

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

May 2016

\$3.00

RIP to long-time Island resident Ron Tindall.
We extend our condolences to Elspeth.
There will be a tribute in the next edition of *SIN*.

To live here is to be a boat busybody. We see a mast or smoke-stack or blip on the horizon and reach for the binoculars: *Who is that? What are they up to?* Now there's an app for enquiring minds. Check out Marine Traffic in the App Shop, it costs about \$7 and is a tonnage of fun. It shows you vessels in the area and if you click on their wee icon you get heaps more information. I just checked my app and now I know there is a wood chip carrier at anchor 7 miles from here, it has travelled 21 days from Nagoya, Japan, and it was built in 2006. I know its gross tonnage and deadweight and flag and call sign and its length and breadth. My head's overloaded with boat stats! This app could actually cure people of boat nosiness!

Some of you may have met Steve Crawford — he was here a few times interviewing people for an academic study he's doing on the government's response to the shark cage diving issue here. Anyway he wanted to "give something back" to the community so he took the time to scan dozens of old copies of *SIN* and send them to me, and I spent a half day uploading them all to the *SIN* website. Our Archives have become meaty: dating from 1987 to present. Actually, you can go further back than Sam Samson's gems, there's one Mona Wiig gave us from 1920! If you have any old issues let me know so I can scan them and fill the gaps in our on-line archives. A big thanks to Steve for his mighty scanning effort. Check our website to see the "new old" archives.



Bella won best hat at the Women's Institute Garden Party.

The school holidays saw us here and there on various missions. One local mum was determined to visit every locally accessible beach with her kids, by definition that means you can drive to it and it's 5 minutes or less walking to the sand. By her estimation there are 20...how many can you count? I went off-island with the boys and our destinations included Transport World in Invercargill which is worth a visit. More page 4 and if you'd



Repainting the road markings.

like to see less of my blitherblather, please CONTRIBUTE to the *SIN*. There are heaps of people here with stories to tell more fascinating than What I Did on my April Vacation and it would be great to hear from you. Let's get new voices and more voices in these pages please.

Comedienne Michelle A'Court put on a hilarious and thought-provoking show at the Community Centre. Upcoming events include another comedian/author visiting 21st May (see page 12); an art exhibition opening at the Community Centre on

(Continued on page 2)



Photo by Carolyn Squires

(Continued from page 1)

Friday 13th May, see page 8. Thinking of getting an inking? Throne Room Tattoo will be here 21-22 May, see page 15 for details or talk to Vicki Coats.

Prime Minister John Key paid a visit to the island, flying across with Raymond at the front and the meat raffle in the back. From the air he was able to clearly see the shark cage dive site and its proximity to Halfmoon Bay, and during his visit a few locals shared their views on the subject with him. He visited Ulva Island and the salmon farm and noshed on scones with Pip and Ian aboard the *Aurora*. At Halfmoon Bay School the students greeted him with a haka, and then he sat down to answer their questions. They ranged from tough (why haven't you stopped the shark cage diving/why didn't you spend the flag referendum money on cancer research) — to soft (do you have pets) to downright existential (why are you here?). At the end he was presented with a calendar and a cookbook which he seemed delighted to receive, and he spoke for a bit about his love of cooking. Most people who met him found him to be quite chatty. He mentioned he might return sometime this year for a proper holiday with his wife. Nate talked the Kai Kart up big-time to him so Holger might have to re-open his doors if the PM comes back off-season! No matter what your politics, I think it's a good thing for politicians to schlep down here and meet us and put a community of human faces to a dot on the map. And vice versa: it's nice to see a human, chatty side to a politician. My wee boys have suddenly taken an interest in the news, perking up when they recognize the PM's face on the screen and asking questions about what's going on in the world beyond our shores. Not saying that's a good or a bad thing, just an interesting result, particularly when you're tired and frazzled at day's end and trying to have a conversation about the Panama Papers with a six-year old. Anyway ultimately I think it's a bit brave coming to the island on the heels (only a year ago!) of Prince Harry who is a hard act to follow.

Speaking of princes, you might have noticed the masthead is purple this month. Just a wee tribute to one of the great musicians of our time, gone before his time. (It was that or Photoshopping a raspberry beret onto John Key's head... I thought that might be a bit over the top.)

Village Centre, Oban : glowing-sky.co.nz



Glowing Sky Merino. All You Need.

Farewell and safe travels to Natalie, Romy, and all you summer birds migrating away for the winter. We are wishing our school principal Kath Johnson a wonderful time in her adventures around NZ and overseas. And a big welcome to substitute principal Diane and her husband Bob.

—Jess



Community Conversations

Southland District Council wants to talk to you about the future of Southland District.

Council wants to know what you think are the issues facing the District and what we can do together to manage them and continue to make Southland a great place to live, work and play.

Issues like declining population in our small towns, changing farming practices, managing our roads, water and sewerage schemes, the boom of tourism and the cyclical nature of that are things Council is thinking about, but we want to know what you are talking about as well.

We know you will want to talk about present day projects as well, such as the Around the Mountains Cycle Trail and the Te Anau wastewater disposal scheme, and we want to talk about some bylaws that need reviewing.

This is your chance to be part of the future of Southland District and we want to hear your ideas. Please take the time to come along and have your say.

**Stewart Island's Community Conversation
will be held on**

Monday 13 June at 12 noon

in the Stewart Island Pavilion.



Quiz Funds

Thanks to quizmasters and patrons for enabling the following donations in the past 6 months:

\$1,000 towards impact sports mats (the school and the Winter Sports Club also donated \$1,000 each towards these).

\$200 Garden equipment for Motorau Gardens

\$2,000 to SIRCET for traps

\$800 to the school for new junior reading books

\$510 to the museum for transport of the Lockerbie Collection

The swimming pool needs repairs and resurfacing over the winter, and we expect to be able to help with this.

If you have a "Stewart Island Good Cause" which needs some extra funding, let us know the details. (Preferably in writing)

Thanks to Cathy, Dave and Teri

Property owners are being reminded to check they meet legal requirements before offering guest accommodation.

Southland District Council group manager environmental services Bruce Halligan said it had been brought to his attention that a growing number of property owners had offered guest accommodation during the past tourist season.

"We're not opposed in principle to property owners on the island doing this, but we want to make sure all commercial guest accommodation meets legislative requirements, particularly around safety," he said.

The two key legal requirements everybody offering dwellings as guest accommodation in the Southland District should make sure they are complying with are:

Under the Building Act 2004, dwellings offered for more than five paying guests will require a building consent for change of use. As part of this process, Council will assess things such as access arrangements and fire safety procedures.

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Southland District Plan, dwellings that are offered for more than five paying guests require a resource consent. As part of this process, Council assesses things such as the adequacy of off-street parking, signage, and the potential effects of noise. Most applications are granted, but they usually have conditions attached and there may also be a financial contribution required for the additional impact on Council's water and waste services.

Mr Halligan said if property owners did not offer accommodation to more than five paying guests, they should check with their insurer to make sure this did not affect their policy.

If property owners did offer visitor accommodation for more than five people, they needed to either reduce the number of visitors they hosted or seek the correct consents, he said.

For more information, contact Council's building control or resource management teams on 0800 732 732.

Louise Pagan
Communications Manager
Southland District Council
Working Together for a Better Southland
PO Box 903
Invercargill 9840



BOOK REVIEW by Sue Ford

Late Autumn Reading

So I was quite happy, re-reading 'The Books of the Malazan Fallen' (Steve Erikson) – a sort of Game of Thrones for the less bloodthirsty (well, barely). One series at a time is more than enough however – then Kirsten said: 'If you enjoyed **Scarrow's** "The Candle Man", there're more books of his on the shelf.' There is too, a series, and foolishly I took out Book 1 of his Roman series, "**Under the Eagle**", introducing centurion Macro and his youthful optio Cato, on the eve of the invasion of Britain. Now I'm hooked on *another* series! Highly recommended.

"Before We Met" by Lucie

Whitehouse is based on a whirlwind romance and a marriage where Hannah knows little or nothing about the background of husband, Mark. Then comes the weekend when she finds he's not where he's supposed to be. Are Mark's lies to cover up shame or is there something sinister going on? Not a world-beater, but I did want to know what the ending was, so worth the read. **Harriet**

Lane's "**Her**" is unusual. Emma doesn't realise that she is being stalked by an acquaintance from her teens, Nina. Whilst Emma's life is falling apart under the demands of a toddler, a baby and a career-minded husband, Nina has life pretty much sorted – so why the malicious stalking, the underhand dealings? What's the secret that is eating away at Nina, the cruel need to exact revenge? It is suspenseful and excellently written, but the dreadful secret – when finally revealed - struck me as being total rubbish. It was almost as if Lane had handed over the MS to another author who didn't know what Lane intended – and was then asked to write the final chapter for her! Very well written by a master-hand – except for the whole premise on which the story is based which rather defeats the object. But still, see what *you* think.

Book of the Month is "**The Death House**" by Sarah Pinborough. It's suspense, fantasy, a love story, a contemporary novel (that's what the jacket blurb calls it). In the UK, where it hasn't snowed in over 100 years, children are screened for a defective gene until they are aged 18. Toby lives as any contemporary 16-year old until on coming home from school one day the van is waiting for him. The gene has been detected,

and he's whisked away to a remote northern location to join other children who are 'defective'. One-by-one, the children become sick and are taken to The Sanatorium – the top floor of the old house and from which there is no return. New children arrive, including Clara, and Toby falls in love. Life goes on – friendships forged, enemies made, rivalries formed, alliances developed. But then a nurse goes missing. Toby finds out why, and the truth is chilling. The ending is a bit Romeo & Juliette, but the writing is masterful, the mood set, the characters beautifully drawn and described, and the plot is brilliant. I'm going back for more Pinborough!

Also worth reading: **Imogen Robertson's "Anatomy of Murder"** – murder, mayhem and French spies in the opera house of London in the 1780's – but more murky editing and proof-reading. And "**The Walnut Tree**" by **Charles Todd** (actually a mother-and-son team) is a gentle romance, despite the background of horror of WWI – not compelling, but emotive. So, "Winter's coming!" and it's time to visit the library and stock up on some of the excellent reading material available to us. Happy days!

Notes from the school holidays. We took the boys to Dunedin, rolling into town after dark and wondering why all we saw were NO VACANCY signs. Oh yeah...the rugby! Finally found a motel room which was decent despite the previous visitors who'd left remnants of boiled egg stuck all over the inside of the kettle (boiling eggs in a kettle? Who does that?) Next day we all enjoyed the Otago Museum. I've read The Lawrence Lions to the boys so they knew that the lions reside in the Animal Attic at the museum... what they hadn't known was that the lions are now dead and stuffed. I probably shouldn't have glossed over text and lied when I read the book to them and said the policemen just gave the escaped circus lions sleeping pills and that's why they were laying in the road at the end. So, yeah, awkward conversation with the boys about death, euthanasia, animal rights, toy stuffed animals versus taxidermy stuffed animals, and the truth versus mummy telling mince pies, etc. The butterfly room is cool but be prepared to faint from the heat. We did the planetarium which left us all with the usual freaky insomnia-inducing questions concerning eternity and black holes and dark matter etc. There's all these interactive maps and things on the wall in the hall outside where you use your hand as a "mouse" to navigate through the images. There's an activity room with fun science-based games including a table game where you can pit your brain wave function against your partner's. I won. We went on the Taieri Gorge Railway which was beautiful and exciting and awesome for the first two hours. Last two hours with fidgety bored child and his motion-sick brother... not so much. The conductor severely lectured everyone at each stop that we must exit the train by stepping down backwards...like going down a ladder. Well when we got back

to the Dunedin Station there was a guy sprawled on the platform with bloodstained pants and a tourniquet around his leg and a drama of people all around him. Turns out the guy was fine, the blood was fake, and it was a staged event to help train would-be emergency responders. The boys didn't know that and their eyes were falling out of their heads and so I told them *that's what happens when you exit the train improperly*. They will probably always exit a train backwards now and also might need therapy, and maybe I should stop mixing "parenting" with "lying." The Public Art Gallery had some eye-opening exhibits. The boys liked the video installation of a guy with three popsicles in his mouth trying to see how long he could keep them in there. Another video exhibit showed the artist from 2006 to 2015, a monitor for each year, carrying his mother for as long as he possibly could. The last exhibit we saw was a mannequin wearing a suit and a monkey mask holding a screen with a video loop of himself putting various animal masks on and muttering to himself. "Mummy, this is actually freaking me out," Charlie whispered in my ear, our cue to go. Back in Invercargill we checked out the new Bill Richardson Transport World on Tay Street in Invercargill. We spent over three hours in there one rainy day! Vintage vehicles aren't generally my thing but it is an interesting enormous place and we couldn't drag the boys out of the Lego playroom. Outside the Lego playroom is an old timey paddy wagon, a jail, and a trunk full of cops-and-robbers dress-ups. The décor in the bathrooms and at The Grille Café is unique and the café has another playroom so you can eat and keep an eye on the little ones. Definitely worth a visit if you're looking for something new to do in Invercargill, and super fun for kids.

—Jess



Photo by Carolyn Squires



Do you know where this is?

Can you name this wee island?

Photo by Jess



New kiosk at the war memorial Photo by Jess

TODD & CO REALTY

Stewart Island Real Estate

For all local listings

houses, cribs, sections and blocks of land.

See our website www.locations.co.nz

or contact our local representative

Jeanette Mackay on 027 681 8589

for current listings.

Need a Resource Consent?

... I can help!

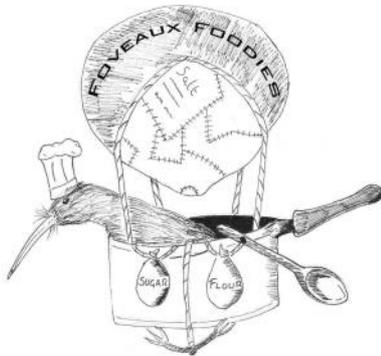
**40 years' experience in local government
and I know how to achieve results.**

- planning
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Foveaux Foodies update:

*Knock knock!
Who's there?
Jamaican.
Jamaican who?
Jamaican me hungry!*

Stacey Wilford and Kath Kain hosted Jamaican Night at Kathy's cosy Horseshoe Bay home and it was a night of mouth-watering "yardie" food. The menu included Stacy's oxtail stew; Kate Hamilton's goat shanks; Sharon Hensman's chicken curry and Mel Miller's spicy chicken drumsticks; and mince (venison) patties. We all started with Tash's amazing coconut-bean soup. The desserts included an over-the-top upside down pineapple cake made by Kathy with candied ginger, green bananas, coconut, and pecans. It was insanely delicious. There was also coconut-lime pie and a ginger loaf with fresh bananas.

No, we didn't put the "pot" in pot-luck and yes, we listened to Bob

Marley most of the evening. No rum drinks, but there was rum in the patty meat filling, and the glaze on the patty pastry was a mixture of egg yolk and rum and here is a very short bad poem summing up that recipe: Rum, Yum.

Once again I got to eat food I've never before tasted. I've never been chomping at the bit to dine on oxtail or goat, but they were both beautifully prepared. The oxtail stew was delicious, and the goat shanks were lovely and tender, falling off the bone.

The patties, a savoury turnover, are the basic Jamaican snack and I loved them and would definitely make them again. It was satisfying using rarely-used spices along with good old thyme... I'm not going to say that sometimes I think my box of cardamom is watching me resentfully from the shelf as I choose every spice but it... that would sound paranoid and crazy. But I will say I was happy to finally use the cardamom, ditto turmeric and allspice. And this is the first time I've used rum as an ingredient in a savoury dish. I used Emeril Lagasse's recipe off the internet, substituting venison mince for beef and highly recommend the dish. Might replace my pies at the next bake stall...

Jamaican food has such interesting combinations of spices, and this description of the patty from Wik-

ipedia explains why the cuisine is such a fusion of flavours: "The beef patty is a product of colonialism and migration developed after the introduction of the Cornish pasty in the Caribbean, mixed with cumin and curry seasonings of Indian indentured servants in Jamaica and cayenne pepper from African slaves. The firecracker taste of the Scotch bonnet, a hot pepper indigenous to Jamaica, sealed the flavour."

Speaking of hot peppers, the food was spicy and hot but nothing too intense.

Personally I thought the worst thing about the evening was my dress, which was unforgiving (no elastic waistband) and I could have suffered a wardrobe malfunction after second helpings of everything and I think sneaky third portions of the chicken dishes, but who's counting? (Actually, turns out Stacey is).

There were a lot of laughs, sorting out the world, spontaneous massages and spilt hair dye and I've already said too much...hey, what happens at Jamaican Night stays at Jamaican Night!

There are more dinners being organized, possibly two for this month, so if you're interested, join Foveaux Foodies on FB or chat with me or Shona for details.

—Jess Kany

Museum Matters by Jo Riksem

Carrying on from last month's theme another "Buried Treasure."



Holloway's Ointment jar

One of the items donated by the Rout family many years ago says that it will cure most problems. At the end of the 1860's the business started by Thomas Holloway moved to 533 Oxford Street, London where it remained until the 1880's.

Smaller pots are commonly found and this one has the trademark seated lady wearing a white robe and flanked by a snake, the symbol for healing. At her left knee is a small child holding a banner that reads 'Never Despair'.

The images are of Hygeia, the goddess of health, and Hygeia's baby brother Telesphorus, the demi-god of convalescence, who is suppose to bring fulfilment of recuperation and complete recovery from illness.



Rout's home, Myrtle Cottage on the left.

We had a special helper over the school holidays, Tommy Dobbins, who came in each day and worked with Bev Cowie on housing objects in special crates. We really appreciated his help and we think he learned a lot too. Thanks Tommy! Many thanks also to Phred Dobbins for donating time to come in and identify some of the bones in Lockerbie Collection.

We welcome all our visitors to Stewart Island and hope you enjoy our beautiful island.

Winter opening hours;

Monday to Friday 10.00am – 12 noon, Saturday 10:00 - 1:30 pm, Sunday Noon – 2.00pm



PLEASE JOIN TOI RAKIURA AND THE STEWART ISLAND PROMOTION ASSOCIATION FOR THE EXHIBITION OPENING OF

47° SOUTH
FRIDAY 13TH MAY 2016
7:00PM – 9:00PM
AT THE STEWART ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

EXHIBITION IS OPEN AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE SATURDAY 14TH & SUNDAY 15TH MAY 10AM – 4PM



RAFFLE

Framed limited edition Stanley Palmer print 'Antipodean Albatross'

\$5 per ticket (drawn 15th May)
 Print on display and tickets sold at Glowing Sky
 A Stewart Island Promotion Assn fundraiser.

Stewart Island Promotion Association (SIPA) are working towards having a local events page on their website, www.stewartisland.co.nz which gets over 100,000 hits per year. The purpose of this page is to inform both locals and visitors to the Island of upcoming public events on the Island.

SIPA would like to encourage community organisations to utilise this page for promoting public events to visitors and the wider Rakiura community. The criteria for listing an event is as follows:

- Event run by a not-for-profit organisation and/or not for commercial gain
- Event must be open to the public.
- Event must be a one-off event.

Please note that the decision to list an event is at the discretion of the SIPA Executive Committee. If you have an event you wish to list, please contact Kirsten at the SDC office or on promotion@stewartisland.co.nz or Jo on visitus@stewartisland.co.nz.



Sarah's Rakiura Remarks

We were prepared – dressed in our puffer jackets and wrapped in winter woollies. However, Rakiura had other plans and turned on a beautiful day for us to welcome the Prime Minister.

As your local MP it was a pleasure to host RT Hon John Key during his time in the south. As part of his time here, we spent much of it in Rakiura.

The PM, who last visited the island when he was just 10, enjoyed his visit. Stewart Island locals extended a warm, friendly welcome and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for making our trip so special.

The day couldn't have started better with freshly baked scones and tea courtesy of Ann Sutherland as we cruised with Ian and Philippa Wilson aboard the Aurora from Oban to Big Glory Bay. Mollyhawks swooped over the waves and flanked the vessel.

We visited Sanford Limited's salmon and oyster farms. Staff spoke about the salmon farm operation and the fantastic climatic conditions that enable it to produce the high-quality salmon it is renowned for.

At the oyster farm we sampled some expertly smoked salmon as well as Bluff oysters. The Prime Minister was particularly excited about this part of the trip given his love of oysters. He happily tucked into the delicacy straight from the shell, alongside a freshly made dip.

I've said it many times – aquaculture is an exciting industry

for Southland which continues to attract people and skills and there is a huge opportunity for continued growth in the region.

Sanford Limited employs more than 20 staff in Stewart Island and about another 80 in Bluff, plus indirect jobs. About 20 per cent of the country's \$100 million salmon industry comes from Sanford Limited. This Government is right behind New Zealand's top quality aquaculture industry, ensuring we help it grow while balancing it with care for the environment.

Next stop was Ulva Island where Department of Conservation staff showed us around and talked about conservation, tourism, and pest control efforts on the island. As a member of the Bluegreens, who often speaks about conservation in Wellington, it was a privilege to bring the PM to a place that is living and breathing conservation and eco-tourism daily.

We finished off the day with a fabulous cultural experience courtesy of a kapa haka performance by Halfmoon Bay School and an opportunity to chat with the students. The students questioned the PM on a range of topics from policy to issues facing isolated communities, right down to questions about the PM's pets. There are some very talented young people living on Rakiura!

Once again thank you to the people of Rakiura for a great day. The Prime Minister is looking forward to bringing his family to the island for a holiday, as let's face it, the island is one of the most beautiful places in New Zealand!

—Sarah Dowie, MP



Stewart Island Resident Hunter Survey 2016

Eighteen hunters responded to 10 questions relating to their hunting experience during the 2015 year. The answers are summarised below.

1. How many years have you hunted whitetail deer:

Answers ranged from 1 – 60 years. Total years hunted = 368 years with an average of 20 years per hunter.

2. How many days did you do some hunting?

Answers ranged from 0 to two hunters who hunted 100 days.
Total days hunted 703 days, average of 39 days hunting per hunter

3. How many days did you hunt on Conservation Land.

Total 383 days, average of 21 days hunting per hunter.
54% of the hunting was done on conservation land.

4. How many whitetail deer did you kill during 2015?

A total of 179 deer with an average of 10 per hunter. Or roughly one deer for every four days hunting.

5. In assessing how important venison is as a source of meat

4 hunters consumed all the venison they shot while 14 gave some venison away.

6. As a percentage of their meat consumption:

11 consumed venison more than once a week
3 consumed venison once a week
4 consumed venison more than once a month.

7. When asked to estimate the percentage venison was of their meat consumption:

10% = 1	20% = 1	30% = 3	40% = 2	50% = 3
60% = 2	70% = 3	80% = 2	90% = 1	

For 63% of respondents venison makes up half or more of the meat consumption.

8. If the predator Free Fence is erected and brodifacoum poison is used there could be a three year period of no consumption of any venison within the area fenced. Will this affect you?

16 hunters (89%) said yes. Two said no. Neither of those two hunts within the proposed fence area. Of those that do hunt the 'fenced area' 100% would be adversely affected.

Some of the comments:

- “Dramatically. We are very financially dependent on catching our own food. As retail meat too expensive, we would increase reliance on fish & shellfish”
- “I won't feel safe enough to eat any”
- “It's presence (Whitetail) as a food supply is a vital aspect to maintaining our ability to reside on Rakiura.”
- “Will not be able to hunt local spots”

9. Do you have any comments about Red Deer on Rakiura?

“Reds are in low numbers therefore sought after as a nice change to whitetail and produce more meat per kill”
 “Any deer is meat on the table to feed my family, I see more whitetail than red”
 “I think that the way they are hunted at this moment is OK i.e. hunters keeping numbers low”
 “If Red Deer can be shown to have a significant adverse impact on Rakiura ecology, and provided the whitetail herd remains available for hunting, I don't have any problem with having Rakiura red deer exterminated”.
 Most commented on red deer being in low numbers but enjoyed being able to hunt another species.

10. Would you support Whitetail deer being declared a Herd of Special Interest on Rakiura?

16 hunters (89%) said yes, two said no.

Clearly there are a number of very experienced whitetail hunters living at Halfmoon Bay.

As 72% of the respondents reported they gave away some venison it may be the case venison is also an important source of meat for non hunter families.

SHOP TALK by Jules Retberg

Summer Lovin'

We've all had that awful stomach churning feeling when we can't find something that's important to us. The usual "safe place" has been checked, double- and triple-checked to no avail. Bags and pockets are searched, only to reveal a rubber band, bent paper clip, an old five cent piece and empty chewing gum wrapper.

"Where did you leave it?", says some smarty pants. "Well, if I knew that ...", is usually your exasperated reply and depending on your relationship with said smarty pants, is likely to contain some four letter words - 'help' is not usually one of them.

So I really feel for visitors when they come into the shop and anxiously ask, "Did I leave my camera in here?". They're on a once in a lifetime trip to New Zealand, the camera contains ALL their photos, and they are beside themselves.

A harrowed grey face can be transformed into a pink relieved one, simply by returning a credit card that was abandoned on the counter, to its rightful owner.

Farther down the agitation scale is, "I've lost my glasses, have they been handed in?", usually paired with slight embarrassment and a squint as they try to focus on the person they're asking.

But this season we've had some very different things left in the shop, although all running along one theme.

This flash gold number pictured here was one of them. Nothing wrong with that of course, it's good to know people are protecting themselves. When it comes to paying for groceries, people often empty the contents of their wallet on the counter and it's not always cash and cards that spill out. This was left on the counter after such an event. As the customer reached the door to exit the shop I picked up the shiny gold packet and held it aloft, with the words "you've left something" hovering on my tongue but when I realised what it was, I decided that yelling across the shop wasn't the best course of action.



On a different occasion a customer felt the need to empty his pockets of change on the counter, complete with pocket fluff and little blue Viagra pill. His invitation to "take what you want" from the motley collection prompted me merely to take all the twenty cent pieces as payment for his goods!



Just a few weeks later yet another condom was found on the floor, this time beside the chocolate.

All I hope is that both owners of the mislaid condoms realised they were missing before they were needed. As for Mr Blue Pill Man, I hope he got lucky somewhere else.

If you're going away this winter, stay safe on holiday. We sell sunscreen, insect repellent, condoms, camera cards, reading glasses - and memory sticks.



Bill Oddie OBE
Follow that bird



Bill Oddie re-enacts his life time journey from delinquent egg collector, to wrestling with puffins and insulting the Queen. Suitable for a family audience, especially those of a nervous disposition.

One of the iconic comedy trio The Goodies, Bill Oddie is an author, actor, comedian, artist, naturalist and musician. He has become one of Britain's leading public activists for conservation and has produced and starred in many wildlife series for the BBC.



Ticketed events have limited seat numbers so book online to avoid disappointment.
www.royalsociety.org.nz/billoddie

6.30 pm Saturday 21st May
South Sea Hotel

Bill will be entertaining visitors to the bar from his life story of birding experience with his usual wry, comedic twist. (Nibbles provided courtesy of the South Sea Hotel).

Entry: Donation to support conservation work on the island.



SIRCET update by Kelly Bunce

Technology has been keeping us busy these past couple of months, SIRCET has purchased another 30 A24 Goodnature automatic re-setting rat traps which brings our total of A24 traps in our Core Zone to 100! We have been strategically moving around our existing A24's and with the addition of the 30 new traps we have achieved a grid of automatic rat traps that we are hoping will keep rat numbers under control in the Core Project Zone without trapping in this area by other means such as with the Victor Rat trap . The A24 is a self-resetting multi-species kill trap. It resets itself after each humane kill up to 24 times per CO2 canister. Goodnature traps kill instantly meaning no suffering and have been tested to meet the highest humane standards. They can now also be baited with 'auto' lure, this lure uses a technology that releases the lure slowly for six months which keeps it fresh. So a huge benefit of these traps is saving time, they can be left for six months before servicing is required. We had our monitoring tunnels open in late April so we could get an idea of rat activity before we stopped using the Victor traps. Our rat monitoring came back with a fantastic result of 0%, so we will continue to monitor in the Core Zone to gauge if the A24's can keep rat numbers under control. During this time we continue to trap in our Buffer Zone and the Community Zone with Victor Rat traps.

Another advance in technology has been our new live cat traps that have been developed by Peter Tait. We have eight traps that are battery powered and charged by solar panels, when the trap is triggered the trap notifies us by text message. We are now able to have our traps open for longer periods of time without the need to check them daily. In the last two months we have removed three feral cats from the Core Zone! I would like thank Peter for all of his time and effort that went in to developing such an intelligent trap.

Our historical data shows every year we see a spike in rats trapped in March through to May and this year is no different. It's a good time of year to be setting traps around your house - they're hungry and keen to enter a trap so it's a great time to get them before they set up camp in your roof for winter! Contact Kelly (Kelly@sircet.org.nz or 0278382300) if you would like to purchase a trap from us for \$20.



A24 trap in the Core Zone (photo by Willy Gamble)

STEWART ISLAND –RAKIURA COMMUNITY BOARD *from Jon Spraggon*

ROADING

New road markings have finally been painted on the main wharf in Halfmoon Bay and on Elgin Terrace. Parking spaces have been relocated to the opposite side of Elgin Terrace and NO PARKING areas marked on the main Wharf. Motorists and pedestrians alike are asked to comply with the new layout, in particular the no parking area at the entrance to the wharf and the designated pedestrian areas. Further changes may be required so as to ensure all operations on the wharf can comply with the Health and Safety rules. Your co-operation is appreciated.

SIESA

The underground cable from the Power Station to the Mill Creek Bridges has been completed and should now be operational. This is part of a renewal/upgrade project which when completed will ensure a more reliable electricity supply to consumers, in particular the Halfmoon Bay business area.

WAR MEMORIAL

Recently an information Kiosk was erected beside the memorial on the foreshore. Funded by community funding, the 4 panels inside record the lives of members of the island community who lost their lives in World War 1 and 2. These histories were compiled by senior students from the Halfmoon Bay School.

A note from our new nurse

Hi. My name is Lisa. I am the new permanent clinical nurse specialist working alongside Marti in the Stewart Island Health Clinic. I have been nursing for about 13 years. I completed my degree in Wellington back in 2003 and spent six years working in Wellington Hospital on the surgical / medical wards. I then moved over into general practice when I shifted up to the Wairarapa.

I moved to Murchison three years later when the opportunity arose to do the Primary Response in Medical Emergency training there. I have

kept this current working at Greenwood Medical Centre in Motueka.

I have three grown children. My daughter lives in Taieri Mouth with her husband and two young children. She is a paramedic and is working towards her advanced certification. My oldest son lives with his partner and 6 month old daughter in Brisbane, and has his own landscaping business. My youngest boy lives in Carterton with his fiancé, and is laboring.

My role here on Stewart Island includes smoking cessation coach, smear taker and immunizer. If you

have any questions about any of these services, or the other services Marti and I provide, don't hesitate to pop in or give us a call.

Marti and I will be working together on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays so these are good days to pop in for flu injections or other immunizations as we both need to be here to give these.

I'd like to thank everyone for being so welcoming. I look forward to getting to know each of you as I settle in.

—Lisa Harkness

Southland Community Environment Awards

Event Date: 11/04/2016 to 13/05/2016

Environment Southland wants to recognise and reward your achievements in enhancing our environment.

We know that many community groups, schools, families and individuals are taking action in their own backyards to make a significant difference to their environment. Businesses, farmers and industries are also adopting good environmental practices.

You can nominate yourself or a group/business/farm/school that you're involved with, or someone else whose activities are benefitting the environment. If you are putting forward someone else, they must sign the form so we can be sure they agree to being nominated.

ELIGIBILITY

All projects/activities must either be located in the Southland region, have been developed in Southland or be of demonstrable benefit to Southland's environment.

Previous nominees and highly commended nominees may be nominated again. Please note however, that the judges will be looking for significant advances or improvements in ongoing projects that have been considered for an award previously.

CLOSING DATE AND JUDGING

Entries must be received by Friday 13 May.

Nominees will receive a follow-up call to confirm receipt of the nomination and to discuss the process for judging. Judges will make site visits to meet nominees/assess projects and activities between 19 May and 15 June.

PRIZES & AWARDS CEREMONY

Courtesy of our sponsors, the winning entries will receive prizes that include cash, travel, native plants, legal and financial services. Every nominee will be invited to the award ceremony at the Ascot Park Hotel, Invercargill, on Thursday 28 July, when the winners will be announced.

Stewart Island Ferry Service

Timetable - May

From Halfmoon Bay

Daily departing 8.00am and 3.00pm

From Bluff

Daily departing 9.30am and 4.30pm

Timetable - June, July, August & September

Monday, Thursday & Friday

From Halfmoon Bay

8.00am

From Bluff

4.30pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday

From Halfmoon Bay

8.00am and 3.00pm

From Bluff

9.30am and 4.30pm

Sunday

From Halfmoon Bay

3.00pm

From Bluff

4.30pm

Ferry Terminal Office & Freight Depot Hours

Monday – Saturday

7.00am - 11.00am 1.30pm - 6.30pm

Closed between 11.00am and 1.30pm

Sunday

1.30pm - 6.00pm



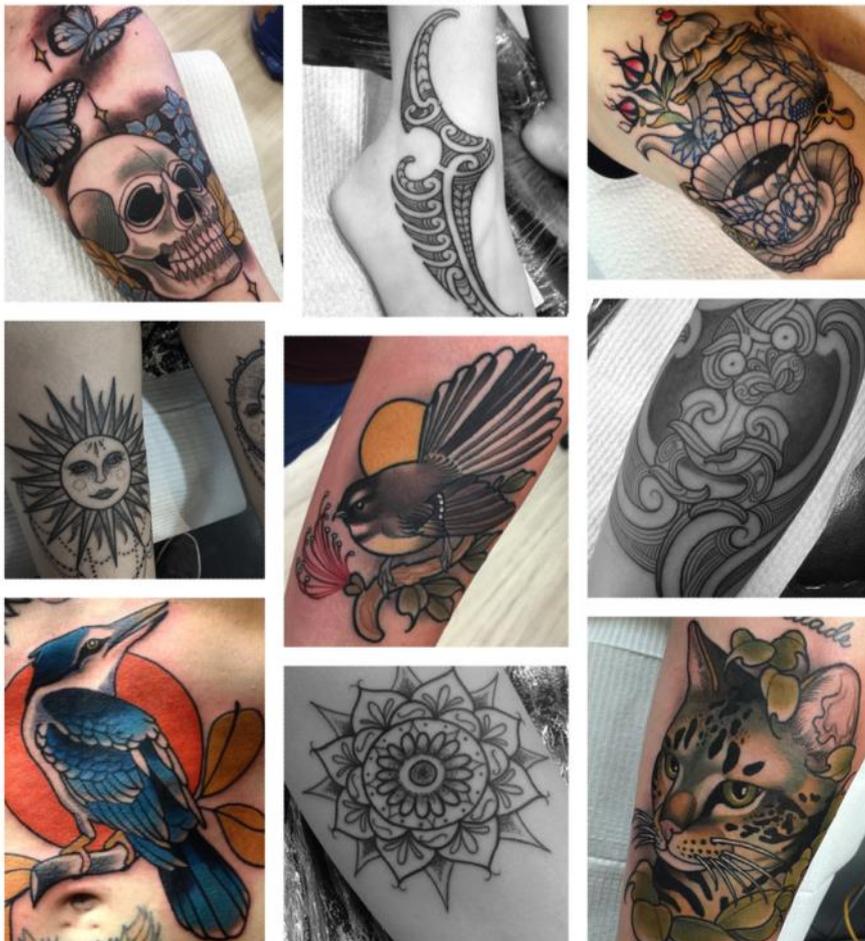
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THRONE ROOM TATTOO



Throne Room Tattoo will be visiting Stewart Island for a guest spot hosted by Vicki's Stewart Island Backpackers 18 Ayr Street.

We will be tattooing from 10am until late in the evening on Saturday the 21st and Sunday the 22nd of May. We have 3 artists with pre-drawn designs of all relevant themed designs such as: native New Zealand plants animals aquatic life, scenery and nautical themed pieces; as well as a few other trending designs such as: mandalas and geometric pieces. We will also have Jay Davis, who is one of the best in New Zealand at Maori Ta Moko, he has learnt the art traditionally in Maori History at Te Wharekura o Arowhenua and he can freehand the moko on the spot. Due to the tight time schedule we will not be doing any custom drawn designs (besides from Jays freehand Moko) on the day but will have many of our original 1 off designs to choose from! There will be no bookings or consultations required prior to the day and will be tattooing on a first in first served walk-in basis. to check out our work you can visit our facebook page "Throne Room Tattoo" we look forward to seeing you there!

Dogs can KILL kiwi and penguins. Please do not let your dog wander. Please report wandering dogs to 0800 732 732



Did you see the dog cyclist when she visited? Leisa and her dog Indy cycled the length of New Zealand to raise money and awareness for a variety of charities. To be clear, Leisa cycled and Indy the beautiful border collie/Bernese mountain dog rode in a specially made bike trailer. For more info and pix go to www.leisaindynczcharitycyclejourney.com

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 Phone: 0274 991 881



Above: PM John Key and MP Sarah Dowie chat with Principal Kath Johnson at HMB School.
 Below: Some laughs with the students.

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Experienced, reliable handyman (ex Green Acres contractor) available for work on the island

Handyman Services

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Lawn mowing | Building dog kennels, chook runs etc. |
| Line trimming | Building/assembling garden sheds etc |
| Section maintenance | General carpentry |
| Weed spraying (certified applicator) | Gutter cleaning |
| Tree pruning | Moss and mould treatment |
| Tree removal | Water blasting |
| Chainsaw work | Spider proofing |
| Hedge trimming | Rose pruning |
| Wooden fence and deck construction | |
| Wooden fence and deck repair | And more - just ask |

Office Services

can also be provided

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Bookkeeping | Brochure, flyer & business card design & printing |
| Office administration | |

If you want something done, and don't see it in the lists above, just give me ring. You may be surprised just what I can do.



Contact
 Geoff

Stewart Island Handyman Services



Phone 973 0959 (Local Number) Mobile 027 253 3106
 Email handyman@acadia.co.nz



Stewart Island News is published on a monthly basis as material permits.
Please send articles and enquiries to Jess Kany at PO Box 156 Stewart Island or email to stewartislandnews@yahoo.com

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