

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

October 2017

\$3.00

Volunteers will be working at Moturau Moana gardens from October 16-20th. Please stop by to say hello or lend a hand, and any goodies would be most welcome (ice cream, baking, etc.). These lovely people work hard to beautify the park, this year they are focussing on a tidy-up of the carpark.

Mill Creek is busy this time of year. Whitebaiting is a hobby for some and a serious passion for others. Not just the netting techniques but the making-of-the-fritter. Are you a purist: just egg and a touch of flour? Or are you a bit herby and let some parsley in the batter? Any loony lemon zesters out there? Are you a sacrilegious spicer desecrating the mix with cumin and cayenne??? If you believe you have THE whitebait recipe, send it to SIN and "share with the class." For more about whitebait ecology and rules see page 14.

DoC has completed their annual "poo suck". Last year we had a quiz on items removed from track potties. This year we've got a (cue trumpets) *Mystery Object*. See page 15.

What's going on with talk of aquaculture at Pegasus? Find out the latest developments at a public meeting on 30th October and have your say (details page 3). FYI, opponents to the proposal have started a page on Facebook called SNAP (Stop! No Aquaculture at Pegasus).

We can't be bored when we have so many boards... paddle boards, boogie boards, kiteboards. Spring is definitely here with lots of sunny days and more trampers on the roads. It's nice to see so many visitors zooming around on Pete's electric bikes.

The Talent Show was a big success: standing room only and plenty of acts to entertain the crowd. There wasn't a dry eye when Zac Chittenden gave a heartfelt and very moving rendition of *You Raise Me Up* on violin and vocals with his mum's accompaniment on piano. And there wasn't a dry eye at the end of the night when Dids performed, but for a very different reason... the crowd was crying with laughter! Needless to say Zac and Dids won their respective categories, for complete results see page 7.

Happy Birthday to....SIN! Little old SIN turns 30 this year, read more about the history of the Stewart Island News on page 11.

Farwell and best of luck to the Squires-Ganley family: Bridget, Eamonn, Maia, Liam and Hazel have relocated to Tasmania.

The Dobbins family had the good fortune of seeing this little kiwi family (below) at Port Adventure this month. Turn to the backside to see their backsides. *Photos from Phred and Belinda*



Why is Dan Lee tipping booze off a boat? Find out in his salty tale of a boat renaming below.

Sailors. Bloody superstitious lot... I know... I used to be one... I'll give you some examples of what sailors of old found to be bad luck: Whistling into the wind. Flat footed people. Shaving at sea. Losing a hat overboard. Bananas. Sailing on Thursdays or Fridays (or, presumably, any day where the local pub has a happy hour); painting a boat green; opening a tin from the bottom; women on a boat; large chunks of egg shells; and passing a cellar of salt directly into another sailor's hand.

Perhaps the most well-known one among us is this: It's bad luck to rename a boat.

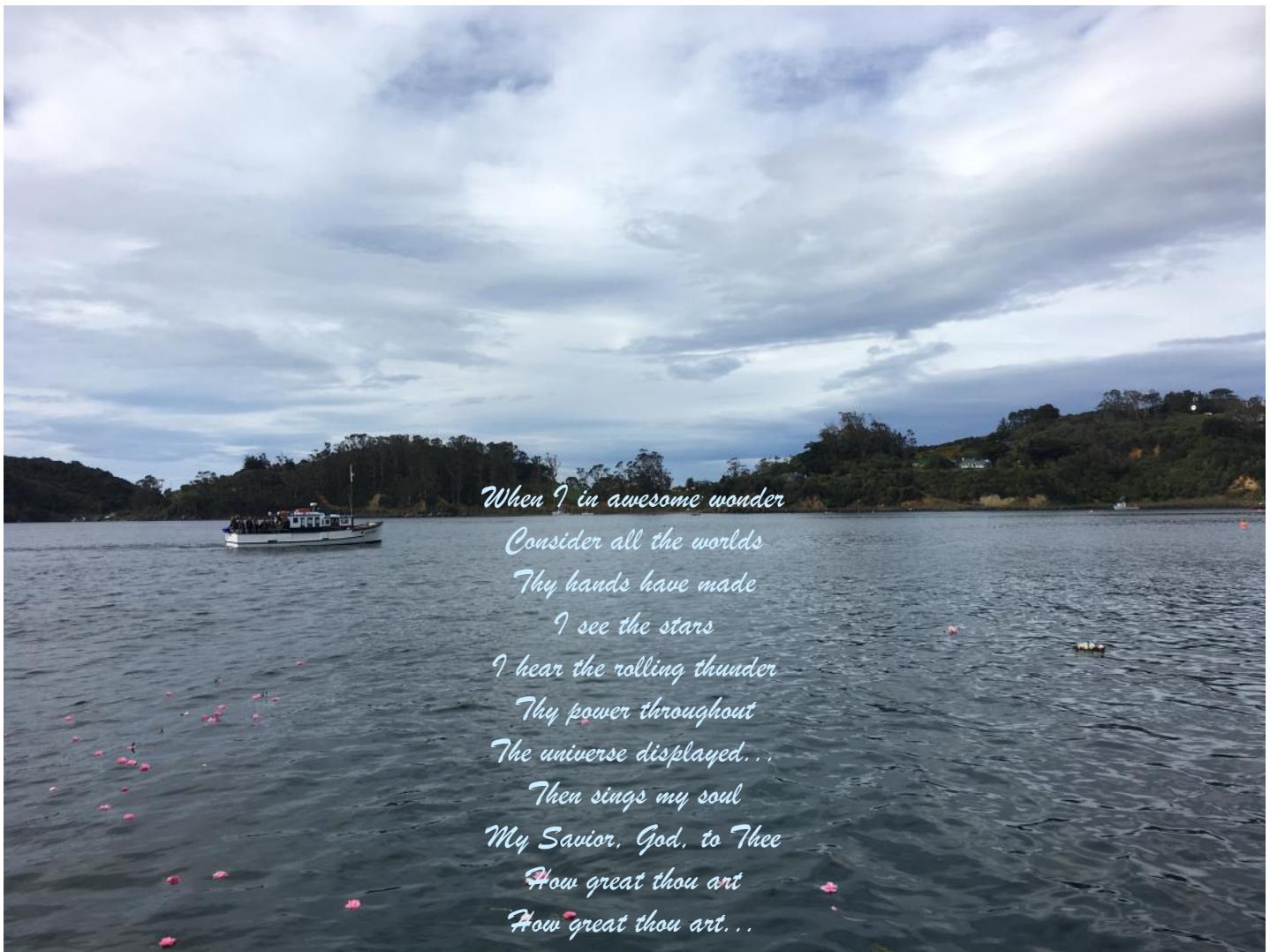
But what if your boat has a really awful name?

Fairwind. It's the sort of name you expect to find on a lovely clean yacht that never leaves harbour unless it's below 10 knots lest you spill your G and T. So I decided to rename it. Yes. It is possible, with great care!

First, one must pick a new name, and from the moment I saw her I knew what she should be called: Temeraire. Any sailors or history buffs among you might recognise the name. It is a French word, meaning reckless, and any google search will re-

(Continued on page 3)





Family, friends and neighbours farewelled Marion Whipp last month in a beautiful ceremony just out of Halfmoon Bay. Within sight of her home of more than 60 years, four boats, including *Loloma* carrying Marion's family, rafted together on the calm waters of Foveaux Strait. When the engines had all been cut and the ropes and fenders sorted, Beryl Wilcox officiated the ceremony, speaking of the long and fruitful life of a lovely lady and beloved member of the community.

Afterwards, her family scattered her ashes in the sea, followed by wreaths of roses. The strains of Marion's favourite tune, Howard Morrison's *How Great Thou Art*, came from the *Loloma*, and then a piano piece she played: *Für Elise*. Amidst the notes of Beethoven, sniffles, and the cries of gulls, everyone stepped to the rails. We threw red roses (they comprised Marion's wedding bouquet), pink camelias (her favourites which she grew prolifically), rosemary for remembrance, petals for prettiness, and a magnificent magnolia (for magnificence).

Afterwards everyone went to the South Sea Hotel for hot drinks and baked goodies. The previous night a group of local women each picked one of Marion's famous recipes from the Oban Presbyterian cookery book and made it for the day. Platters of yo yos, miracles and caramallow shortbread greeted mourners. A board featuring a montage of photos from Marion's life was framed by the amazing sugar roses she herself sculpted. It was a bittersweet occasion, heavy on the *sweet* thanks to the outpouring of love (and baking).

It takes a village to say goodbye and this village rallied to make the day perfect. Carolyn, Richard and all of Marion's family would like to thank everyone who stepped up and helped, from the offers of boats to the baking and every little thing between.



Invitation to attend Public Meeting



Southland Regional
Development Strategy
TE IWİ ME ORANGA RAUEMI

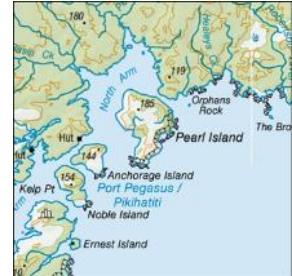
SoRDS invites the Stewart Island community to a meeting on the Port Pegasus North Arm salmon farming feasibility project. This is an opportunity to hear about the key findings and ask questions.

Mayor Gary Tong will chair the meeting.

Date: Monday 30 October (revised date)

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: RSA Pavillion, Stewart Island



(Boat renaming *Continued from page 1*)

veal the name has a long history with the Royal Navy. The first two vessels to bear that name were French built warships captured by the British during various engagements, but perhaps the most famous was the third ship of the name. Built in the UK in 1798, she sailed immediately astern of HMS Victory in the Battle of Trafalgar and was immortalised as the Fighting Temeraire, back when the ships were made of wood and it was the men that were made of steel.



For me, the name has a second meaning. I served on 'T' class submarines... Tireless, Triumph, Trafalgar and so on, but no Temeraire (Currently, HMS Temeraire is the name of a shore establishment where naval PTI's go to learn how to do squats in short shorts without needing medical attention afterwards. Such a fall from grace). My grandfather also served on an old 'T' class boat, HMS Tiptoe (very apt name for a submarine!), and so I decided it was high time I had my very own 'T' boat.

Of course, it is not as easy as scraping the old name off and painting a new one on. There is a ceremony which must be performed! Firstly, you must wipe the old name from The Ledger of the Deep, the tome in which all vessels that sail upon the sea are kept, in a denaming ceremony. To do this you must erase all evidence of the old name from the boat. Markings, paperwork, fenders, radios, sticker... Anything that has the old name must be removed. Then you ask the god of the sea (and if I were back in England I would have asked Neptune, or Poseidon, but down here, Tangaroa is in

charge of the blue) to forget the old name of your boat, and throw a token bearing that name into the sea, so that it be dissolved forever.

At this point, you are at sea, on a vessel with no name which, unsurprisingly, is bad luck, so you must again ask the god of the sea to accept the new name with all the ceremonial respect you can muster, asking for safe passage and good tides by which you may sail.

But it does not end there, for vessels at sea are also at the mercy of the winds and so you must appease the god of the winds, Tawhirimatea, asking for permission to use his mighty powers in pursuit of your lawful endeavours and be spared the scourge of his mighty breath.

And so, a few weeks ago, I set sail for Kaipipi Inlet on the vessel formerly known as *Fairwind* with crew and passengers, including some women (I was about to rename a boat, so, I didn't have much to lose, right?) A dozen people bore witness to the denaming and renaming ceremony which involved a lot of offerings to the gods in the form of speeches followed by an excerpt of Henry Newbolt's poem. Some of Ship to Shore's finest champagne was offered unto the sea, while Venezuela's finest rum poured down

the thirsty throats of the Captain and crew in the hope that *Temeraire*, while not exactly itching to fight armadas of foreign warships, would still be able to take me and some mates down the coast for some fishing and hunting trips every so often.

Well, by the time we headed back to Watercress, the wind was getting up but we moored up without any trouble. I knew things would be just fine but even so, the next day I decided to take a stroll along the local walking tracks and past Watercress bay, just to make sure...

Thanks to Luke, Steve, Matt, Emily and all those who had the guts to sail with me so far, and have lent me a huge hand in sorting the boat out down here. If any you locals hear I am heading out for a day's sail and fancy it, just tap me on the shoulder. Unless I get a faraway look in my eye and suddenly yell 'TEN DEGREES DOWN BUBBLE, KEEP TWO HUNDRED METERS, AYE SIR!', we should have a good time...



**St Andrew's Anglican Church.
10 Excelsior Road,
Stewart Island
* Church established, 1900**



Labour Weekend , St Andrew's Anglican Church, "Open Day " 1030 Saturday until Sunday evening.
Self guide leaflet available in the Church or Church Hall – the former church on" the Neck"
Your chance to view bronze bells including the "Wohlers" bell and other relics historically significant to the Foveaux area. Take the old cobble Pilgrims Way beside the museum with care
Church service held on Sunday and every 4th Sunday of the month.
Please check Public Notice Board for details. Warden, Iris Tait 032191151

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Bunkhouse **THEATRE**

The Bunkhouse Theatre will be open for daily screenings of A Local's Tail on Friday 20th October.

Show Me Shorts, NZ premiere short film festival, will be back at the Bunkhouse Theatre again this year. Commencing in January 2018.

While you wait for its return, Stewart Island will be part of shnit CINEMAS. shnit is a worldwide short film festival that unfolds simultaneously in multiple cities on five continents. The Bunk-

house Theatre will take part in the CINEMAS program, which gives short film fans an opportunity to watch a selection of nominated films outside of the main host cities.

We will be screening the shnit CINEMAS program on Wednesday 25th & Saturday 28th October 2017 at 7.30pm. To assist Pete (*as he will be on his own*) please purchase tickets in advance.

For more information check out <http://shnit.org>.

STEWART ISLAND – RAKIURA COMMUNITY BOARD

from Jon Spraggon

SIGNAGE

A new sign with the Stewart Island Brand will shortly be erected at the wharf to greet people as they arrive off the ferry. It is hoped that signage will also be erected at Golden Bay and on the Road from the Airstrip in the future.

FOOTPATH

The contract has been let for a new footpath from the Fuchsia Walk to Rankin Street, along the road edge of Traill Park has been awarded and it is hoped to have this project well underway prior to Christmas. This has been funded from Visitor Levy Funds.

PARKING

The Board is still seeking responses from the residents, ratepayers and visitors alike as to future requirements for parking and possible parking restrictions on the island. Drop your ideas in to Kirsten at the Council Off ice in the Library or email them to:-
[Kirsten.hicks@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:kirsten.hicks@southlanddc.govt.nz)

WALKING TRACK

Work has started on the formation of a new walking creek from beside the Mill Creek Bridges to Bathing Beach. This is being funded from Visitor Levy Funds.

PUBLIC TELEPHONE

At a recent meeting the Board agreed to enter into an agreement that will result in the public call phone on Main Road being retained. Long term we are working to have this upgraded to being a Spark Free Wifi Site but we have several hurdles to cover before this will be possible.

Dogs can kill kiwi and penguins.
**Please do not let your dog
wander.**
Report wandering dogs to
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Rakiura Maori Lands Trust has a successful year.

The most notable success RMLT had in 2016 was the business partnership we entered into with Real Journeys to purchase the Kiwi spotting business from Philip Smith. Real Journeys runs the day to day operations of the Wild Kiwi Encounters Partnership. While there were some initial teething issues, Real Journeys report that the numbers were better than forecast. We are expecting them to make some exciting announcements about more investment into the operation in the near future.

This year RMLT received national recognition from the Minister of Maori Affairs for its pest eradication work on the Neck to allow for the further development of tourism operations . This included a grant of \$50k for the project.

In keeping with our desire to be a valued member of the Rakiura community, we supported an application of \$70k for the Rakiura Museum. The new museum will house a collection of history and artefacts relating to our tipuna and whenua.

We are also supporting the proposed Rakiura track race which we believe will be a great draw card to fitness tourists and showcase the island to the world.

When we meet as a board on Rakiura, we leave time for a forum for locals to come and present ideas, projects, and address any concerns they have. This has helped us strengthen partnerships with other pest eradication and species restorations organisations and locals in general. We will be on the island on the 1- 3 December. If you want to come talk to us about any issue please let Jill Skerrett know.

Our Facebook page has around 400 members and a recent video outlining our work, which was commissioned and paid for by Te Puni Kokiri, has had over 20,000 views. We live streamed some elements of the AGM on Sunday which was very well received. Our website upgrade is nearly complete and we expect it will go live in a couple of months.

The trust is now truly a viable entity with considerable potential and a healthy bank balance but with that comes the responsibility of trustees to continue to manage our enterprise effectively and professionally. Our aim is to increase its worth and provide opportunities for our beneficiaries in the future.

We are also considering the appointment of shadow directors who would largely be younger people who want to learn about governance. If you know of anyone who is interested please contact us.

We are also keeping a watching brief on the government's moves to establish the future of the Port Adventure and Toi Toi blocks and on the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011. This act allows landowners to apply for a customary rights to foreshore based on continuous occupation. Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu has made an application on behalf of us and all Maori landowners in the South Island.

The AGM of RMLT was held on Sunday 8 October. Richard Manning was returned as a trustee and owners say they are very happy with the way the Trust is operating.

Finally, while much of our efforts are focussed on enhancing our environment sometimes nature throws a curve ball. As many of you will know, a very large sperm whale washed up on Ocean beach very near to the kiwi spotting sites. The jaw was removed under supervision by DOC and buried to allow the flesh to decompose. It will take pride of place in the new Rakiura Museum.

We would like to thank the Rakiura Community for their continued support - it is integral to our future success.

Simon Goomes

Books Reviews from Sue Ford



Roisin Meaney's "The Street Where You Live" is a breath of fresh air. Molly, a widow, is a cleaner in the mornings and reads to an elderly blind woman in the afternoon. She and her 29-year old daughter, Emily, seek solace in a choir, a challenge in itself under musical director Christopher – who just happens to be Emily's supermarket manager and one of Molly's clients. He has family problems too, exacerbated when an eccentric new neighbour turns his life upside down, and a new member of the choir successfully invades his life. The theory of degrees of separation is blown open here as we follow Emily, Molly, their friends and acquaintance, each looking

for happiness. Highly recommended for a change of pace.

I don't know how **Alan Carter's "Marlborough Man"** ended because I was too bored to get to half-way! Interesting plot line: an undercover policeman from England is in a sort of witness protection and posted to Havelock in the Marlborough Sounds. But the world is a small place these days and even Marlborough isn't as far from the UK as it used to be. The characters too tired or two-dimensional, I gave up; let me know if you fare better. And I almost gave up with "**The Passion of Dolssa**" by Julie Berry – so pleased I kept on past the rather bitsy beginning! An intriguing look at the effect that religious fanaticism had on 13th century Europe. Dolssa is a religious girl who has 'hallucinations' that Jesus is spending time with her. Her prayers for intercession do seem to work, so she has a reputation as a preacher, healer and all-round 'good woman'. Enter the Inquisition! Meanwhile, three sisters, having lived hand-to-mouth through childhood have finally settled down to lead useful lives – until Dolssa comes into their peaceful existence. I puzzled over the ending – and then the penny dropped! Quite a story, brilliantly told. However, for a true-life drama, I can highly recommend "**Zeitoun**" by Dave Eggers. This is a modern-day horror story, an indictment of U.S. authority – something I have been loath to credit in the past. Topical given the recent destruction in Texas, this is one family's experience of 'Katrina' in New Orleans, and what a shocking tale it is.

Book of the Month **was Jaye Ford's "Blood Secret"**. Rennie has a terrible past culminating in Rennie shooting her father. He didn't die but threatened revenge. He's safely locked away in jail, or he should be... After years of running, Rennie has fallen in love with Max and settled in Haven Bay. She's a talented painter who earns a living working in a cafe, and finally has a circle of friends. She's horrified when Max disappears and she finds her friends have been economical with the truth of Max's past. She can't accept that Max has stolen company money and run off with another woman. And there's the spectre of her father to dog her. So Rennie is going to find Max, whatever the outcome. Taut, tense and not without a little black humour – mostly supplied by Max's 14-year old son! Do try it if psychological thrillers are your thing. Loved it, but loved "**The Lie of the Land**" by Amanda Craig even more! Quentin & Lottie are 'paper millionaires' caught out in the recession, jobless and with a fine house in London on which they can't afford the mortgage nor sell hurriedly in the economic times. And so they can't afford to divorce either. Instead, Lottie's in-laws recommend a little house near them in Devon, in the heart of the romanticised English countryside. But why is the rent on the cottage so low? Yes, there's the background 'who-dunnit', but this novel is sooooo much more. Clever writing, excellent characters, good plot and lots to think about. I'll give it a couple of weeks for you to read, then I want to read it again. Yes, it's that good.



Moturau Moana volunteers. Please stop by Oct 16-20 and lend a hand or bring them some refreshments, it would be much appreciated!

RAKIURA RIDDLE

Aristotle once compared my shape
To a horn lantern without the panes
Pain's what you'll get if you trod upon
Any part of my round pentagon
I've no backbone but plenty of spine
My cousins are dollars my home is the brine
I'm neither hedge nor hog and yet
That is the name that I did get

Yes – Stewart Island Definitely Has Got Talent!

The Rakiura Heritage Centre Trust wishes to thank all the performers who took part in this show to raise funds for our new Museum. Your talent has helped raise a **whopping \$2900!** Thanks also to the audience for attending this event (and more importantly helping to determine the winners) and to all those who volunteered their time to help make the show possible - we couldn't have done it without your assistance.

Results:

Best Junior Act:

Zac Chittenden

1st runner up:

Maia Squires-Ganley

2nd runner up:

Baby Sharks – Rakiura Rugrats

Best Solo Act:

Meg Kenny

Runner up:

Dick Langdon

Best Friends/Family Act:

Angus & Meg Kenny

Runner Up:

DJ Dids & Her Dancers

Best Business/Community Act:

Dads' Joke Off – DOC

Runner Up:

Something About Pies – DOC

Best Stage Presence:

Big Island – Mike & Rebecca

Most Entertaining:

DJ Dids & Her Dancers

Runner Up:

Dads' Joke Off – DOC



Our intention is to make this an annual fundraiser for the Museum, so any feedback on how we could improve this event would be gratefully received – please email

pascoclan@xtra.co.nz – or give your suggestions to Sharon at Glowing Sky.



The Rakiura Heritage Centre Trust would like to especially thank the following sponsors, for helping to make the Stewart Island Has Got Talent show possible:

**Church Hill
Glowing Sky
Pete Ross Auto
Rakiura Jade
Real Journeys
Sanfords
Ship to Shore
Southland Rural Support Trust
South Sea Hotel
Stewart Island Flights
The Stewart Island Gift Shop**



TRUNK or Treat

We will be holding a trunk or treat (location to be confirmed). Decorate your car trunk (boot) and kids dress in their Halloween costumes and go trick or treating from car to car.

All are welcome to join. Have kids but no car...come trick or treating. No kids but wanting to pass out Halloween treats, come with a decorated boot! No car...no problem! Come and join in the festivities!

Where: To be confirmed

When: Saturday October 28 (Sunday if weather isn't playing the game) set up starts at 2:30 and trunk or treating from 3-5pm. You'll have your goblins home for dinner,

If you are planning to decorate your boot or have any questions contact Karin 505 or 027 774 0415

Sarah's Rakiura Remarks *from the office of Sarah Dowie, MP*

Thank you Rakiura for your confidence and for giving me another three years of your support. As your local MP, it is not something I take for granted and I will continue to work hard to deliver for you and our communities that make up Invercargill electorate.

It has been an exciting election campaign and a magnificent result for National. Nearly half of the country voted National. That's a strong endorsement of the direction New Zealand is taking. In the past parliament term, National helped to continue the success of Rakiura. Tourism continues to grow strong on the Island, with visitor numbers exceeding 36,000 annually and set to grow further.

National is committed to making sure the Island can accommodate the growth of the tourism industry. This year and most recently, the Government invested over \$1 million for the development of the Rakiura Heritage Centre.

As a strong vocal supporter of the Centre, I was personally delighted that the Government's investment pushed the development of this modern fit-for-purpose facility over the line.

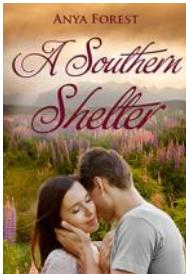
National wants to continue building upon New Zealand's economic growth which is the foundation of so much of our country's success.

The election has helped focus everyone on what this country wants to achieve. National will continue working hard to realise these shared goals for New

Zealand.

We will remain ambitious, and work relentlessly on behalf of all New Zealanders to keep growing the economy, increasing incomes and creating jobs. We have put ourselves in a position where we can achieve sustained economic success. And that's important because having a strong economy means we can make further progress on some of our most challenging, long-term issues – reducing poverty, supporting the most vulnerable and protecting the environment.

It is important New Zealanders can achieve their potential. We can continue creating a nation of opportunities – and we're determined to grasp them with both hands.



New Zealand romance writer Anya Forest has written a series of books called "Across the Strait" set in Southland, Otago, and Stewart Island. Her books A Southern Star, A Southern Shelter, and A Southern Strait are steamy romances with the backdrop of Stewart Island! Check them out at the library and read more about Anya's books at www.anyaforest.com



ELECTRICIAN

We are available to come to Stewart Island for your electrical needs.

**Please phone or email to discuss your requirements
(due to travel costs we would be happy to combine jobs for different residents into a single trip to save costs)**

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Our contact information is on the back page.

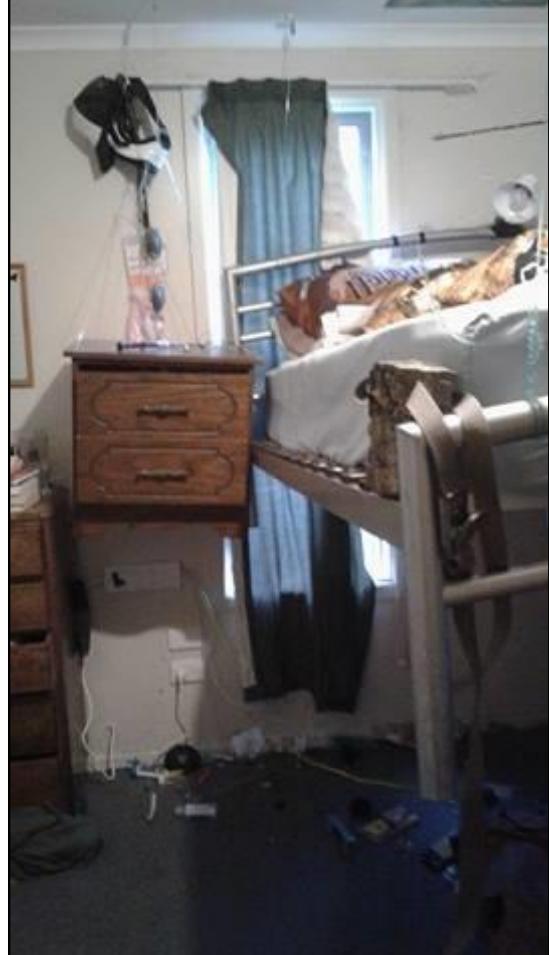
Village Centre, Oban : glowingsky.co.nz



Glowing Sky. Southern Clothing.

The art of the prank is alive and well on the island... George is not a fan of Harry Potter, so last month while he was away his friends transformed his room into a Harry Potter den. They suspended his furniture and laundry bin from the ceiling so they appeared to be levitating, reupholstered his chair in Harry Potter fabric, and put a Ministry of Magic sign inside his toilet. With friends like these, who needs Slytherins?

photo from Jen Ross



OBAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHATTER

by Jo Riksem

I know as we draw close to the Christmas season many will moan and groan about the pressures and the hassle. Remember the "reason for the season" and the Lord's calm in everything he did. Bring the joy back into the holiday by not overdoing it and enjoying the friends and family that come to visit as well as sharing our beautiful island with them. It's people that matter, not the glitz and the glamour. Giving of your time and yourself is more important than that pretty package. Your credit card doesn't have to go into overdraft when you give something from your garden or something from your kitchen, but most important of all something from your heart. At the Talent Show in September we were reminded of the great talent that is here on the island and the great joy everyone felt as we watched each act. Those are gifts money can't buy.



Oban Presbyterian Church Sunday School Concert 1924-25

Our Spring Retreat in September with Barbara Sampson and Glenda Hicks was well received by the 14 visitors that came to the island for it and they all left with wonderful memories of their visit. We also had a lovely Local Retreat in the manse on the Saturday morning which was very nice. Thanks to all who provided food for the week. It was very much appreciated.

Speakers for November 2017:

5 November & 6 November – A bit of local talent.

19 November – Deb & Russell Smith - Russell has been involved in Christian ministry and mission over many years; recently as an Industrial Chaplain and Lay Minister at Nelson Cathedral. He has a Master of Theology degree and is currently a Research Associate at Bishopdale Theological College in Nelson, engaged in further post-graduate research, writing and teaching. His history of the early years of the CMS mission to New Zealand from 1814 to 1824 entitled "The Mission to the Ends of the Earth" has recently been published. He and his wife Debby, currently live in Golden Bay where they are associated with St Andrews Presbyterian Church.

26 November – Linda Beebe – Surgical nurse at Kew, involved with Tear Fun and takes in overseas students. Always on the go but always a smile on her face. It's always lovely to have Linda at our Sunday service

Services every Sunday 11 am. Prayer Circle Saturday 11:30 in the vestry at the back of the church.

Church open daily to enjoy the peace and quiet.

Popup Art Gallery “THE WAVE” will open at 19 Main Road in mid January.

Watch for the OPEN sign.

The Gallery will feature works from Stewart Islanders and Mainlanders. An exciting range of contemporary and traditional work will be available.

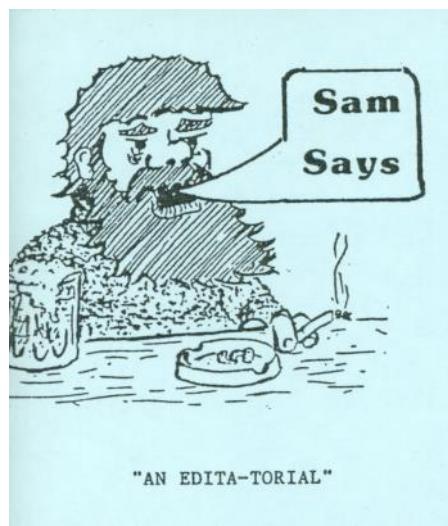
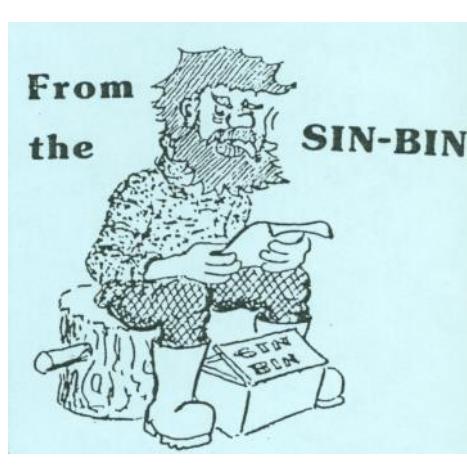
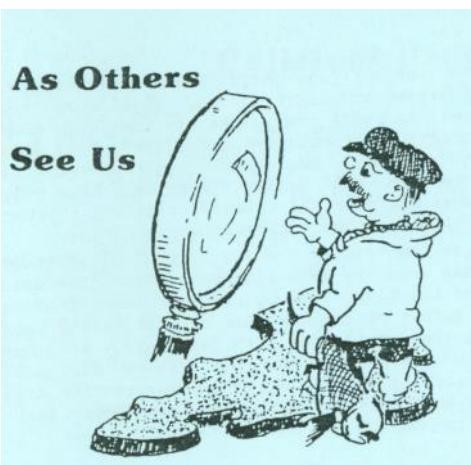


Stewart Island Real Estate

For all local listings - houses, cribs, sections and blocks of land.

See our website TODDCO.NZ or contact our local representative

Jeanette Mackay on 027 681 8589 for all Island real estate enquiries.

Museum Matters by Jo Riskem

30 years ago Stewart Island News was launched by Sam Sampson through a grant from the Community Assistance Scheme. Sam started off with a very small Epson PX-8 computer not much larger than your basic keyboard today.

His little drawings throughout the issue are one of the lovely things about this first issue, some of which I've reproduced here. It was a time of no 24 hours electricity (we all had our own generators), no sewage scheme, and the old telephone exchange was just on the way out. Several things have changed since then but it is wonderful to see Stewart Island News (fondly known as SIN) still going strong. May it continue for many years to come.

Acquisitions for September:

Christening gown and bonnet belonging to Robina Rout (nee Peterson) who married Charles Rout, which had then been given to the Rout's housekeeper 1959-1960

Six digital images of Bluff very early 1880s, Elgin Terrace x 2, Halfmoon Bay with Awarua (2) 1908, Halfmoon Bay 1898 and Sealers Bay on Codfish Island

Searches for September were:

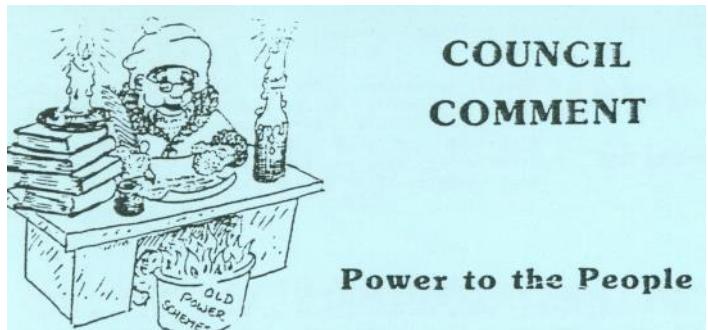
Hinemoa
Captain Bollons
Brookland Family
Acker, Bayliss and Wills families
Manisty mining claim

Don't forget Labour Weekend the museum will be holding a Muttonbird Exhibition in the Stewart Island Community Hall starting on the Friday evening 7:30-9:00 with a special opening with drinks and nibbles.

Door sales will be adults \$10, Children \$5 for that evening. The displays will be open on Saturday and Sunday 10 am - 4 pm for a gold coin donation. There will be historic photos for sale over the whole weekend as well as past historic photos from previous exhibitions. These will be sold first come first serve with orders being taken for if you miss out.

Special sale on 10 x Margaret Fairhall cards (5 varieties 2 of each kind) normally \$35 now only \$25. This is a good time to get these lovely Stewart Island paintings of Margaret's that can be used for all occasions.

Summer hours now are: Monday - Saturday 10- 1:30, Sunday 12 - 2:00.

**Power to the People**



Update on Predator Free Rakiura Social Impact Assessment

In September, a team from the University of Auckland visited Rakiura, on contract to the Department of Conservation and guided by the Governance Group, to undertake research to understand community views and perspectives on Predator Free Rakiura and the possible social impacts of the project. They were James Russell, Nick Taylor and Katherine Russell, accompanied by Jovana Balanovic and Jo Aley from the Department of Conservation.

The research team greatly appreciated the opportunity to talk to so many people and the time everyone gave to have a good conversation about the project and their thoughts on it. The community day on Saturday 16 September was a success with 24 members of the community attending over the course of the day. The follow up focus group on the Monday night was an excellent opportunity to drill into some of the ideas raised on Saturday in more depth. A further 27 people from the island, Invercargill and further afield were interviewed as key stakeholders (e.g. representing an organisation or a stakeholder group).

Overall, the team heard a lot of positive views about predator control and its ecological benefits. But there were also questions around how feasible is an island eradication, what methods would be used, and the cost and timing (stages) of eradication. Biosecurity, both now and post any predator control activity, was raised by many people with varying levels of concerns.

The team received feedback on a range of social issues including tourism (its benefits, risks and constraints), access to the island, hunting, health, employment in conservation and community cohesion.

It is clear that people want to have a say and want to be involved in the future of Rakiura. If you missed out and would like to add your thoughts please email them to krus540@aucklanduni.ac.nz.

The research team is now pulling together all the information and drafting their report, which will be finalised later this year. The Department of Conservation and the Governance Group intend to share the major findings with the community early in the new year.



Expressions of interest sought

Several Arts organisations in Southland through a survey conducted by Arts Murihiku have identified their desire for Infrastructural support. Expressions of interest are being sought from artists or arts organisations who would like to be involved in a Pilot programme. This could include support with Administration, Compliance, Financial systems, Coordination or Communications.

The pilot programme will run for a year and is available for artists or Arts organisations that are voluntary, places are limited.

"It is hoped that this pilot will allow organisations to do what they love doing best- creating. As one of our trustees has said - No one joins an Arts organisation to do a GST return!" said Arts Murihiku's Executive Officer, Lisa Tou- McNaughton.

Evaluation will be on-going during the pilot. If there is desire for this support to continue application will be made to local funders.

This professional development follows on from a Sponsorship workshop supported by Arts Murihiku and run by Exult earlier in the month.

The contract awarded to Arts Murihiku by Creative New Zealand has a focus on capability building within the sector.

"After taking time to ensure Creative New Zealand's requirements for the pilot have been satisfied, it is great that Arts Murihiku can continue delivering benefits to the arts communities in the Southern region." said Arts Murihiku's chair, Paul Duffy.

For further information please contact Arts Murihiku
artsmurihiku@gmail.com
 021 055 6674



The Great Kiwi Morning Tea returns on Friday 27 October to raise funds to support kiwi conservation projects across the country. With the help of funds raised during Save Kiwi Month, we can stop the decline of kiwi by increasing management of breeding and predator control. Kiwi can be saved from extinction by boosting numbers of chicks hatched from the wild and releasing them into predator free habitats.

You can do your bit to help our precious kiwi. Just get together with family, friends, colleagues, neighbours or complete strangers and hold a Kiwi morning tea and ask your guests to make a donation.

Just \$100 is enough to save one kiwi by controlling predators across its habitat for an entire year.

While the official day is Friday 27th October, you can hold your event any time during Save Kiwi Month.

Visit www.kiwiforkiwi.org to find out more about Save Kiwi Month and click on the **Great Kiwi Morning Tea** icon to register for your morning tea.

What's up, DOC?

From Jennifer Ross



Staff Update

We are getting ready to kick off our summer season with ten newly hired temporary staff members who help to make up the biodiversity (mainly weed work), recreation, and dotterel teams. Summer staff for the Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre will be similar to last year. Ren Leppens is our new Operations Manager, and will be starting in early November. Keep your eye out for these new staff in the community and please make them feel welcome.

Whitebait Regulations on Rakiura

The whitebait season is open between 15 August and 30 November (inclusive) in all areas of New Zealand except the West Coast of the South Island and the Chatham Islands. The taking of whitebait at all other times is prohibited.

Whitebaiting is prohibited in Rakiura National Park at all times.

No fishing gear shall:

exceed more than one-third of the water channel width

be used in conjunction with another person's gear to exceed more than one-third of the channel width

exceed 6 m in total length

No person shall set or use more than one whitebait net at a time. Every person who sets or uses a whitebait net must remain within 10 metres of the net. Fishing gear must be removed from the water at the end of fishing or the end of the day, whichever is earlier.

No person shall fish for whitebait within 20 metres of any tide gate, floodgate, confluence or culvert, or fish from any bridge, or from any vessel. Nothing in these regulations permits any person fishing for whitebait to interfere with, alter or modify the natural bed or banks of any river, stream, estuary, or channel.

Persons offending against these regulations may be fined up to \$5000.

Check, Clean, Dry

Rakiura is currently didymo free; let's keep it that way! Stop the spread of didymo and other freshwater pests.

Didymo is an exotic alga that invades waterways. To prevent the spread of freshwater pests such as didymo, always Check, Clean, Dry all footwear (including waders), vehicles, fishing equipment and other items before entering, and when moving between, waterways.

BETWEEN WATERWAYS

What whitebait become when they grow up – migratory galaxiids

Whitebait are the juveniles of five species of fish: giant kōkopu, banded kōkopu, shortjaw kōkopu, inanga, and kōaro. They are part of a group called galaxiids (so called because of the patterns of their skin which look like a galaxy of stars) of which there are 20 species, the rest of which don't migrate.

Those that escape the whitebait net grow into silvery, slender adults (about 9 cm long). They spawn in streamside vegetation, and although galaxiid species are found in many places in the Southern Hemisphere, the giant, shortjaw and banded kōkopu only exist in New Zealand. Whitebait are currently in decline in New Zealand.

How you can help:

Follow the whitebait fishing regulations.

Keep your catch small and only take what you need.
Release species that are not whitebait.
Whitebait that climb are rare, put them back.
Keep streams free from pest plants and fish.



Giant kōkopu: declining



Banded kōkopu

Sewerage Removal

The annual sewerage removal (affectionately known as the “poo suck”) has been undertaken on the Rakiura Track and Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara in September. These high-use toilets are total containment systems so the waste needs to be pumped from them to special tanks and then helicoptered to the Rakiura sewerage scheme.

This year, as expected, there was approximately a 10% increase in waste compared to last season due to higher visitor numbers. This amounted to approximately 15,000 litres of sewerage being removed in an all day operation.

We are pleased to see much fewer non-biodegradable products (in particular wet wipes) being thrown into the toilets, so it appears our messages are getting through to visitors!



Mystery object. What do you think it is? *Photo by Dan Lee*

That being said, a few large items still managed to sneak in. Lucky for me, we had Dan Lee providing live email updates throughout the day about different objects being found. The first e-mail came through with the subject: A little trophy! This turned out to be a very sad looking rat. The second e-mail was a written only update (thankfully), and mentioned entire plastic bags full of rubbish, paua shells, wet wipes, and sanitary products. Why you'd think throwing a paua shell down a toilet was a good idea...I don't know! The last and best e-mail update came through quite late in the piece. This one's subject was "Mystery object" and I'm still intrigued! The text just said "What....?" So, I'm putting it out for you to decide what this object might be, or might have once been. Any ideas?



A little rat trophy found in one of the toilets during “poo suck”

Photo by Dan Lee



Conservation Week runs from 14–22 October

Conservation Week encourages you to “love your backyard” through getting involved in activities and events either in your own backyard or in our big New Zealand backyard. There are heaps of places that need some love to help bring back our native birds, and protect our wildlife and flora and fauna.

Activities like trapping pests, planting natives, weeding and clean-ups in your own backyard and with local community groups all help.

DOC Rakiura’s Conservation Week activities include:

Halfmoon Bay School (and possibly Rugrats) writing and photo competition about kids loving their backyards

Visiting school (Balfour School) evening talk at the Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre

Conservation Week themed pub quiz on Sunday 22 October.

If you’re interested in attending or participating in any of these events, please contact Jennifer Ross on jross@doc.govt.nz or 03 219 0006.



Halfmoon Bay School students in the restoration area at Mill Creek *Photo by Jennifer Ross*

Halfmoon Bay School Mill Creek Ecosystem Education

An afternoon session led by Biodiversity Ranger Phred Dobbins was run in collaboration with the Kiwi Can Programme for Halfmoon Bay School students to learn about all of the elements that make the Mill Creek area unique. This included an analysis of coastal plants and sand properties at Bathing Beach, a visit to a historic cave, sand dune restoration work, and looking at what freshwater fish had been caught in a minnow trap that was set. The afternoon showed Halfmoon Bay School students how special the Mill Creek estuary area is socially, historically and biologically.

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Tree removal

Chainsaw work

Hedge trimming



Wooden fences and decks

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General carpentry

Gutter cleaning

Moss and mould treatment

Water blasting

Spider proofing

And more - just ask

Contact Geoff

Phone 973 0959 (Local Number)

Mobile 027 253 3106

Email handyman@acadia.co.nz



Kiwi bums. Photo from Belinda Dobbins

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STEWART ISLAND BOWLING CLUB

OPENING DAY - SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER
2.00PM

FOLLOWED BY A BBQ

(BYO DRINKS)

All welcome



Come along and enjoy a game of bowls whether you are experienced or a novice.

This year we will be having a Club night every Wednesday starting at 5.00pm (starting 25th October with AGM to follow after the games.) Teams will be made up on the night. By becoming a member you have unlimited access to the green and can use the club bowls free of charge. No charge for our Wednesday Evening Club Night.

See you on the 22nd

congratulations

Jan and Zane

welcome baby girl

Meda Selkie Smith



Help support the island pre-school Rakiura Rugrats and buy a copy of the children's book *Seaberry Stomp!* All proceeds go to Ruggies. Book available at Stewart Island Gift Shop, Ship to Shore, and the Bluff ferry terminal.

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This little paper ends up in most island households and is sent to over 150 bach owners, former residents, and other subscribers around the country and the world. Dozens of visitors see this too. So tell all of those people about your business!

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