. International Training in Communication, (formerly Toastmistress Club), is an organisation which fosters the skills of public speaking, meeting procedure, listening, self confidence and the whole range of communication skills. Interest in I.T.C. on Stewart Island first began in February last year when Loloma Slingsby organised a group of ITC members from the Southland area to come and speak to interested locals, giving demonstrations of the kind of activities their clubs do. From this initial gathering an ITC group was formed here and has now reached the stage where it is to receive its charter with 16 members.

The charter dinner on 1st April will be attended by 60 people, 36 of these visitors from other ITC clubs as well as local ITC members and guests. The charter is to be presented by Mrs Susan Schweigman, President of N.Z. Region of ITC, and the Board is to be installed by Mrs Fae Robertson, President of Council 13 (Southland Region). Guest speaker for the evening will be M.P. Sonia Davies.

- Margaret Hopkins

STEWART ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

Management Plan for Noxious Plants on Roadsides & Public Areas

Objectives.

1. The primary objective of this plan is the control, containment and eventual eradication of noxious plants on Stewart Island.

Additional objectives are:

2. The maintenance of roadsides and public areas in as near to a natural state as practicable.

3. To minimise soil erosion.

4. To minimise or eliminate the use of herbicides in this work.

Priorities

Clematis vitalba: Eradication of Old Man's Beard, [*Clematis vitalba*] will be given top priority. Interested parties will be invited to help with cutting. Cut material to be burnt.

Other Noxious Plants: The initial priority of control work will be containment; i.e. preventing further spread of existing infestations. Areas from which seeding is spreading are to be identified, and work is to proceed from these areas towards the longer established parts of the infestation.

Eradication of noxious plants on roadsides is to proceed according to the following order of priority. This order incorporates a 'scenic drive' concept, in which areas of high scenic value with low infestation will be tackled first.

Priority A: Horseshoe Bay Road from Oban township to Lee Bay; from Post Office to wharf at Thule, including Rankin Street and Golden Bay Road.

Priority B: Towns to 'gateway' on Kaipipi Rd.

Priority C: Township to bluff at Leasks Bay: seaward side only. Steep banks to be left at this stage: eventual treatment only of old man gorse by cutting and stump treatment; planting of native species to assist in stabilising.

Priority D: Back Rd, Hicks Rd, Fern Gully.

Priority E: Braggs Bay, Miro St, Rata St.

Isolated plants in low priority areas could be dealt with if Council staff are working in the area. Roads not specifically mentioned could be treated in a similar manner. The block of gorse at Ringaringa slip is to be left until roading plans are finalised.

Methods

1. Records are to be maintained, e.g. maps showing areas and types of infestation, and recording work undertaken. This is important to coordinate 'follow-up'.

2. Areas where work has started: observation and maintenance. Hand pulling of regrowth where appropriate: spot spraying or treatment with wick wiper. Plant desirable species.

3. Areas of high scenic value with low infestation: Plants cut to ground level and removed. Stump treatment. Follow up as (2) above.

4. Areas regenerating to native species in most cases leave to get on with it. Encouragement where deemed appropriate.

5. Areas where noxious plants are assisting

Playcentre

Playcentre hours this term are:
Tues 9.15 - 11.45 & Thurs 12.15 - 2.45

Everyone welcome, fee for casual children is \$2 per session. Any enquiries regarding new enrollments or general information please contact Colleen Dawson or Anne Watson.

Recent fundraising projects for Playcentre have been catering for the supper at a wedding and catering for afternoon tea at the Shearwater Inn opening. In-house workshops are planned in the near future at our Playcentre involving as many local parents and members of the community as possible. It is intended that we bring speakers and guests from the mainland to share their expertise.

Our centre recently had a visit from Mr Pat Crowley who is Education Board Advisor for Early Childhood Development and Special Needs. Mr Crowley held a discussion evening with parents and spent an afternoon observing at one of our Playcentre sessions where he was available for advice.

We have 16 children on our present roll with 9 children who attend on a casual basis.

Playcentre ladies catered for the opening of Shearwater Inn, and the profits from this have been used to purchase a stainless steel waterbath for around \$250.

The metre diameter tank can be filled with warm water and used for measuring volumes and other forms of water play and learning.

Other projects include extending and covering the sandpit, and building a bigger equipment shed.

soil conservation or preventing erosion: identify such areas. In short term, retain vegetation. Research suitable species for stabilising. Establish native nursery for this purpose. 'Old man' gorse identified as accelerating erosion to be removed by method appropriate to accessibility.

6. Areas of thick infestation, old man gorse: Containment first priority. Specific areas assigned to voluntary labour for clearing and replanting. As spraying is not regarded as an efficient method for control of old man gorse (ref. Min. Ag. FFP284) alternative methods e.g. cutting, crushing, stump treatment to be considered, having reference in each case to the degree to which the infestation is acting as a nursery for native species.

7. Clearing of roadline vegetation adjacent to building sites etc. to be discouraged as provided for under District Scheme.

Voluntary Labour

It was agreed this would be most efficiently employed by assigning particular areas as special projects. e.g. area around water tanks, Excelsior Road. Section opposite Traill Park, areas at Leask Bay. Other areas as agreed. Voluntary labour will be employed to establish a native nursery.

Council tools will be available to responsible persons for this work. Spray equipment or herbicides will not be available. The programme described under 'priorities' shall be carried out by Council staff or subcontractors, although voluntary labour could be employed by arrangement.

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Lions 20th Anniversary

Saturday 25th February dawned bright and sunny in Halfmoon Bay for the members of the Stewart Island Lions Club celebrating their 20th anniversary. More than 30 visiting Lions and partners from Owaka, Clinton, Roxborough, Bluff and Invercargill as well as local guests, joined Stewart Island Lions at the barbeque and dance held in the R.S.A. hall. District Governor, Ian Matheson addressed the gathering and offered congratulations to the club for its 20 years of service to the Stewart Island community and wished it well for the future.

Zone Chairman, Alan Reid from Bluff expressed his pleasure in attending the function along with other Bluff Lions as it had been the Bluff Lions Club who sponsored the chartering of the Stewart Island club in 1969.

Ron Dennis, Stewart Island Lions club President, outlined some of the major projects undertaken by the club over the past 20 years, some of which include the Halfmoon Bay school pool, the foreshore retaining wall, sponsoring children on the Spirit of Adventure, sending local children on exchange visits, major funding of the museum extensions, medical and emergency equipment for the District Nurses Clinic, annual firewood supply for the elderly and financial contributions to many local and national appeals.

Several of the Lions in attendance, Ernie Hopkins, Reuben Morris and Bill Dawson were original charter members of the club.

Secretary/Treasurer for SIN

Owing to other commitments I find I am no longer able to carry on my work for Stewart Island News. Anyone interested in the above position which involves general book-keeping, paying accounts, dealing with subscriptions and enquiries, income tax returns, paying wages and advertising, please contact me. It is possible that a small remuneration would be available if no one is interested in the position on a voluntary basis as has been done in the past.

- Margaret Hopkins

[Many thanks are due to Margaret for her support in producing SIN from the start. In particular, this issue, is primarily her work and it would not have seen the light of day without her efforts. - Sam]

Cub News

Congratulations to the boys who have earned badges recently.

1st swimmers badge - Paul Duston, Andrew Cleland, Ivan Tait, Adam McGrath, James Cleland, Jeremy Schofield.

Fishing badge - Paul Duston.

Bookreading - Andrew Cleland

Swimmers stage 2 - Simon Eade.

- Erica Cleland
Leader

Marriages

Scammell - Leask

Joanne Scammell to Andrew Leask
on 11 March

Fife - Pigou

Faye Fife to Phillip Pigou
on 18 February

Young - Robertson

Robyn Young to Andy Roberts
on December 3rd

Hamilton - Lewis

Janine Hamilton to Kelvin Lewis
on 18 February

Births

Bellworthy - Hamilton

To Tania and Brett a son Dylan

Dawson

To Judy and Doug a son Zaccary

Lindsay

To Marion Lindsay a daughter Laura

Squires

To Lesley and Christopher
a son Campbell William

Firestone

To Jo-ann and Stephen a son Michael Stewart

Death

L.L. Whipp

The community was saddened to hear of the death of Porky Whipp on 2nd November.

Museum Report

As the summer begins to fade our visitor numbers are starting to dwindle although surprisingly February has been much busier than normal for us at the museum. I would once more like to thank all those wonderful people who helped man the museum over summer, particularly Wally and Nancy who spent many long hours in there. Your help is very much appreciated. For those who are interested I have done a tally of visitor numbers for the past 19 months.

1987	Aug	-	212
	Sept	-	252
	Oct	-	266
	Nov	-	250
	Dec	-	479

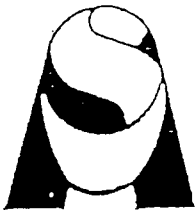
1988	Jan	-	964
	Feb	-	320
	March	-	306
	April	-	373
	May	-	156
	June	-	31
	July	-	19
	Aug	-	98
	Sept	-	95
	Oct	-	145
	Nov	-	204
	Dec	-	287

1989	Jan	-	886
	Feb	-	498

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Dept. of Social Welfare

The Benefits Community Liason & Visiting Unit

The above unit will be visiting the Island on Thursday 20 April and will be available from 10 am to 1 pm at the Stewart Island Library. An officer from the Department will assist with benefit and pension queries. This unit has been operational in Southland for quite some time and this is their first visit to the Island so please feel free to utilise this service if you require information. If you are unable to call at the library and would prefer the Social Welfare officer to visit your home please contact Margaret Hopkins.

1990 Community Committee

The 1990 Community Committee for Stewart Island comprises the following: Chairperson - Gwen Neave, Secretary - Airdry Dyson-Leask, members Barry Rhodes, Jo Riksem, Margaret Hopkins.

Projects being investigated by the committee for Stewart Island 1990 celebrations include the building of a new school/community library, a school visit to N.Z.'s furtherest north school, Te Hapua and Waitangi to coincide with 1990 celebrations on Waitangi Day. A return visit by the Te Hapua school is also planned.

If clubs or individuals have projects in mind that they would like officially recognised as a 1990 event, further details are available from Committee members.



STEWART ISLAND PROPERTIES

Now is an opportune time to buy on Stewart Island, we are currently offering a wide range of properties and prices. Prices which will never be lower. Properties with magnificent seascapes, landscapes, views of the boat harbour, sheltered and with all-day sun.

Sections from as low as \$4,000, and up to \$27,000 for a prime site.

Several Houses at around \$35,000 (with electric power connections) to a luxury home on a 26 acre bush-clad site with glorious views, at \$240,000.

NEW LISTINGS

Beautifully positioned home overlooking Leask Bay, together with adjoining cleared building site - only \$35,000

LARGE BOATSHED, 3 Dinghies, 2 Outboard Motors, at Leask Bay - \$15,000

Enquire without obligation to:
Wm. Todd & Co Ltd MREIMZ
Local Agents
Diane & Phillip Smith
"Taumata"
PO Box 104 Halfmoon Bay
STEWART ISLAND
Please phone [021] 391-144

Moana Charters

Dot & Kevin Anderson
Phone 391-202

CHARTERS

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Special Charters for
Trampers & Hunters

P.O. Box 108 - Stewart Island

Or Phone:
Stewart Is Travel 391-269
or Southern Air 89-129

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Erica Clelland
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Shearwater Inn

On March 12th the Minister of Tourism Jonathon Hunt arrived on Stewart Island in the driving rain to officially open Shearwater Inn, a new 80 bed complex. Mr Hunt's unorthodox arrival was occasioned by low cloud and rain which prevented Southern Air's flights from coming to the Island.

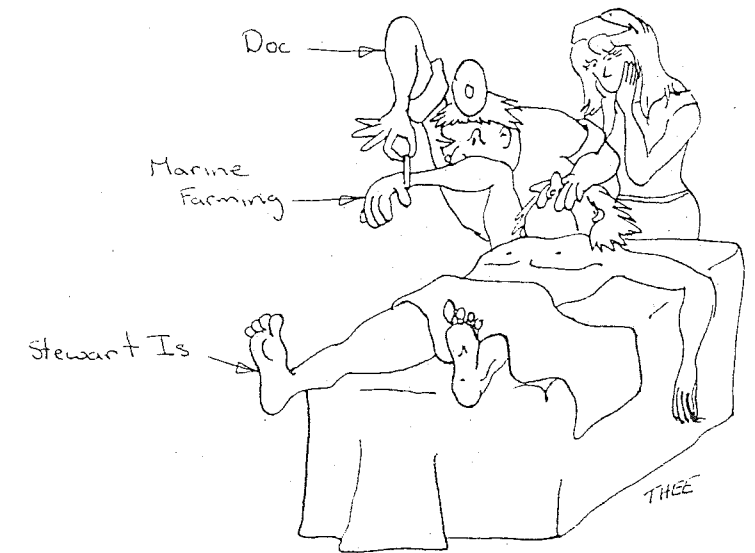
Shearwater Inn, a joint project between Southern Air and Dick Langdon, will mostly cater for youth hostellers and the budget traveller. Built on the site of Stewart Island's old tennis courts which years ago fell into disrepair, Shearwater Inn was affectionately dubbed 'Club Mud' by locals during the construction period. Most would agree that the impressive building and the careful landscaping that have gone into the site has resulted in a fine complex on what in recent years has been a most untidy site.

The kind of accomodation and facilities offered by Shearwater Inn for those travelling on a budget has been lacking on the Island and will fill the Youth Hostel niche most effectively.

Many locals braved the wet and windy afternoon to attend the official opening and were heartened that someone has the confidence in Stewart Island's future in tourism to have built this complex.

Mr Hunt admitted this was his first visit to the Island and he hopes to return in the near future to spend more time here. Chairman of the Stewart Island County Council, Mr Bruce Ford congratulated Keith Smith and Dick Langdon on the opening of Shearwater Inn and said that it was a positive step for Stewart Island's economy when fishing seems to be on such an unsure footing.

2nd Book Sale
County Hall
Sat 8 April 10-2
Proceeds to Community Library



It's "gangrene back", we'll have to amputate before it spreads!

Business House Hours

Anchor Merchants

General Store - Papers

Meat/Milk/Bread

9:00am-5:30pm Mon-Fri

10:00am-Noon Sat/Sun

Bay Takeaways

Fish & Chips etc

5-8pm Sun/Mon

Noon-2pm & 6-8pm Wed

5-11:30pm Fri/Sat

Co-op Chandlery

Basic Clothes/Meat

10-11:45am Mon-Sat

1:30-5pm Mon/Wed/Fri

Co-op Fish Shed

Fresh & Frozen Fish

9:00am-5:00pm Mon-Fri

Ferndale Caravans

Shop open on demand for

Food Supplies

[At reasonable Hours]

Korner Krafts

10:30am-2:30pm Wed/Sat

Post Office 9am-1pm &

2-5pm Mon-Fri

Stewart Is Travel

Stn Air Agent - Taxis

Souvenirs - Tearooms

8:00am-6:00pm Mon-Fri

9:30am-5:00pm Sat/Sun

Rakiura Riders

10am-5pm most days

[Ph:391-011 if closed]

South Sea Hotel

Public Bar: 11am-10pm

Mon-Thur 11am-11pm Fri/Sat

Lunch Noon-1:00pm Dinner

6-7:00pm [Casuals book by

4:30pm]

Stewart Is Library

2-3pm Wed

11am-Noon Fri/Sat

Rakiura Museum

11am-2pm Mon/Wed/Fri

Other Times Phone

Tina Kershaw 391-458

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 door for Duty

Officer's Phone No;]

DISTRICT NURSE CLINIC

10:30am-Noon Mon-Fri

[Phone: 391-098]

POLICE

[Phone 391-020]

EMERGENCIES DIAL "111"



Stewart Island News

[Registered Publication]

To:

Chris Dillon
117 Metzger St
INVERCARGILL

PO Box 65 Halfmoon Bay **STEWART ISLAND** New Zealand