



Stewart Island News

Box 65 Halfmoon Bay, STEWART ISLAND, New Zealand

That Was 1987 That Was!

There's one thing you can guarantee about *Stewart Island News* - it's always late, but better late than no SIN at all! Partly it's been less time but largely lack of steam. Here's the "October" edition, grown out of hand as usual, and the last for 1987.

We've had an eventful half-year & the usual ups and downs. Automatic phones are a reality - as are reduced hours at the Post Office. Telephone poles are gone, to be replaced by power poles - with reticulated 24hr power soon to come. Roads are patched where Telecoms installed

underground wires, but will be dug up again when sewer pipes are laid.

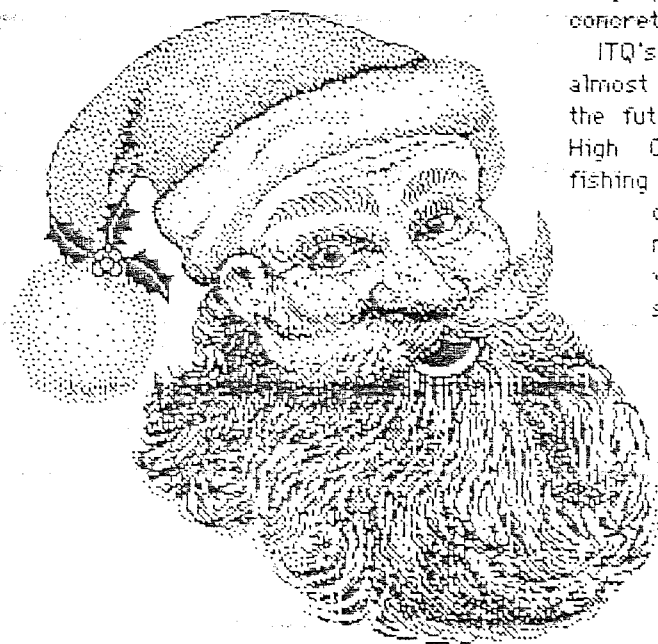
New houses have appeared [not to mention Arkwright's Shed], and work has begun restoring Acker's stone house. But it sadly stopped at Horseshoe Haven Lodge, with the company in receivership. Did David Lange put his foot in more than concrete and jinx the project?

ITQ's, resource rentals etc are almost all in place, but fears for the future were raised with the High Court decision on Maori fishing rights. The stock market crash hit some folks and more GST and tax reforms will affect us all. It seems you just can't win!

So there's nothing for it but to wish you all -

"Merry Xmas
& all the best
for 1988!"

- Sam



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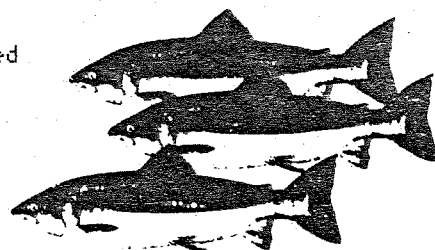
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More!

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STEWART ISLAND

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Big Glory Seafoods Limited





Past News

Compiled by
Peggy Wilson

Times = Southland Times
News = Southland Daily News

10 Years Ago

Strong Winds Whip Coast

Strong winds and heavy rain pounded the Southland coast for most of the weekend. Mountainous seas ran in Foveaux Strait and shipping in the seas off the south of the South Island was warned of storms.

All flights from Invercargill to Stewart Island were cancelled, conditions in Halfmoon Bay being too dangerous for the amphibian to land. High winds lashed the Bay throughout the day.

Times - 24 October 1977

[Storm winds 29/10/87 - are we going to have storms like this every 10 years?]



Sam Says: Write me a Letter!

I've been asked why we don't have a letters to the editor column in SIN. "From the SIN-BIN" is that column, - or would be if there were letters to the editor to put in it!

Issues such as spraying with 2,4,5-T aroused considerable comment and a petition to council - but no letters. In cases such as the spraying copies of letters would be sent to the people responsible for the action to give them the right of reply - but letters will be published as written (unless they are downright abusive). As is normal newspaper practice, letters must be signed and I would prefer to publish them under the signature, but will accept nom-de-plumes.

So, if you have a viewpoint to air - send it in!

This issue is even later than usual, largely as the tourist season is off to a flying start with quite a few natural history groups using my services. I'll try to keep a reasonably regular output, but there aren't enough hours in the day (or night) so there is likely to be a shortage of SIN over summer. I'll be doing my best, but would really appreciate comments from clubs, news and reviews on events, letters to the editor and comments on the day-to-day happenings round the place.

5 Years Ago

Island Pantomime Terrific Success

Cinderella came to Stewart Island at the weekend and was a terrific success, for the performers and audience. It was the first time a pantomime had been presented on the island with the cast made up of local residents. The chorus sang in excellent harmony while the cast acted and sang superbly to complement this version of "Cinderella".

Mrs Airdry McKenzie - Cinderella, Mrs Joan Buxton and Mrs Beryl Wilcox as the ugly sisters, Mr Barry Rhodes as Buttons and Mrs Gwen Neave as Prince Charming performed outstandingly.

Mr Owen Gerrard produced and directed Cinderella by the Stewart Island Players.

Times - 25 October 1982

[Stewart Island Players have gone a long way since "Cinderella", but there must have been earlier locally produced performances. Does anyone have any details of these please? - Sam]

Apologies too for some copies which haven't reached their destinations - in a couple of cases (including my own dear old mum) the post office has sent them back, despite being correctly addressed. Looks like there might be a conspiracy!

Cheers

From the Sin Bin

Dear Sam

On behalf of those members and friends of the Taieri Lions Club who visited your Island recently, may I, through the courtesy of your paper, thank all those who helped to make our visit such an enjoyable one.

Special thanks to Dot and Kevin Anderson, Lesley and Alan Gray, Lyndley and Gerry Field, Ron Tindal and the members of the Stewart Island Lions Club for their wonderful hospitality.

Kindest Regards

Murray Taylor

President

Taieri Lions Club

Postal Ponderings

Restructuring of NZ Post services is creating a storm of controversy throughout the country, with the closing of many rural and suburban branch offices. Here on Stewart Island there has been no indications as yet that we will lose our office, nor have there been definite signs that Post Manager Innes Dustan will get relief from the extra work he is being expected to do.

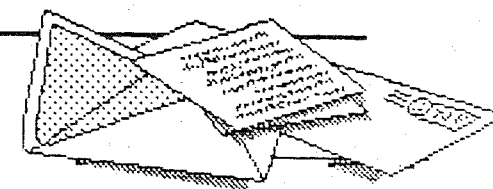
It seems he will eventually receive some part-time help, but in the meantime he is at times putting in 11 hour working days and doing 10 to 15 hours overtime a week. With the busy summer period still to come, this will presumably be extended. The logic of this is difficult to follow. Paying him time and a half overtime rates at a post-manager's pay scale would presumably cost around the same amount as employing an assistant for twice the number of hours. This would probably be the equivalent of a half-time position.

Innes extends his thanks to the community for their patience and understanding over recent weeks. In general people are avoiding using the Post Office in the morning when mail is being sorted, and at times "watchdogs" have guarded the door, discouraging others from going to the counter. Many people are now bundling mail with rubber bands, which makes sorting outgoing mail a little easier. When the Office is busy, others go away or leave "paperwork", such as bank books needing updating, to be done later when time is available. It has resulted in considerable individual inconvenience, but at least 1st class inward mail is being sorted reasonably early in the day, and outgoing mail gets away on time.

Each day is of course different, but in general Monday mornings are hectic, with the backlog of mail built up over the weekend. Tuesdays and Thursdays are generally quieter days, which are better for business like opening bank accounts, that requires detailed form-filling.

Innes will be taking his holidays in December and January, instead of during winter as he has done in past years. Thanks Innes, we hope you enjoy this Xmas at home with Mum! - Sam

Some Thoughts



In this day of user pay it's no use bemoaning cut-backs. What we need are positive thoughts on ways of improving the economic viability of our Post Office, which we can present to NZ Post for their consideration.

NZ Post, Post Bank and Telecoms are facing a situation where they must be profit-making businesses and along with their cut-backs are beginning to market their services more aggressively than in the past. Can we make use of this to our advantage?

Post Offices such as that on Stewart Island must maintain a high business turnover if they are to providing the service to the community that they were once proud of.

A Stewart Island Stamp?

Pitcairn Island and a number of other islands make considerable revenue from the sale of stamps to collectors throughout the world. The proposal to issue "Stewart Island" stamps is not new, but it could be worth raising again with NZ Post.

- ✦ With the forthcoming closure of the Post Office at Scott Base, the Stewart Island Post Office will become the southernmost in NZ.
- ✦ Presumably there is a Post Office on the Falkland Islands, and at the American Base at McMurdo Sound. Apart from these, we are likely to be the southernmost in the English speaking world.
- ✦ Even including them, and any in southern South America, we would be the most distant Post Office from most European countries.
- ✦ All in all, these factors could make special stamps and covers an attraction for stamp collectors. Would locals be prepared to pay a little extra for postage with a special "Island" stamp - provided some of the revenue came back to Stewart Island, or at least kept our postal services up to the mark?

Gerrard's

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Banking Blues

Now that the Post Office has seen fit to charge \$2 for every counter cheque written, they are forcing people to open up cheque accounts. Once an application has been filled out the Postmaster has to spend a half hour with the applicant in an interview to fill out another form. Our postmaster has not time to do this with all the other duties he must perform, leaving the customer at a loss as to what to do
— Jo Riksem

As in many rural areas, Post Bank is the only banking outlet on Stewart Island [which makes the \$2 counter cheque charge seem somewhat monopolistic] but their share of total Island banking is low. This possibly reflects the somewhat staid approach to banking which the Post Office has followed in the past, as well as the goodwill other bankers have built up with their Island clients.

With increasing deregulation in the banking sector, Post Bank are talking in terms of a "new look", more competitive approach to banking. Will this be sufficient to entice Islanders to change banks and put more trade through our Post Office? Postbank still has a chance to target customers in places such as Stewart Island - if they are prepared to provide competitive local services.
— Sam

Medical Notes

Cardiophone in Use

About two years ago a "Close Up" TV item about out-station monitoring of cardiac patients aroused interest in a similar system for Stewart Island. Initial enquiries had little success, but the idea appeared to still have merit, conservatively the machine could have been used some two hundred times in the last two years.

Discussions between Medical and Electronic technicians and local nurses had been going on for some time, when out of the blue a Cardiophone arrived.

Basically the Cardiophone allows the Cardiac Care Unit at Kew to monitor the patient's heartbeat without the patient having to leave their own home [as long as they have a telephone].

The benefits to the patient are obvious, chronic patients can be regularly monitored and emergency calls can be diagnosed without the need for a perhaps needless plane flight.

The equipment has already been used with perfect results, saving the expense of a plane charter and more importantly reassuring the patient.
— Iris Tait

Back to the Boarding House?

Before the crayfish boom of the late 1950's and early '60's, many Island fishermen supplemented the income they made from winter coddling by using their boats for excursion work or taking in boarders over the summer holiday season. Although this past cray season certainly hasn't been the best in living memory, there probably aren't too many who will need to supplement their income in this way today.

Visitor numbers to the Island are increasing by 10-20% every year however, and early signs are that this summer will be no exception. Unfortunately the expansion of accommodation at Horseshoe Haven has run into problems, and in addition to not having the anticipated extra beds for visitors, there is now the complication of no tent sites being available.

A number of locals have taken in travellers over the years, who are mostly young folk on the "Youth Hostel Circuit". Many older people from overseas also like a chance to stay in a "home" rather than a "hotel". It's likely that this year there will be more people of all types wanting accommodation on the Island than there are beds for.

You can take up to five paying "boarders" at a time without requiring a boarding house licence. You'll find most of the people who are looking for this style of accommodation are interesting and responsible and many long term friendships have started this way.

If you feel you can help accommodate visitors to the Island this summer with:

- * A crib to rent
- * Bed & breakfast accommodation
- * Trumper style accommodation
- * A tent site - with access to toilet & water

Contact: Department of Conservation
or: Stewart Island Travel

Even if it is only a bed for the night when travellers are stranded by the weather, it could be a help!
— Sam

Taking a Xmas Trip to Town?

For Gifts with a Difference

Drop in to **CRAIGS**

- * Filing Cabinets
- * Filing Folders
- * Artist's Supplies
- * Books
- * Calculators
- * Typewriters
- * Greeting Cards

Stewart Island's Golf Course

An exciting new development on Stewart Island has been that of a six hole golf course on Roger Hick's property at Ringaringa. The golf circuit runs from Ringaringa to Deep Bay and back and promises to be a welcome social addition for both locals and visitors alike.

Historically both Roger and his wife Brenda have links with the past on this land, and their children Quin and Sam are understood to be the seventh generation descendants of the original Walschlager settlers of Lonnekers Bay. Indeed the land has always remained in the family's hands, with the sole exception of a period of ownership by Mr Alf Walmsley. Brenda's links are on the Leask/Lonneker side and not far from the golf course is the grave site of Elizabeth Catherine [Mary] Walschlager, the wife of Christian Friedrich Walschlager.

Meanwhile Roger, who purchased the property about six years ago, recalled that it was his grandfather, Mr Robert Hicks, who arranged with Mr Henry Lonneker to use part of this land as the first airstrip on Stewart Island in the early 1950's. Flights operated irregularly by the Southland Aero Club. Once again the family history appears in that it was Roger's uncle, Owen Marshall, well known in flying circles, who flew the Tiger Moth on to this strip.

The entire area where the golf course is sited was completely dug by hand by the Lonneker family. The Ringaringa land was originally used for market gardening and the grazing of bullocks used on the sawmills, then laterly for sheep farming.

When golfing enthusiasts Lorna Hitchcock and Ian Sinclair first mooted the idea to build a golf course to Roger, it was initially met with laughter. However the seed of the idea germinated and is now well nearing completion with Lorna and Ian's aid in constructing the course. Also involved in the layout and design has been Bill Thornbury, another well-known golfer, who has assisted with the many practical aspects.

On Tuesday 29 December a meeting will be held on the Island for all interested locals and ratepayers, with the intentions of forming a Stewart Island Golf Club to use these new facilities, and already there has been an abundance of interest shown. The guest speaker will be Mr Gerry Soulsby, President of the Eagles Club and Captain of the Southland Golf Team, who will discuss aspects of golfing for both beginners and old hands alike, and also present a video.

A competition is currently in progress to find the "best" name for this southernmost golf

course in the world with all entries welcome.

Plans for the opening day are well in hand too, with a Celebrity Open Golf Tournament featured for Saturday 16 January 1988, at which an open day will be held to encourage all locals to view Stewart Island's newest asset for the community. Afternoon tea will be provided and also the chance to watch some very well known "celebrities" [both local and overseas] try their hand at a No 8 iron! I am sure that all Stewart Island News readers will be confident that Roger's golf course development will "tee off" to a bright future ahead — Beryl Wilcox

Preview from the Past

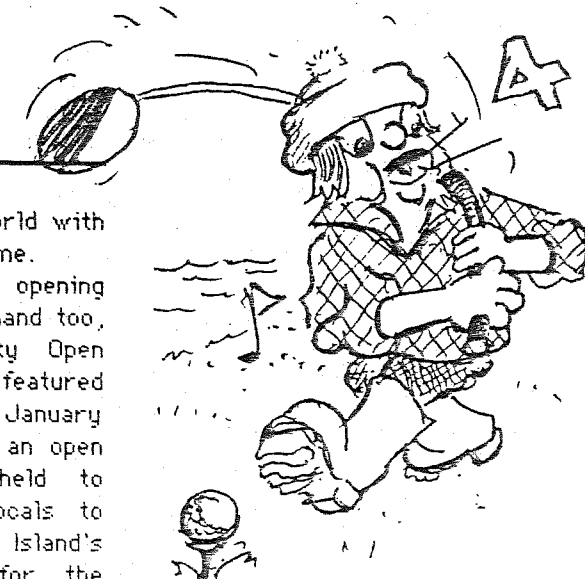
The opening of the Ringaringa golf course was previewed over a quarter of a century ago. That was in 1961, when Frank Rawle, Tui McDonald, local Constable Owen Randell, and acting Manager of the South Sea Hotel, Alec Moir, an ex-NZ Test Cricketer, played a nine hole round on the site.

Sharing two sets of clubs between them, they started from the old Lonneker house, then crossed a couple of gullies to the airstrip. Holes were decided upon as they went, and none of the four played to their handicap. Despite the lack of the prepared greens and fairways that will be available in January, only one ball was lost!

The new Course may or may not be the most southern in the world, but one thing's for sure, as Frank Rawle says: "The views rival those of St Andrews [the original Scots home of Golf]."

Who else has played golf on the Island? Odd golfers practice swings on the beach but surely more than one round was played in the past. Has anyone tackled the sand traps at Mason Bay?

All the best with the project Roger — Sam



Stewart Island Golf Club

Inaugural Meeting
— Tue 29 Dec —

Celebrity Open Golf Tournament
Ringaringa Golf Course

— Sat 16 Jan —

All Welcome

Watch Noticeboard for Details

SUNDAY STORMS HIT ISLAND

Sunday 2 November brought storms and heavy seas to Foveaux Strait and Stewart Island. From late morning, westerly winds began gusting to around 60-70 knots, whipping spray and spume from the sea, within a few metres of the Halfmoon Bay foreshore and sending sheets of corrugated iron flying down Main Road. It was even breezier than it had been a few days earlier, when Michael Fay had tried landing his helicopter outside the South Sea Hotel, flipping two dinghies and adding a sand-based, non-slip surface to the freshly painted pub roof.

Within minutes the whole of the Bay was covered with spray, while Paterson Inlet was smoking from shore to shore even Prices Inlet was a sea of flying spray.

Despite conditions, Southern Air pilot Mike Ryan attempted to bring in an Islander at mid-day on a hospital charter flight for Ken Boniface, but had to turn back as the buffeting the plane received as soon as it crossed the coast made it impossible to land.

It certainly wasn't Ken and Rene's day, for to add to the anxiety of waiting for the plane, their chimney caught fire at around 2pm. It must have been one of the quickest turn-outs on record for the Brigade, and most members arrived in dressuniform. They had been at the station, cooking hot-dogs and chips for those who had braved the winds to attend the Open Day being held to celebrate the 2nd anniversary of the opening of the station.

The Boniface chimney fire was quickly extinguished, but the second fire for the day wasn't put out so easily. Around 10.30pm the wiring of Chris and Leslie Squire's car caught fire as they were trying to roll-start it. They were forced to abandon ship, leaving it to roll off the edge of the road above Golden Bay. With fuel gravity feeding from the tank to the engine, the fire took some time to extinguish, despite extensive use of foam.

All in all, quite a day, and one which fortunately isn't too common on the Island. - Sam

Health Liaison Committee

The AGM of the Stewart Island health Liaison Committee was held on Wed 16 December. Miss Rachel Peek (Principal Nurse, Southland Hospital Board) was present and addressed the meeting. She apologised for the inconvenience and lack of a District Nurse for a few days at the beginning of December, but this was not planned, and she wished to assure us they do not plan to have a reoccurrence of this situation. Guidelines to contact the District Nurse have been circulated and further copies are available at the Clinic. Please become familiar with these guidelines.

The relieving Policeman, Grant Johnson, can be contacted at the hotel and also at the Police Station. If he is in his vehicle the Invercargill Station can contact him by radio.

Residents will be pleased to know the Sonic Aid Heart Monitor has been purchased and is now in full use. Thanks for all the financial assistance which has made this purchase possible.

A big thank you to the outgoing committee for their hard work and devotion over the years. New Committee members are:

Chairman: Gwen Neave

Secretary: Colleen Dawson

Members: Rosalie Dobson
Airdry Dyson-Leask
Jenny Hayden
Anne Walker

Ex-officio: Policeman
District Nurses

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the above with any information, queries, complaints etc. We are here to serve you.

- Colleen Dawson (Secretary)

[Please follow the instructions below for making contact with the nurse]

District Nurse

Clinic Hours - Mon-Fri - 10.30am to Noon - Ph: 391-098

Please direct non-urgent queries or appointments to the clinic phone - outside clinic hours they are taken by an Ansaphone, which the nurse checks regularly.

Life Threatening Emergency - Dial "111"

Ask for Ambulance Service, and don't forget to tell them you are on Stewart Island.

Lesser Emergencies - Dial "111"

Use "111" for broken legs and similar emergencies outside clinic hours - they will page the nurse!

Foetal Heart Monitor Appeal

What Is It?

This small portable machine can detect foetal heart beats as early as the 10th week of pregnancy. This is of course particularly useful for monitoring at risk pregnancies as well as allowing prospective parents to listen to the early patter of tiny feet. As a bonus we can use it to listen to any internal organ.

The appeal for this piece of equipment was greatly assisted by donations from various raffles and the Halloween Party.

Thanks are due to:-
Robyn Young, John Gorrie, Heather and their helpers for the inspiration to start this appeal. Bruce Ford, Jack & Melanie Frew, Arkwright & Rose, Rosalie and Kieth, Elspeth Tindall, B P Salmon for their kind donations. Ron Cushen, Ron Dennis and the Stewart Island Lions Club for back-up.

None of the raffles would have sold nearly so quickly without the arm twisting done by Roslaie (Motor-bike) Dobson and the staff of the South Sea Hotel.

The monitor has been ordered, and is due to arrive soon. It costs \$1,900 approximately and we have raised \$1,023.10, plus \$495.75 out of the collection box in the Clinic.

Your continued support is needed:

Halfmoon Bay School Pool

Interested members of the community formed a Pool Committee in June 1987 to maintain and upgrade the school pool, which was becoming a financial and time-consuming burden to our busy school committee.

Our upgrading programme has commenced. We have reconcreted the area surrounding the pool for self-drainage and easier cleaning, repaired the roof and before the end of the month a new low-maintenance filtration plant will be installed. We are investigating extending the swimming season by heating the pool by various means and intend to paint and cover the pool as funds allow.

A new system will be introduced to cover our maintenance costs, where a key may be purchased at the low cost of \$25 per family per year. Visitors may also purchase keys for \$25. Casual swimmers may only swim when a key-holder has opened the pool, and must leave when the keyholder leaves.

They will pay: Adults \$1.00, Children 50c into an honesty box at the door.

Coming Attractions

≠ **Motor Bike Hire Raffle** [2 bikes for half day hire]. The winner can obtain a voucher and use it as a Christmas gift.

Raffle Tickets 50c each - obtainable from the bar of the South Sea Hotel.

≠ **T-SHIRT** raffle donated by Elspeth

≠ **SMOKED SALMON** raffle donated by BP

≠ **POOL TOURNAMENT** arranged by John Gorrie

Raffle Results

[Drawn Fri 13th Nov under Police supervision]

Dinner for Two [Donated by Fordley]

#100 Ann Walker

1/4 Ton of Coal [Donated by Jack & Melanie]

#195 Peter Tait

Takahe Raffle [5* \$100 notes - 5 draws]

037 Alan Gray

054 Linda Te Au

060 Ron & June Cushen

084 P J Rooney

004 Rosalie Fisher

Congratulations to all prize winners and thank you everyone for showing your support of this appeal.

With Thanks - Iris Tait

Children must be supervised by an adult.

We are most grateful for the wonderful support received from the community and others and we hope you will all enjoy our improved asset.

Donations over \$25 receive a free season's key!

Keys available from:

Lesley McGrath [391-542]

Rakiura Riders [391-482]

- Halfmoon Bay School Pool Committee

Swimming Lessons

Mike Murray, the swimming instructor who taught here last summer, will be returning in January. Lessons will be taken in the school pool on Jan 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 & 12. Classes will be in small groups under the categories beginners, swimmers and adults.

Cost: \$30 for 6 lessons.

Please contact Margaret Hopkins for bookings and further information.



Mike's Message

Sadly [TIC], this may be my last contribution to this column as I will be transferring in the very near future. We never know, next year this may be called "Arthur's Article", "Bill's Bulletin" or even "Edna's Epistle" - we will just have to wait and see.

Now on a more serious note, it would seem to appear that this last month or so may be the "calm before the storm", as very few incidents have been reported with one person arrested for a driving related offence.

However, the normal run of the mill problems are still with us and I refer to the items of property mysteriously walking from houses and boats in the community. I cannot urge enough for tighter security around your properties. And of course the wandering dog saga is ever increasing.

I notice also an increase in pleasure boats visiting our coastlines and I wonder if their occupants are observing the amateur quotas? I would somehow doubt this. Several members of the Department of Conservation are Fisheries Rangers and I would stress that if you think something is amiss with these boats to contact either these officers or myself.

Search and Rescue has been at a very low key at present on the Island, a trend that is certainly different to other parts of the country. It may be that our community is more respectful of the sea and our surrounds or we apply a bit more common sense in our outdoor activities. I certainly do not hesitate in giving a few visitors the "wind up" for their lack of safety equipment, clothing or food etc., and I think the odd word in the ear of local knowledge can go a long way to make their trips more enjoyable.

I doubt many of the visitors know the Island's dangers better than the locals themselves.

- Mike TeAu

[Thanks Mike for the regular contributions on sin for SIN. We trust all goes well in your transfer north and that we continue to have a column from your successor here - Sam]

Rakiura Cub Group

The Cubs have been very active this last month. We have been collecting rubbish along the waterfront and helped the school working bee. We are grateful to all those who have put their rubbish in the litter bins and not thrown it on the side of the roads.

We held a sausage sizzle lunch and plan to hold another on Sports Day to raise funds. A combined Church Service was held with the Guides, Brownies, Cubs and Keas on 29 November, so November has been a busy month. We have our break-up on Wednesday 9 December.

We would like to thank those of our community who have spared the time to help us with our activities, especially Peter Tait from the Yacht Club and Gerry Field from the Lions Club and all those who took part in our telephone experiment. Community involvement is always welcome.

- Erica Cleland [Cub Leader]

Foveaux Yacht Race

The annual Foveaux Strait Yacht Race organised by the Green Point Yacht Club will be leaving Bluff at 1.00pm on Saturday 11 November. Assuming all goes well with the wind, yachts should be arriving in the Bay at around 5 to 5.30pm.

Once again Oban Volunteer Fire Brigade are organising barbecues and refreshments at Traill Park for competitors, locals and visitors to the Island. Meat packs of sausages, chops and steak will be available for sale, and refreshments will be on sale as in past years.

This year the Rakiura Rugby Club are holding a seven-a-side rugby tournament, starting at 2.00pm. So how about it fishermen, salmon farmers, DOC and all those others out there. How about putting a team together and joining in? It's only 10 minutes in each half, so you should survive, and still have enough steam left to watch the end of the race, and join in the evening festivities.

- Sam

Stewart Island Gun Club

TeAnau Trip

Stewart Island Gun Club members chartered a Southern Air plane on Wednesday 9 December for a flight to challenge TeAnau Gun Club for the "Fishermens Trophy". Unfortunately the rolls of wallpaper they took with them to cover the TeAnau Clubroom's walls once the trophy was removed remained unused, despite the Island team performing very creditably.

A life on the ocean wave doesn't seem to have affected Kevin Anderson's shooting stability, for he was High Gun for the competition, winning the A grade competition. Other local A grade scorers were Robbie Paterson who took third place and Joe Caye who was fifth.

B Grade shooters were a little further down the list, but still performed very creditably, with Floyd Murray third, Ron Dennis fourth and Dot Anderson seventh.

Dick Langdon was High Gun for the C grade.

Trevor Atkins won the Conservation Prize for letting most "birds" away, while Russel Squires performed below par and was low gun for the Island team, thus earning the duty of serving the rest their refreshments.

S I Gun Club Competitions

Weather was kinder than usual for the Stewart Island Gun Club Competitions held over the weekend of 12-13 December. Sun and little wind made for pleasant shooting, though fewer visitors than normal were there to share it.

The Gun Club Dinner on the Sunday night was well attended by shooters and friends, though quite a number of the visitors had flown out at the end of the shoot, which meant a number of trophies weren't collected. Special mention must also be made of the colour co-ordinated bright yellow "Team Apache" shirt presented to "Captain Blouse" Langdon by fellow Gun Club Members.



Competition Results

High Guns - A Grade: 1st Ron Dennis
2nd Joe Wilson
3rd Alan Watson

B Grade: 1st Joe King
2nd Alan Muir
3rd R McLean

C Grade: 1st Danny McAughtrie
2nd Jill Langdon
3rd Alby Leithley

A Grade: Ball Trap - Graeme Laing
Sparrows - Ron Dennis
Double Rise - Ron Dennis
Single Rise - Russell Squires
Point Score - John Turner
Single Barrel - Joe Wilson

B Grade: Ball Trap - Alan Muir
Sparrows - Alan Muir
Double Rise - Joe King
Single Rise - Joe King
Point Score - Alan Muir
Single Barrel - M Radford

C Grade: Sparrows - Steve Phillips
Double Rise - Trevor Atkins
Single Rise - Danny McAughtrie
Point Score - Jill Langdon
Single Barrel - Alby Leithley

Stewart Island Ladies: Jill Langdon

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33 Bowmont St

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[A/H: Trevor Manson Ph: 358-042]

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DOC's Diagnosis

With Christmas approaching rather too rapidly, a time when most people are planning holidays and celebrations for the festive season, the DOC workers are mentally preparing themselves to be busier than ever.

The next few months will be one of the busiest times of the year. Everything seems to happen at once. The number of tourists passing through the Information Centre increases dramatically, more people take to the tracks and huts are often full. Tracks need constant upgrading and trimming, birds are nesting, plants are flowering [looks like a good year for the rata], the Education Centre at Horseshoe Bay is fully booked and so on and so on

One of the main projects this summer is the continuation of work on the Link Track. This track connects the North Arm with Port William. It was made for people wanting to do a short tramp [1-2 nights] without having to walk any section of track twice. From the North Arm the track climbs to its highest point of 305m and follows along a ridge which offers a good view of Paterson Inlet. It then crosses Maori Creek and joins the Port William track at a point about 45 minutes from the Port William Hut.

— BIRDMAN COMPETITION —

Thursday 31 December 1987

— 2.30pm —

Halfmoon Bay Wharf

— Longest Flight —

Prize: Return Airfare to Ing'ill

Courtesy: Southern Air

— Poncey Plumage —

Prize: \$50 Refreshment Voucher

Courtesy: Bruce Ford

— Lucky No for Each Entry —

Prize: Double Ticket to New Year Dance

Courtesy: SI Lions Club

Entry Fee \$5.00

Forms and Rules from DOC Office

Entries close Wed 30 Dec

All Proceeds to: Foetal Heart Monitor

Fun Run & Barbeque

Sat 9 Dec - 11am
DOC Information Centre

A team of three will be kept busy on the Link Track until the end of January, laying lengths of cording, or "railway tracks". Although the tracks are fairly dry at present, it doesn't take much traffic with a bit of rain to turn them into a quagmire. By putting down cord it is hoped to prevent the mud problem before it arises. The track has been open for a year now and it is expected that work on it will continue until 1989. Approximate track times are:

Halfmoon Bay to Port William 3-4hrs

Port William to North Arm 4-6hrs

North Arm to Halfmoon Bay 4-5hrs

Meanwhile, down south the hunt for the elusive Big Green Budgie, alias kakapo, continues. The aim is to find and shift 25 birds to Codfish Island. So far this year three birds have been moved, two females "Nora" and "Alice" and a male called "Hefler". Each capture trip lasts three weeks.

The next one is in December, followed by a big effort in January and February. By the end of February we hope to have located and shifted at least two more females and six males. Searches will continue in 1988 and maybe into 1989, depending on how quickly the birds are found.

Merry Christmas to everyone from the Department of Conservation.

— Sandra King [Conservation Officer]

Summer Programme

A few months back it seemed possible that financial constraints would mean that the summer programmes started some ten years back by Forest Service could not be run this year. The summer programmes have proved popular with visitors and locals alike, so it is very pleasing to see that this isn't the case, and that they will continue under the new DOC hat.

The programme will include all the trips which have been popular in the past, such as those to Ulva Island and Pryce Peak, a visit to the old sawmill site at Maori Beach and seashore studies. All these give a good insight into the natural and human history of Stewart Island, and can be thoroughly recommended for a good value day of relaxed learning.

The full extent of user pays has fortunately not hit yet, and the only charges will be for launch trips and a nominal \$1 fee to cover generator costs for evening talks.

The Birdman Contest and Fun Run & Barbecue are a couple of new activities in the summer programme this year, which should provide heaps of fun and barrels of laughs for contestants and spectators.

— Sam

Stewart Island Lions Club

Fishing absences which are typical of this time of year meant that local Lions were well outnumbered by the 27 Lions and friends from the visiting Taieri Lions Club at our meeting on Tuesday 24 November.

Guest speaker was Major Sam Medlin, who gave a lighthearted account of the work of the Salvation Army. The Army is a church, with many Citadels throughout the country, but is possibly best known for their bands and the work they do caring for the elderly and down and outs. In addition they run women's refuges and other support systems for those in need of understanding and care.

It seems a sense of humour is essential to be able to cope with the trials of helping people who are in need, yet at times are prepared to bite the hand that feeds them. In one case Major Sam countered continual abusive phone calls at all hours of the night by repeating the same scriptural text at each pause in the call. As he put it, at the end of several weeks the caller must have known at least one part of the Bible by heart.

All in all it was an interesting and informative account of the work done by the Salvation Army, an organisation who have done much to help the needy in New Zealand over the past century.

Fishing Contest

New fisheries legislation could have put paid to the Lion's annual fishing competition this year. As commercial fishing boats are used to take the many visitors to the Island who enter the contest to sea, and as the catch is sold to raise funds for Lions Club projects, we need to obtain quota, and the cost of this for compared with returns for the effort involved in organising and

running the contest, began to make the exercise appear pointless. Thanks to the generosity of Max and Tina Kershaw, all is well and the contest will run as planned.

Xmas Cakes

There are still a few Lion's Xmas Cakes available for sale. Contact:

Lynley Field
[Ph: 391-030]

New Years Eve Dance

Planning is well underway for the annual New Years Eve Dance, to be held as usual in the County Hall, so come along and bring in 1988. — Sam

Lions Exchange Students

Over the weekend of 19/20 December, Stewart Island was visited by a party of eight Lions Exchange Students, who come from various parts of Australia. They are in New Zealand for five weeks and we are pleased to see they have included Stewart Island as part of their itinerary [thanks to Keith for Southern Air's discounted fares]. During their stay on the Island they went to the Salmon Farms with Sam on MV Toa Tai, took a bus tour with Sam [the ed.] and enjoyed a vigorous game of volleyball with the locals [in which the score was umpteen all]. Also included in their plans are a night out at the Country Rock'n'Roll Xmas Dance on Saturday night at the Town Hall and a boat excursion with their billets and their families on Sunday, with Kevin and Dot Anderson on the Moana — Beryl Wilcox

St Andrews Anglican Church

Congratulations are due to Airdry Dyson-Leask, who on November 29 was ordained a Deacon of the Anglican Church, making this a first in Stewart Island history for a resident to achieve this status. The ordination took place at Evensong at the Holy Trinity Church in Invercargill, by Bishop Peter Mann from Dunedin, and this means that Airdry will be able

to conduct services in St Andrews Anglican Church on Stewart Island.

The Church is just at the completion of a major restoration project and holds much historical interest for locals, which includes its bell tower, with the "Wohler's Bell" from Ruapuke Island and the St Mathews Bell gifted from Bluff.

— Beryl Wilcox



**Season's Greetings to All
From Stewart Island News**

Stewart Island Players

The Stewart Island Players have come a long way from its origins of six enthusiastic Islanders who got together ten years ago and performed under the name of "Sherry Trifle", providing many fun-filled theatrical and musical evenings for the Island. The group then consisted of Gwen Neave, Beryl Wilcox, Lloyd Wilcox, Michael Goomes, Noel Pasco and Kath Strang, and in the early days a concert held at the South Sea Hotel earned the princely sum of \$200, which was put aside to help provide new curtains for the County Hall.

In 1979 the group gathered together interested Islanders to stage a Stewart Island Music Hall, which introduced many to Invercargill's Operatic Society and in particular to the expertise of Owen Gerrard. The Stewart Island Players was well underway and since 1981 Owen has directed two drama workshops, three pantomimes, a music hall and three full-scale musical productions. Plans are already beginning for the show in 1988.

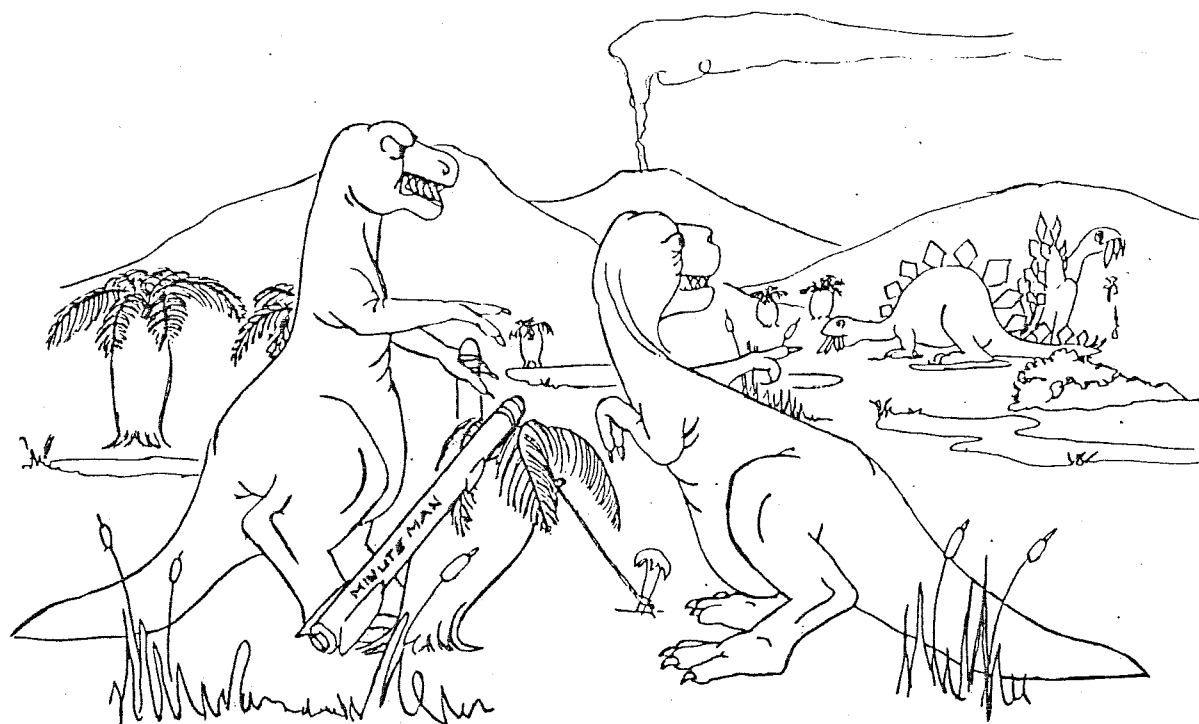
Independently, the Players have performed in cabarets and entertainments offering challenging choral and acting work to expand the abilities of its members. Also the group have assisted in various ways, both practical and supportive,

when visiting performing artistes come to the Island. Currently the Stewart Island Players consists of approximately 50 members, which is in fact 10% of the entire Stewart Island population.

One of the material results of the group's activities has been to reinvest its assets for community use. Among some of the most notable achievements have been equipping the town hall with chairs, curtains for stage and windows, proscenium arch, stage flats, floor extensions, paintwork, backdrops and the purchase of spotlights. These facilities are used by all other community organisations as required.

As the result of an application by the Stewart Island Players to the Government's COG's funding scheme, a grant of \$2,000 has been made to the group, to be used for travelling expenses for such persons as our Director, Owen Gerrard or other experts in a specialised field like choreography. This grant will make a vast difference to the financial worries involved in funding such expenses required for any major production and the Stewart Island Players seem all set to spend many more years providing entertainment and delight on the Island.

- Beryl Wilcox



Power to the People

At present survey work is virtually completed and the first 50 of the 300 power poles required have arrived on the Island. The earthworks on the powerhouse site are under way, but there has been some delay caused by the late arrival of Mr Connor's new earth moving machine. However, this has now arrived and it is anticipated that, weather permitting, the earthworks will be completed by the end of the year. The important thing is to get the actual site for the building prepared so that construction work can proceed.

Tenders for the construction of the Power House close on Sat 5 December 1987 and will be in possession of the Stewart Island County Council Electrical Supply Authority in time to consider the Consultant's recommendations at its first meeting on 16 December 1987. Once the tender is let, the successful tenderer is to commence work at the beginning of January and to have the building at a sufficiently advanced stage to be able to accept our three brand new 208 KVA Caterpillar generators by the first week in March. Up to this point in time we are pretty well on the ball with holding to our overall programming schedule.

When we closed the deal for the generators we did so on the forward exchange rate, thus fixing the price when the New Zealand dollar was at just over 65 cents to the US dollar. However it actually fluctuates now, we thus have it fixed at that price, which has saved us about \$12,000 on the purchase of these machines.

As a matter of general information, while people in overhead reticulation areas who request underground connection to their property will have to pay any extra cost involved, this will not apply in the underground reticulated areas, where all properties will necessarily have to be connected underground. That cost is already built into the contract price. In other words, the only poles in the underground area will be lighting standards.

With regard to the felling and trimming of trees, there has been some concern that there will be wholesale destruction of trees, but this is not the case. Practically all the overhead reticulation is to be on County Road Reserve and very few trees are in the way, although some may have to have branches cut back. No Crown Scenic or other reserves are involved, but some trees may have to be felled on private properties. In these cases the trees to be felled will be negotiated with the property owners.

Although we now know that we have requests for connection from over 260 properties, it will still be necessary for the purpose of complying with statutory requirements for everybody to complete a formal official application form for the supply of electricity. We will be sending these forms out in December and when you get them it is essential that they be completed and returned to the County Office immediately, as they will be the basis from which we shall be compiling the Master List of Connections which we must supply the contractor with in January.

When you get them please fill in everything in BLOCK LETTERS - except the signature. If you do not know the legal description of your property, the Lot No etc., do not worry about it, as we will fill that in at the office. Do not worry about the section on the description of the Electrical Installations, this will only be applicable in the future to new houses coming into the system. The Electrical Contractor will be Electrix Ltd and do not worry about their address, this work is covered by our Contracts.

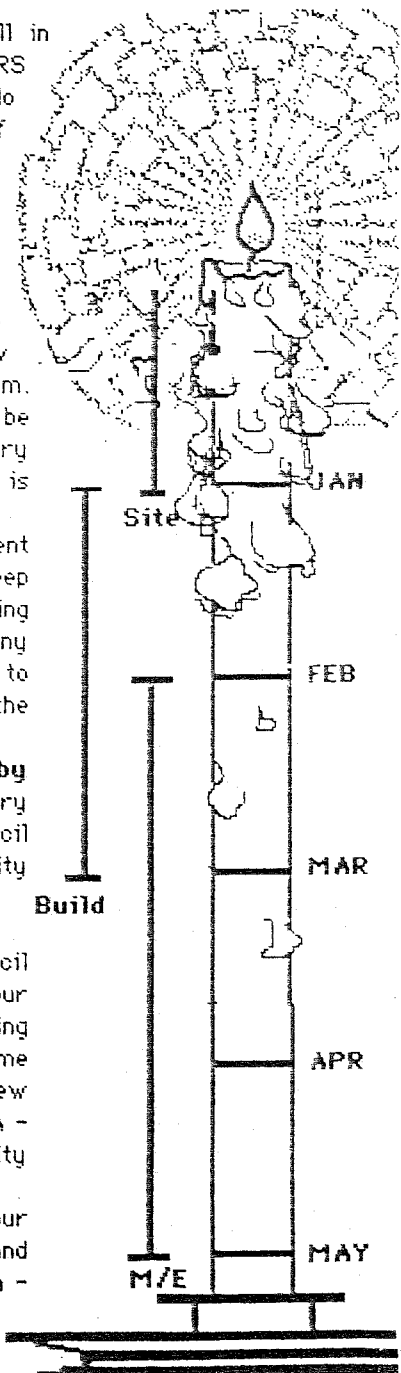
This is about all for the present but from time to time we will keep you posted in the forthcoming issues of SIN. If you have any questions arising from time to time do not hesitate to contact the office.

- H G Slingsby
Secretary
Stewart Island County Council
Electrical Supply Authority

[The Stewart Island County Council Electrical Supply Authority is our County Council members wearing another hat. If you think the name is a mouthful, try typing it a few times - I'll abbreviate it to CESA - Council Electrical Supply Authority - before I get RSI.]

Remember - we must have our house wiring inspected and upgraded before we can hook in - don't wait 'til the last minute!

- Sam]



Key to the Power Candle:- Plant = Delivery of Equipment Build = Building the Powerhouse
Site = Site Works M/E = Mechanical/Electrical Work

Powerhouse Tender Accepted

On Wed 16 Dec the inaugural meeting of the Stewart Island Electrical Supply Authority [SICC in disguise] accepted a tender from Fletcher Construction for building the Island's Powerhouse as its first major item of business. This was the lowest of the six tenders received, and the experience of the company in this type of work was also taken into consideration. Construction of the Powerhouse is due to commence on Jan 15, and it is anticipated that work will have progressed to the stage where the Caterpillar generating plants can be installed by the end of March. These units are now en-route from the USA by sea.

To date work on the scheme is keeping up to schedule, helped to a large degree by the fine weather we have been having recently. Bush has been cleared from the powerhouse site, the road in is formed, with crushed rock laid, and excavation of the actual building site is well underway. Crib walling surrounding the main fuel tanks [which will be provided by Mobil] has been started, and the site for these is ready for the concrete base.

Erection of poles started at Horseshoe Bay and is progressing back towards the powerhouse site, so the brief period of no-roadside poles is now over. Although the power lines will be unavoidably obtrusive, Electrix are doing their best to make the system as inconspicuous as possible. Poles are generally placed on the landward side of the road, and many are part hidden by roadside vegetation. Cross arms have been offset over the road to reduce the need to cut back vegetation to clear the wires.

Meter boxes, insulators and other equipment needed for the reticulation has started to arrive on the Island, and at least one underground cable has been laid to a house. After more than 50 years of talk, the Stewart island Power Scheme is now starting to become a physical reality.

- Sam

Power Connections

A number of residents have asked to have power connections made to their generator shed rather than to the house, so they can still retain their generators to use in case of breakdown of the reticulated system. This is possible, but Electrix Ltd wish to point out the following potential problems:

- ✦ A change-over switch system is possible, but this must be capable of completely isolating generator and reticulated mains and can be costly!
- ✦ In many cases the wiring from present generators to houses would be inadequate should you ever decide to go "all-electric".
- ✦ The meter board installation is a permanent connection, so in the long term your present generator shed could end up being a very expensive meter box to maintain.

In most cases they recommend taking wiring right to the house, even if you do intend keeping your present generator as a source of standby power.

- Sam

SHUTTLEWORTHS ELECTRICAL

120 Tay Street
Ph: 44-312 INVERCARGILL

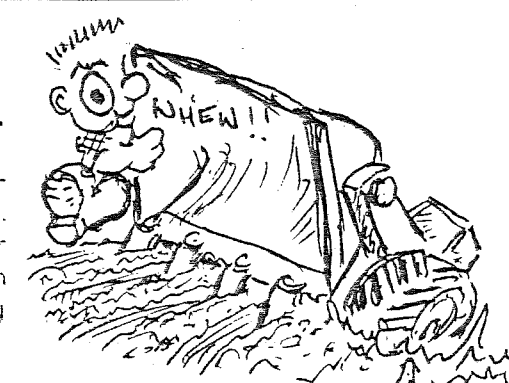
**ALL COMMERCIAL & HOUSEHOLD WIRING
ALL APPLIANCE REPAIRS
&
SALES**

With the advent of reticulated power, property owners will require some degree of electrical work to meet Supply Authority requirements. We would be happy to assist you to meet regulation requirements.

- Cedric Sturgess



The Adventures of Arkwright [Part One]



[Note: The trusty team of Neil "Arkwright" Conner and Steve "Tinker-the-Bell" Briggs, have kept a low profile and avoided Basin Awards to date. Neither of them has upended the "night-cart" to end in the proverbial, or dropped a load of corrugated iron to create a new viewpoint. I'm more than pleased we can treat the following incident as a laugh - it could so very easily have been a tragedy. We're pleased you are still with us Neil! - Sam]

It all started at a pre-Xmas barbecue on Ulva Island when Tink was injured in the course of duty. He was umpiring [for want of a better word] a game of volley-ball. Now Tink is a firm believer in the laws of chance, so was awarding points at random. Scoring difference was anything up to 30 points, first in one team's favour then the other - he certainly can't be accused of favouritism.

Some players who had been brought up on more conventional scoring systems felt this reflected on their ability, which consisted chiefly of leaping in the air in the vague direction of the ball, then adopting poses of varying degrees of elegance in the sand. They were concerned that the wildly fluctuating scores indicated the umpire was getting overheated by the sun - despite the drizzle. Their concern for Tink's health was such that immediate cooling off in the tide was decided [and acted] on - not without protest from the erstwhile umpire.

After this, those more sympathetic with innovative umpiring tried persuading a somewhat reluctant Tink into dry clothes, and in the process a tree root carried out an unprovoked assault on this worthy, upending him. This meant the redoubtable Tink-er-Bell was laid-up in town with a sprained ankle, on the eve of the arrival of the new Stewart Island Storage & Haulage loader.

It was predicted in a number of quarters that something would undoubtedly go wrong if Arkwright was without his right [& left] hand man when the new loader landed on the Island. However, the 8 tonne Clark 35C Michigan machine duly arrived on a barge towed by the ~~Arkwright~~ on the last evening of November, and was offloaded without mishap on Tuesday 1 Dec.

All continued well until Thursday 3rd when Arkwright was working in the quarry, towing the compressor to the upper levels. He applied the brakes and the loader engine stalled, losing power for both brakes and steering.

Ever since Sir Isaac Newton was scolded by that confounded apple, we have been plagued by the laws of gravity. Arkwright was no exception! With the loader and compressor on a steep slope; no motor, no brakes, no steering and no Tink, the inevitable happened and gravity took control. The whole caboodle began to

proceed in the direction of Horseshoe Bay - backwards.

Sir Isaac also gave us laws of motion, which state that under the influence of gravity, falling objects continue to accelerate. To his consternation Neil found these also apply to rolling objects. The compressor, Clark and our mate Arkwright [in that order] were definitely under the influence of gravity and approached Joe Cave's shed with ever-increasing velocity.

According to Newton's theory, falling objects travel in a straight line [more or less]. The compressor was well up on the theory, so on reaching a curve proceeded in a straight line over the road edge to carry out a botanical investigation of the scrub in the gully below. Loader and driver followed in hot pursuit.

The compressor, loader and Arkwright, all in full cry, would come close to being an irresistible force, but scrub en-masse proved to be an immovable object, so the whole procession came to an abrupt halt, on the verge of disaster, with the digger's teeth biting valiantly at the verge of the road.

Neil descended nonchalantly from the cab, his ruddy countenance the colour of putty, kissed the ground, kicked the Clark and hastily withdrew the recently uttered promise never to curse Tink again. His deathly pallor continued for a number of hours and it took several doses of elixir from the brown bottle with the green label [applied internally] to restore him to his normal hues.

By the weekend Arkwright was back to normal, and having spurned the freely given advise from several knowledgeable local worthies and other South Sea experts, proceeded to dig his way out of the predicament with "Dink" [though still minus compe-ed Tink]. Fearlessly mounting the cast Clark, he was finally able to drive triumphantly from the brink of disaster, over the brink of the road and back into the quarry.

Surgery to the loader has hopefully cured the fault which put Arkwright in his almost fatal predicament. Tink returned muttering that with him at the helm all would go smoothly. It did too - so smoothly that the Clark spent some time up to its belly in mud, wheels spinning madly!

So all is right with the world, Arkwright is still with us, Tink is back, and work is progressing on the powerhouse site. Cheers! - Sam [TIC]

INVERGAS for LPG

LPG stands for Liquefied Petroleum Gas, which has now been used in NZ for many years. It may sometimes be referred to as bottled gas or by trade names such as Rockgas, Handigas and Citigas.

When using LPG indoors, adequate ventilation is vital. Appliances must never be operated in completely enclosed rooms, cabins or caravans.

LPG comes in cylinders which should be kept in the correct upright position so that liquid is never allowed into the valve and regulator, otherwise "freezing" of the valve and regulator will occur and damage can be done.

LPG installation must be carried out by a registered gasfitter. Any joints and the regulator connection should be checked for leaks using "soapy water". Brush on a strong solution of dish detergent in water and watch it carefully for 30-60 seconds. Any leaks will show as an expanding bubble. This should be done regularly and ideally PQL cylinders connections should be checked each time a cylinder is changed.

The cost of LPG is 9.9 cents a unit. A commercial user can claim back the sales tax included in the LPG price on a form MR74, available from the Post Office.

We lease all sizes of LPG cylinders at 14.5cents a day [GST included], which is approximately \$4-40 a month.

Invergas has a serviceman who goes to Stewart Island on the last Wednesday of the month, so you can ring the Gas Department on Ph: 44-773 and get an appointment for that day.

LPG appliances are getting better all the time and there are now heaters for anywhere you would want them. Small ones for the tent when camping, or in the caravan or boat and bigger heaters for the home or crib. These can be inbuilt or mobile for use in any room or the garage. Invergas also have commercial heaters for the wall, roof or under the floor.

In the kitchen we have gas cookers with four high-speed burners, griller and oven with a flame-failure valve. Some of the cookers have automatic programmed oven, fan convection, rotisserie and a range of nine colours. There is an eye level gas oven and griller with a 4-burner benchtop hob. For the caravan or boat there are small cookers with two burners and a grill.

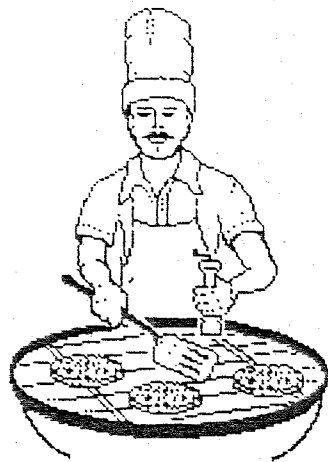
Invergas are importing Sibir LPG refrigerators from Switzerland and have a good range from the small 2.8 cu ft for the caravan to the big 9.6 cu ft for the home. Some small fridges are 2-way [LPG/240V] and some 3-way [LPG/240V/12V].

With summer here, people are thinking about picnics and barbecues. At the moment we have round BBQs you can take anywhere, through to rust-proof bigger sizes on trolleys, with two to four burners, piezo ignition and windshields - enough to feed an army.

We stock an extensive range of toasters, lights, water pumps, water heaters, and as well have experienced staff to help select the correct appliance and install it for you.

Have a happy Xmas and New Year and we hope to see you soon. - **Geoff Keown** [Invergas]

Oban Volunteer Fire Brigade



Enjoy your
Summer
Barbeques

But Don't Let Them Spread!

The Fire Brigade celebrated the second anniversary of the new Station Building with an open day on Saturday 1 November. The cooking of sausages and chips for the kids came to an abrupt halt when a fire call to Ken and Rene Boniface's resulted in a mass exodus of members. This must have been one of the quickest turn-outs on record, and the best-dressed, with the crew all in dress uniform.

A second call came in the evening, when Chris and Lesley Squire's car burnt out overlooking Golden Bay. With petrol gravity feeding from the fuel tank to the burning engine compartment, this proved difficult to extinguish, even with foam.

The dry period over November resulted in a number of calls to fill water tanks - as well as producing a high fire hazard in the scrub and bush around the village. This has reduced with rain, but will rise as weather improves. Barbeques can be a potential fire hazard. Gas models are convenient and present less fire risk, but the good old wood or charcoal barbeque still has lots to offer in the flavour department - just make sure you use a proper fireplace and that the embers are completely doused before you leave. Just a final couple of points: Check your gas fittings and chimneys so your flaming Xmas roast doesn't mean the Brigade has cold joint because of a dinner-time call-out like last year!

Merry Xmas - **Oban Volunteer Fire Brigade**

Fire

Despite popular opinion there can be a fire-risk in the bush on Stewart Island particularly after a dry spell like we have had recently. New Zealand was the last major forested landmass to be colonised by humans, and the forests of Stewart Island evolved in the absence of fire.

Forest doesn't recover readily after burning, and is usually replaced by scrub, fern or more commonly a good crop of gorse. Gorse seed germinates well after fire, so repeated burning perpetuates the gorse cover. Eventually native seedlings will become established, but it's a very slow process, so it's better to prevent accidental fire in the first place.

Before Lighting Up

- ✦ Get a permit - if you are burning scrub arrangements can be made with DOC to have water supply and pumps available if these are thought to be necessary.
- ✦ Check the weather forecast and check with DOC on the current fire danger - they make daily records of fire risk.
- ✦ Let your neighbours know you are burning, so they don't make an unnecessary fire-call.
- ✦ Fires must be attended at all times

Fire Permits

A fire permit is needed year round for any fire lit in the open [apart from campfires and barbecues in proper fireplaces]. Permits are issued by **Stewart Island County Council** for places in the settled part of the Island.

The permit is a legal document setting out specified conditions and times for lighting the fire. It doesn't exonerate you from any damage the fire may cause. The responsibility to conduct a safe burn is yours.

You can reduce the chance of a fire breakaway by taking these precautions:

- ✦ Make sure there are wide, clear firebreaks.
- ✦ Be alert for fires started by flying sparks. Last year Lindsay & Lorraine Squires lost their generator and shed from a spark from a rubbish fire!
- ✦ Have tools and water ready to contain the fire if necessary. A shovel and bucket of water for a small rubbish fire helps. Only light as much as you can keep well under control.
- ✦ Don't burn under windy conditions.
- ✦ Once the fire is over, rake debris and smouldering ash away from the edges and into the burn area. One of the most serious burning problems is caused by reignition of controlled burns - often hours later.

WATER



The **ONLY** way to kill your fire
before your Fire Kills

Memories of Gordon Buxton

I guess there wouldn't be too many gardens on Stewart Island that don't have a little bit of Gordon in them, whether it be flower, tree, shrub or vegetable.

I know I do, and every time I'm out looking at them I can still hear him saying, "Now make sure those plants are firmly in the ground or the wind will blow them round and round, making them weak. Get in there with your boot and tramp the earth firmly around the plant." His advice was much like him, firmly planted in the things he knew, but always willing to learn more, as his pile of library books proved.

As at home as he was in the garden, he was also at home on the sea. He loved boats and ships and as I admired his masterpiece so beautifully made with all the detail, I could see it had been made by one who loved what he did. There was many a story traded with visiting vessels coming into the Bay, and Gordon could tell stories with the best of them, including wonderful accounts of his years as a fishing guide, knowing just the right places to go as well as the right way to get that "big one".

Gordon always had time for people old or young and I often think of all the children who have passed through Gordon and Joan's home. As well as six of their own and all the grandchildren, there's been numerous Island children feeling very much at home at the Buxtons'. Of course there was always the great fun of feeding the ducks, which came year after year to their place and of hearing Gordon go down to the water's edge calling them and the ducks faithfully coming to the call.

I know I'll miss those friendly talks with him in the cool of a summer's evening or on wintery days over steaming hot cups of tea, but it is oh so nice to have all the memories.

- Jo Riksem

[Gordon Buxton died Tues 3 Nov 1987. He would have been 77 this Christmas. He and Joan have been permanent residents on Stewart Island for the past ten years, and have both contributed a great deal to the community in that time.]

Oban Presbyterian Church

She's pretty, vivacious, appealing to young and old, a smile on her face and a chuckle in her talk. You sometimes see her working out at the aerobics class in the morning or going for a jog in the evening. She's learning to knit from Helen Bissland and quickly meeting the locals. But if you really want to see her shine, come and see her at Oban Presbyterian Church, Sunday mornings at 10.30.

Who is this person? She's Tracy Wenger, an American student minister, visiting us on the island till Sunday 13 Dec. Tracy's been studying at Knox Theological College for the past year. She learned of New Zealand and Stewart Island from Rev and Mrs Zigler, who visited the island some years ago and will be remembered by some Islanders. Feel free to drop into the Manse and have a visit with Tracy. She's eager to meet you all.

- Jo Riksem

Christmas Peace
&
Goodwill to all!

From:-

Stewart
Island
News



Christmas Services

Community Carol Service - 8pm Sat 19 Dec - St Andrew's Church
Midnight Service - 11.45pm Thu 24 Dec - St Andrew's Anglican Church
Christmas Day Service - 10am Fri 25 Dec - Oban Presbyterian Church

Fishing Lines . . . Amateur Quotas

The sea has provided a livelihood for Stewart Islanders from the days when the first Maori visited these shores, right through to the present day. First it was food for local consumption, but resources of the sea have been used for trade ever since the first kit of preserved muttonbirds was sent north in exchange for kumera.

Smoked and salt fish were exported as early as the 1860's, while oysters, crayfish and blue cod were canned in the 1870's. Freezing fish began in the 1890's and now Stewart Island seafoods are being sold on the other side of the world.

Regulations attempt to ensure the resources of the sea aren't overexploited, and apply to amateur as well as commercial fishermen.

Recreational fishing on Stewart Island today is much like it was in the Marlborough Sounds 30 years ago, when it was easy to go out with a handline and fill a dinghy with blue cod in an hour or so. Many people did - and as a consequence the area became overfished. Now the amateur limit for blue cod in the Sounds is 12 fish per day, compared with 30 in the rest of the country.

The regulations governing amateur fishing are generous - one person can gather more than enough to feed a family and stay well within the legal limits and fish is best fresh, not frozen!

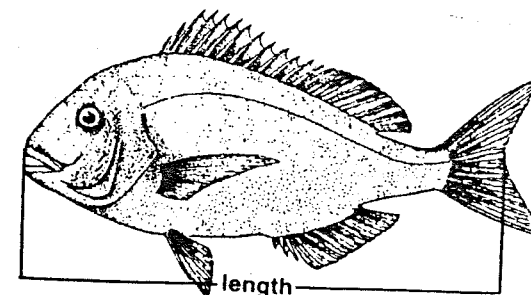
Information for Amateurs

The following information is not a complete summary of the law. A more detailed pamphlet is available from the DOC Information Centre.

Finfish

The figures here give **MINIMUM** net mesh size, **MINIMUM** fish length [measured from the tip of the nose to the end of the middle ray of the tail fin - as shown in the diagram] and **MAXIMUM** daily limit of fish per person.

| Fish Species | Mesh | Length | Limit |
|--------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Blue cod | - | 30cm | 30 |
| Moki | 115mm | 40cm | 30 |
| Butterfish | 108mm | 35cm | 30 |
| Flatfish | 100mm | 25cm | 30 |



Shellfish

Shellfish must be landed in the shell, and in general measurements are taken from the greatest length of the shell. Paua and mussels cannot be taken with SCUBA gear [snorkel diving is OK] and in fact you can't legally possess these shellfish when you have SCUBA gear with you!

* **OYSTERS** may only be taken from 1 March to 31 August, so are now **OUT OF SEASON!**

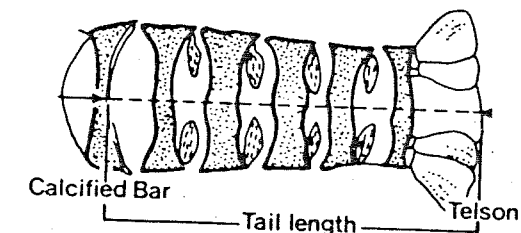
* **SCALLOPS** may only be taken from 15 July to 14 February

Figures given are for **MINIMUM** length and **MAXIMUM** daily limit per person.

| Shellfish species | Length | Limit |
|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Cockles | - | 150 |
| Kina [Sea eggs] | - | 50 |
| Mussels | - | 50 |
| Paua - ordinary | 125mm | 10 |
| - yellow foot | 80mm | 10 |
| Pipi | - | 150 |
| Scallops | 100mm | 20 |
| Tuatua | - | 150 |

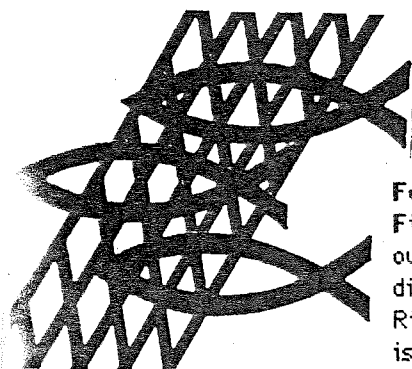
Rock Lobster [Crayfish]

Only **SIX** rock lobster can be taken in a day, and **MINIMUM** tail length is 152mm. Tails are measured from the rear of the calcified bar on the underside of the first segment to the tip of the telson of the tail fan.



- * You cannot take or possess rock lobsters:
 - carrying external eggs [inspectors can tell if the eggs have been removed]
 - in soft shell stage or that can't be measured
- * You can't spear them, or use anything that would puncture the exoskeleton.
- * Pots must have a float marked with the fisherman's surname and initials & an escape gap least 54mm high and 300mm long.

So there it is - follow the regulations and keep Stewart Island the great spot for recreational fishing that it is today!



Maori Fishing Rights

This notice to members of the **Federation of Commercial Fishermen** [14 Dec 1987] outlines the current status of discussions on Maori Fishing Rights, and gives an idea of what is going on behind the scenes.

NZFCF - NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Recent events triggered by Maori fishing right claims have caused a considerable concern and uncertainty amongst the commercial fishing fraternity at large. Without getting into the dangerous and uncertain business of prophecy, we will in the following text attempt to put matters into perspective. Some members may have wondered what the Federation has been doing on their behalf since the High Court granted the Interim Injunctions. The most effective form of action in matters such as this is generally carried out by way of negotiation and the Federation has been extremely active in discussions with many parties. Actions that the Federation has been party to have resulted in the following:

1. Fishing for squid and jack mackerel can proceed on an annual basis
2. Paua fishermen can now receive their ITQ notices and the paua buy-back can be completed.
3. All other fishing, e.g. rock lobster, scallops etc, can proceed for the time being under their present management regimes.

WORKING PARTY

The Government has agreed to set up a working party made up of three nominees of the NZ Maori Council and three representatives of the Crown. It is expected that an announcement will be made in respect of the working party and its terms of reference in the very near future. It is our current understanding that the working party will be called upon to complete its deliberations and report back to Government by the 30th June 1988. During this time the working party will be taking wide-ranging submissions and consulting with all affected parties.

THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

Members should be quite clear that the Maori fishing rights claims are an argument between the Maori community and the Crown. This is not an argument between the Maori community and commercial fishing interests. That is not to say that commercial fishing interests may not be involved or affected in terms of resolution but means that the commercial sector must place its case in terms of its rights before the Crown.

In discussions that the Federation has been party to with Maori leaders, they [members of the Maori Council and Tribal leaders] have made it very clear that their argument does not lie with the current commercial fishing fraternity. They have also stated that they do not wish to dispossess or cause hardship for current fishermen. The truth of those statements has certainly and most admirably been borne out in their actions in respect of the paua fishery, whereby they have consented to a variation to the Interim Injunction permitting the final ITQ'ing of paua and the finalisation of the buy-back. Upon being made aware of the paua fishermen's situation brought about by the Injunction, they have acted with faith and honoured their word. It would do the fishing industry no harm to recognise that fact and in turn act honourably throughout future discussions and negotiations.

The Government has been made well aware of the concerns of the industry and the Minister has noted the concern and stated that the Government does not intend to let the members of the fishing industry down, very especially in light of the trauma that the industry has recently suffered due to restructuring.

The Government and for that matter all parties who have been involved to date, recognise the futility and the dangers of continued litigation by way of the courts, thus the move towards consultation and negotiation initiated primarily through the establishment of the working party.

We believe that there would be no harm in members either individually or through their Associations, discussing their concerns with their local MP's [of whichever political persuasion - because we believe that this matter should be treated in a bi-partisan manner] and briefing them as to the importance of commercial fishing to them and their communities.

As never before we believe this is a time for rational thinking, calm deliberation and common-sense. Panic and Pre-emptive actions will not serve anybody's purpose.

We have every reason to believe that this very important matter before us all can be resolved in such a way as to satisfy the requirements of all parties. The manner in which this mutual satisfaction could be achieved may emerge before too very long [after Christmas], and until then we must recommend that we all exercise patience.

Finally, we can state that it is our firm understanding that Government and MAF wish to retain the Quota Management System as a means of managing our fisheries and will wish to retain that system and build on it.

Thanks to - **Mery Moodie**

Nature Notes

The exuberance of spring has settled into early summer with less birdsong now territories are established and the routine of raising broods has begun. Tui still provide the dominant birdsong round the village, but there is also an increase in activity from kakas and parakeets.

Spider orchids began flowering on Ulva Island and along some local tracks in late October and were soon followed by the first hooded orchids of the season. Fuchsia have been flowering prolifically and pigeons are feeding on wineberry - once more beating winemakers to the crop before it ripens.

Introduced Flame Trees and Pride of Madiera are in full flower round the roadsides, while the huge leaves of *Gunnera* plants make visitors think that local gardeners have developed a prize strain of rhubarb.



Know Your Trees No: 2



Kamahi

[*Weinmannia racemosa*]

Although it is one of the commonest trees in New Zealand, kamahi is not well known. Until the export of chips to Japan for papermaking began in the early 1980's, it had few uses, and as it is not particularly showy, to many it is just another tree.

Here on Stewart Island however, kamahi dominates most of the forest. In places it is the only canopy tree, particularly where the emergent rimu, miro and totara have been removed by milling. Leaves range in size from around 2.5 to 5cm long, with blunt teeth round the margins. Larger leaves are found on shaded parts of the tree, and small ones in full sunlight often have a reddish tinge. This is particularly

so in fresh growth, and young kamahi which has been cut back can form a copper coloured hedge. Leaves of juvenile plants usually have three leaflets on a single stalk. Similar three-part leaves can be found sprouting direct from the trunks of mature trees.

Individual flowers are tiny, with four petals, but clustered together along a 10cm stalk they form a showy raceme. The plant's scientific name, *Weinmannia racemosa*, comes from these flower clusters. At peak flowering the upright racemes look for all the world like Christmas tree candles, and the whole canopy takes on a delicate pastel flush of the white, cream and pink flowers.

When it is flowering, kamahi is a main source of nectar for bees which gives our locally produced Stewart Island honey a distinctive "bush" flavour. Quite a range of other insects also feed on the nectar, and pollinated the flowers before honeybees were introduced here a few years back. These insects are food for the grey warbler and other birds feeding in the forest canopy.

Seeds are tiny, with tufts of hairs that help dispersal by wind. This was how kamahi crossed Foveaux Strait to reach the Island when the climate warmed at the end of the last ice-age and forest returned to these southern regions. Other seeds such as those of rimu, miro and totara, crossed by "Pigeon Post" and were dropped prepacked with fertiliser. No beech trees occur on the Island naturally as they have a heavy seed, which isn't particularly attractive to birds.

Seeds landing on moist sites like rotting moss-covered logs have the best chance of survival and many seedlings can be found growing in "soil" caught in the rough trunks of tree ferns. Often the roots of these seedlings grow down to the ground, branching and merging, and in time the kamahi grows completely round the tree fern. There are a couple of classic examples of this this along Raroa Track.

Kamahi saplings often grow so close that they rub together in the wind, wearing away the bark, and eventually fusing together, apparently as one tree, with a very gnarled and twisted trunk. Those knocked over by falling trees turn branches into a pallisade of new trunks or resprout again from the base. Saplings growing in waterlogged infertile soil often die back, then resprout again. These habits helped kamahi to grow back quickly after forest damage caused by windthrows or logging.

Old trees can support hanging gardens of astelias, autumn orchids and other perching plants, but never in the same profusion here on Stewart Island as they do in higher rainfall areas such as Taranaki and on the West Coast.

Kamahi timber is reddish-brown, with darker streaks, and can be very attractive when worked, taking an oil or wax finish well. It is also reasonably tough and durable. Large trees with straight trunks are rare, and the wood is difficult to season without warping and cracking, so the timber had little commercial use. There is a local opening though for small-scale wood turning and carving, producing small souvenirs for visitors to the Island.



Garden Circle Notes - by Linda TeAu

At the November meeting members discussed what they had been planting in their gardens. Plants ranged from the usual potatoes, peas, lettuce, cabbage and beans to yams, courgettes, kumikumi and tomatoes for those with hothouses. Members were concerned at the indiscriminate use of poison sprays and haphazard spraying on the island, especially in adverse weather conditions. Everyone uses sprays at some time but it is the incorrect use that can be dangerous.

A colourful array of competition flowers was presented:

Azalea: 1st P Wilson
2nd D Jenkin
3rd K Morecraft
Rhododendron: 1st D Jenkin
2nd D Timpson
3rd I Tait

The pests competition produced a huhu grub, gnats and slaters: 1st A Walker
2nd P Wilson
3rd I Tait

Next month's meeting will be held at Mrs D Timpsons home and being Christmas month the competition will be a Christmas Decoration

As kamahi had little commercial value it was used for many of the Island's bush tramways that brought logs from the forest to the sawmill. The wooden rail, which were alternately wet and dry are now rotted, but you can still find sleepers, saturated in the wet forest soil for 50 years, which are still quite sound.

The wood burns quite well, particularly after a season's good drying. Tannin extracted from the bark was used for some time in the leather tanning industry. It was also used by the Maori to produce a rich black dye for flax, and is still used for this purpose by some spinners.

The casual visitor to Stewart Island could be excused for thinking that the forest has never been touched by man, but virtually all the bush on the Eastern lowlands north of Paterson Inlet is second growth. The rimu and miro that survive were too inaccessible, mis-shapen or small to be worth felling in the days when only the best was taken. Farming was never an economic venture so conversion to pasture didn't follow milling to any extent. The "worthless" kamahi left standing by the timber millers provided shelter for regeneration of other species, and forms the heart of the forest we know today. - Sam

using something from the garden and three garden flowers less than 20cm high.

Garden Hints:-

- ≠ For wireworm, sow mustard, then dig it in
- ≠ Plant seed in egg cartons then place these in the ground. The carton will rot away.
- ≠ For mildew, spray with solution of one teaspoon of baking powder to two litres of water.

Gardening Guide For December:-

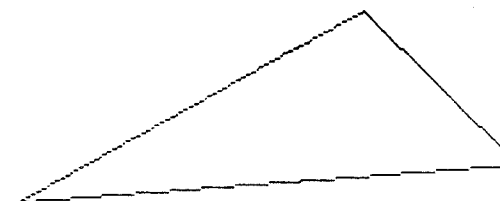
- ≠ Radish, carrot, beans and parsnip seeds can still be sown.
- ≠ Early winter crops such as leeks, silver beet, spinach, brussel sprouts, broccoli & parsley seeds can be sown now.
- ≠ Already planted seeds like lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber & courgettes can be planted out.
- ≠ Give plenty of water when planting, and remember that a drought can be fatal for young plants, more so than strong winds. When water is in short supply, use soapy water from washing; this is especially good for cabbages.
- ≠ In the flower garden chrysanthemums, gladioli and dahlias will need staking as they get taller.
- ≠ Anemone and ranunculus can be planted this month for spring flowering. Plant out all kinds of annuals. Sow marigold, aster, zinnia and cosmos seeds which will thrive in hot weather.

As Others See Us

Stewart Island on the Map - - -

Sometimes we find Stewart Island left off maps, and I guess by world standards we are a pretty insignificant dot. For a time we didn't appear on the TV weather map, though this didn't make any difference to the weather. Then we got left of the label on Mac's Ale bottles, but we were eventually reinstated there - even if we are only the size of a fly speck.

Out of curiosity I got a computer programme called *Mapper*, which was reviewed as drawing maps of anywhere. Having put in the latitude and longitude of the Island, plus height above ground I wanted the map drawn from [1km]. I pushed the "go" button. The disc drive hummed and clicked - and finally this is what appeared in the middle of the screen:-



It's a public domain programme, which means there is no copyright on it - unfortunately there's also no record of who wrote it, a pity, for someone out there remembered us, and I'd like to thank them - even if we only appear as a triangle. From 100km up we see:-



So I guess we can't complain - we're in better shape than the South Island!

- - - On the Screen - - -

Stewart Island gets a pretty good coverage on the TV screen, with recent filming being done of transfer of the Kakapo, and of the Mason Bay muster, while the salmon farms appear regularly, with more to come.

The Koha team were here on November, filming aspects of past times on Rakiura and Ruapuke, and recording the views of some of the present residents of Maori descent. They caught the spell of brilliantly fine weather we've been having recently.



So did Nimrod Films, who were here at the same time, filming a video of New Zealand. It's being aimed at independent travellers, and will present the Island as somewhere off the beaten tourist routes that is still quite easy to get to.

Filming included aerial views round the Island and shots of a couple enjoying the Island's easily accessible beaches and bush. They visited Acker's Stone House, went out on ToaTai and had a scooter ride at Ringaringa.

The Stewart Island segment of the filming will occupy around one and a half minutes of the total 25 minute video - not too bad when it's covering almost the whole of NZ. That minute and a half of film took one and a half long days to shoot, with no time wasted along the way. The crew only intend spending a day in Queenstown.

It was a nostalgic return for Geoff Jamieson, Jo Riksem's uncle, who was born here on Stewart Island. His grandmother Mrs Cosgrove, ran Oban House back in the 1920's - well before it got it's bar and became South Sea Hotel. He's the grip for the crew - responsible for the tripods, trolleys and other paraphernalia for holding the cameras. Not a job to be taken lightly when you're mounting a camera on the outside of a nose of an Islander. After all, as the Australian cameraman told Murray Donald before they took off "Go easy, you've got the equivalent of a Porche on the nose of your plane!"

The producer's assistant became the first casualty for Rakiura Riders, taking a tumble from a scooter while avoiding a pothole at Golden Bay.

The Island is also being included in a video being shot by Electric Pictures of Christchurch. This is to be aimed primarily at Americans visiting New Zealand, and the presenter is Lisa Gibbons, co-host of "Entertainment Tonight".

Unfortunately weather wasn't as co-operative as it was for the Nimrod team, but diving shots were taken from Merv Whipp's new boat *Arctur Express*, as were bush and aerial scenes. Indoor activity included the "Edita" playing his second game of pool for 1987 - most atypical!

- - - and in Print

The *Stewart Island Visitor's Guide and Souvenir* is to be reprinted by Craigs - it aims to give a factual account of the Island, unlike some articles which appear in print - so turn the page!

...& in the Imagination!

There's been a lot written about Stewart Island over the years, in articles, books, and novels. We all see the world a little differently, and any reporter or writer is bound to write something that others disagree with from time to time. Ted Jones recently supplied an article that appeared in *True Adventure*, Oct 1968, under the title "Surf Bunnies of Stewart Island".

It describes the Island as a real tropical paradise - things seem to have changed a bit in the past couple of decades.

The author, Joe Cassini certainly saw an Island that is different to what we know today. I've got my suspicions he may only have seen it in maps, books and in his mind. Does anyone recall meeting him - if he was here he must have been instantly recognised from a massive lump on the side of his face, for the article is so tongue-in-cheek.

Here's a few quotes - more in future issues! As this is a family magazine I've deleted the frequent references to half-clad ladies frequenting the streets & beaches! - Sam

"What Stewart Island doesn't have are radio or television stations, newspapers, private telephones, supermarkets, department stores, or sidewalks. It also has no clocks. Who cares about time? Contact with the outside world is maintained through a dilapidated two-room telecommunications shed. Transportation is limited to twenty-odd vehicles, including one minibus-taxi which never runs. The main drag Half Moon Highway, is only eight feet wide and one mile long."

[Well, sort of OK so far Joe - Sam]

"All Stewart seems to have is sun, beaches, beautiful girls, friendly people, perfect weather, rivers full of gold, the best hunting and fishing in the world, and the swiftest night life under Capricorn. Errol Flynn used to hang out there in his youth. Now you know why."

[Stretching it a bit here here mate - Sam]

"Stewart is two hours from Auckland by air [via Air New Zealand's pontoon equipped Cessna Skywagons], or two hours from Bluff, the nearest mainland port, by the *Wairua* modern ferry-boat."

[The bit about the *Wairua* is fine, but either Auckland has moved further north, or planes must have got slower in the past 20 years, and I wonder what happened to the dear old amphib?]

[Joe Cassini then talks of the trip from "Bluff to Bluff, with passengers stripping off as the weather gets distinctly tropical as we cross over Foveaux Strait - Oh that it were still the same!]

"It's the work of that warm-water current which swings down under New Zealand, leaving coconut palms, kauris and hibiscus on Stewart Island which, geographically, is as far south of the Equator as Quebec is north of it [One important weather note: the seasons are reversed here. Winter is hot and sunny. The summer months cooler, rainier.]"

[Well, there is a warmish current, and a few kauri trees in gardens, though I haven't seen many coconut palms and hibiscus recently. I suppose if you're talking of northern hemisphere seasons that bit about reversed seasons applies.]

"Stewart's main town is Oban on the northern flank of Half Moon Bay, a pretty place swept by cooling sea breezes, with white wooden buildings that made me think I was in Monterey California. In the beginning of the nineteenth century it harboured hundreds of whaling vessels. Rough and ready crews crowded some deep-sea fishing craft in out from here for waters known to big game hunters around the world."

[Whaling vessels did visit, but not in the hundreds. Lonneker's had a licenced hotel in the 1870's and I guess there's been more than one sly-grog shop in the days when there were no licenced premises on the island - but 20? I didn't realise crayfish and blue cod were big game fish - we live and learn! I guess!]

"Discotheques have replaced the waterfront grog shops. The biggest [and loudest] is He-He's which features indoor and outdoor dancing under the coconut palms. The music of the stereo-tape system is up to the minute, piercingly loud super go-go that really blasts your eardrums."

... It's dark inside, though and hard to see, so the recommended spot for girl-watchers is an outdoor table at The Fusilug across the way. ..."

[And here I'd always believed the South Sea was the swinging centre of island nightlife - could someone please provide details of He-He's and the Fusilug - and who was the vandal who chopped down the coconut palms?]

So much for life round Oban in 1968- Joe Cassini found more wild night life further afield too, but we'll leave that for the next installment - Sam



Southern Airlines

Well another month has come and gone and what beautiful weather. We are now into the summer groups of travellers. Namely the Taiari Lions, Natural History Groups and fishing parties.

One of the pilots spotted a smoke flare a few weeks ago but everything turned out to be OK - a family on a days fishing expedition. We have just had the Nimrod Film crew working for the NZTP filming scenic aspects of the Island.

Coming up on Sat 12 Dec is the annual Foveaux Yacht Race. Why not charter a flight from Ryans Creek and go out for a look? Don't forget the Weekend Special is an ideal way for your friends to come over to Stewart Island.

At the present time it looks as if El Nino is staying away. As a matter of interest, the Invercargill rainfall is 60mm less than average for November.

Britten Norman Islander

As I wrote last month I will tell you how the aircraft flies. The aeroplane has two wings and a tail plane. As it accelerates the wind goes over the wings which are curved slightly on top. The air pressure is less on the top than underneath which causes suction up there which produces lift. It is interesting to note that the aircraft gets its lift from the top of the wing, not the bottom.

The elevator is attached to the tail plane. When the control column is pulled back it makes the nose go up, and when pushed forward the nose goes down. The rudder keeps the aircraft balanced in a turn plus keeps it going in a straight line, especially on take off. Out on the wings are the ailerons, which when turned one way or the other cause the aircraft to roll in that direction.

The plane is pulled through the air by the propellers, which are really airscrews.

Next month we shall discuss turbulence.

Over and out

- Flying Phil

Charter Chatter

Last month's good weather [in between blows of course] saw lots of passengers and freight carried. The *Endeavour* ferried passengers for a week while the *Acheron* had her annual spruce-up for survey.

Calm seas saw the backlog of means of transportation cleared - tractors, trucks and a horse which left some plip-plops for the garden, bless it!

The salmon are regaining their appetites with the warmer weather, gobbling some 40 tonne of fish food pellets a week. There have been two smolt transfers so far, 48,000 for NZ Salmon and 20,000 for Regal Salmon. Regal's new stainless transfer tanks performed well when the fish actually arrived - we were all geared up to go one night, only to hear the carrier had deprived the fish of oxygen in transit; lucky for you Gordy those 20,000 don't come off your quota!

Two large salmon cages have been towed over by the *Polaris*, under strict stress controls - no tow exceeds a five tonne pull.

The first of the power scheme gear has been carried - wire coils and two Electrix trucks. The power poles have arrived in Bluff and are on their way across the strait.

November sees a staff change - I am leaving to go back fishing [not sure if that means self-employment or unemployment] after an enjoyable stint working on bigger boats.

To the Big Glory boys at the *Kiwi* - next time you're diving there, could you please pick up the £3 big tyre, left by mistake last Black Friday. Mat said "Cast off", and Tracker did just that - including the fender!

- Kay Cooper

[Thanks for the Charter Chatter Kay - We hope you'll report on the fishing scene when you take up your new role - Sam]

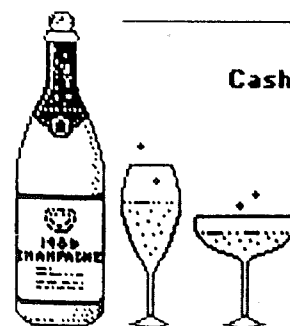
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Excellent Specials often below town prices!

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Stewart Island Events Diary - Dec 1987/Jan 1988

It's that time of year again, with more going on than anyone can keep up with. Keep an eye on the Noticeboard for further developments.

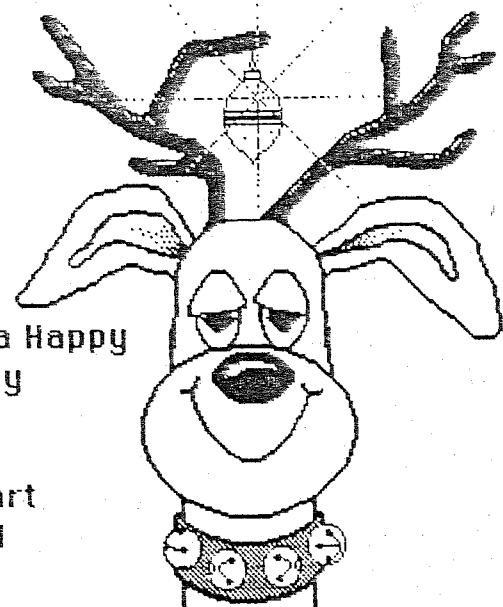
DECEMBER

- Fri 11 Barn Dance** [School Committee]
 - * 8.00pm - County Hall - [\$5 Single]
 - Sat 12 SI Gun Club Competitions**
 - * 9.00am - Gun Club
 - * Food & Refreshments Available
 - Foveaux Yacht Race**
 - * Departs Bluff 1.00pm
 - * Arrives HMB around 5.00pm [with luck]
 - * 2.00pm - 7-a-side Rugby [Trail Park]
 - * 5.00pm-ish - BBQ [Trail Park]
 - Sharyn - Streets Ahead** [Hairdresser]
 - * Contact: Elaine - Ph:391-011
 - Social Evening** - Lindsay & Lorraine's
 - * Carol Singing
 - * Farewell Tracy
 - Sun 13 SI Gun Club Competitions**
 - * 9.00am Gun Club
 - * Food & Refreshments Available
 - Gun Club Presentation Dinner**
 - * 6.00pm - South Sea Hotel
 - * All Welcome
 - Wed 16 AGM Health Liaison Committee**
 - * 2.00pm - [RSA]
 - Thu 17 School End of Year Function**
 - * 7.30pm County Hall
 - Fri 18 End of School Year**
 - [New Term starts Tue 2 Feb 1988]
 - Traffic Officer** taking Licences
 - * Contact County Office
 - Sat 19 Community Carol Service**
 - * 8.00pm - [St Andrews Ang Church]
 - Community Xmas Dance**
 - * 8.00pm - [County Hall] - [\$17 single]
 - * Country & Rock'n'Roll by Action Replay
 - * Supper Provided * BYO
 - Thu 24 Midnight Christmas Service**
 - * 11.45pm - St Andrews Ang Church
 - Fri 25 Christmas Day Service**
 - * 10.30am - Oban Presbyterian Church
- Merry Christmas
& Peace To All**
- Tue 29 Price Peak** [DOC]
 - * 9.30am - Depart Golden Bay [\$20]
 - Wed 30 Evening Talk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00pm - DOC Info Centre [\$1]
 - Thu 31 Lions Fishing Contest**
 - * 7.00am - HMB Wharf [\$10]
 - Birdman Contest** [DOC]
 - * 2.30pm - HMB Wharf - [\$5 Entry fee]
 - New Year's Eve Dance**
 - * 8.00pm - County Hall

Welcome to 1988 with whatever it has to offer the community of Stewart Island - may there be more good than ill for all who live or visit here!

JANUARY

- Mon 04 Port William Walk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00am - Depart: HMB Wharf - [\$15]
- Evening Talk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00pm - DOC Info Centre - [\$1]
- Tue 05 Ulva Island** [DOC]
 - * 10.00am - depart: Golden Bay - [\$15]
- Wed 06 Seashore Study** [DOC]
 - * 11.00am - DOC Info Centre
- Thu 07 Sawmill Exploration** [DOC]
 - * 9.30am - DOC Info Centre
- Fri 08 Sea Bird & Seal Cruise** [DOC]
 - * 10.00am - Depart: HMB Wharf - [\$15]
- Evening Walk** [DOC]
 - * 9pm-1am - DOC Info Centre
- Sat 09 Fun Run/Barbecue** [DOC]
 - * 11.00am - DOC Info Centre
- Mon 11 Little Glory/Ocean Beach** [DOC]
 - * 6.00am - Depart: Golden Bay - [\$15]
- Evening Talk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00pm - DOC Info Centre - [\$1]
- Tue 12 Town Tracks Walk** [DOC]
 - * 10.00am - DOC Info Centre
- Wed 13 Evening Talk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00pm - DOC Info Centre - [\$1]
- Thu 14 Ulva Island** [DOC]
 - * 10.00am - Depart: Golden Bay - [\$15]
- Fri 15 Local History Ramble** [DOC]
 - * 10.00am - DOC Info Centre
- Evening Talk** [DOC]
 - * 8.00am - DOC Info Centre - [\$1]
- Sat 16 Seashore Study** [DOC]
 - * 9.30am - DOC Info Centre



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Stewart
Island
News

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- * **9 acres** at Horseshoe Bay - bush clad
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- * **295.5 acres** - inland
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Enquiries welcomed - Please Phone [021] 391-144
Dianne & Phillip Smith
"Taumata" PO Box 104 Halfmoon Bay
STEWART ISLAND

Moana Charters

Dot & Kevin Anderson
Ph:391-296 Halfmoon Bay

Catering for: **Diving**
Scenic
Fishing
Hunting

or any other type of boating trip
COST: \$30/person per half day
[Children half price]

Scenic Evening Trips

& Seafood Meal on Board
max. 8 persons \$30 to \$40 each
5pm till Late Day Light

CHARTERS AVAILABLE

Merv Frew

Southland Distributor

Triple C
Protective Coating
& Carpet Cleaning

59 Dunbeath Cr Ph:66-482
INVERCARGILL

Advertising Enquiries
Stewart Island News
Box 65 Ph:391-406

See Stewart Island on

Rakiura Riders

[on the road to the wharf]

See the sights of our Island with a Honda Eye motor scooter or double-up on Bonny.

- * **Automatic Gearbox** *
- * **Simple to Ride** *

Hire Charges:

| | Eye (1 seat) | Bonny (2 seat) |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| One Hour | \$12 | \$18 |
| Half Day | \$22 | \$30 |
| Full Day | \$35 | \$50 |

Each extra day
[or part] add \$20 \$30
A free tank of unleaded petrol with each hire and of course helmets are provided too!

Photocopying

Enlarging & Reducing
Black & White or Colour
A4 = 8c/page
A3 = 15c/page

We also double side and give a choice of six colours

Robertson's Place

45 Bowmont Street
Phone: 83-352

SURVEYING

I wish to notify present and potential property owners and marine farmers that a: **PRIVATE SURVEY PRACTICE**

covering:

- * **Land Subdivision**
- * **Engineering Levelling**
- * **Boundary Redefinition**

Has been established for a wide range of clients. Maps, property plans & aerial photographs are available for most areas of

STEWART ISLAND

Prompt service with maps & plans. For further particulars contact:

Lin A LORD [Reg Surveyor]
177 Queens Drive
INVERCARGILL
Ph:77-202

STEWART ISLAND RESIDENTS

For all Your Timber & Building Supplies

Call BLUFF 37-7339

We supply timber, gravel, cement firewood or any requirements! All orders delivered free to Bluff Wharf

BLUFF TIMBER & BUILDING SUPPLIES LTD.

Rawleigh's

Don't forget that **Suntan Lotion** protects your skin from the sun and also keeps away the sandflies! **A MUST** for summer.

Try **Bacon Bits** in your summer salads too.

Available from your

Rawleigh's
dealer:

Erica Cleland
Ph:391-266

SOUTHERN AIR LTD

Box 860 Ph: [021] 89-129
INVERCARGILL

TIMETABLE [as of 1 Nov]

Mon-Fri

INV.....Stewart Is.....INV

| Dep | Arr | Dep | Arr |
|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| 8.00 | 8.20 | 8.30 | 8.50am |
| 10.00 | 10.20 | 10.30 | 10.50am |
| 1.00 | 1.20 | 1.30 | 1.50pm |
| 5.00 | 5.20 | 5.30 | 5.50pm |

Sat-Sun

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| 10.00 | 10.20 | 10.30 | 10.50am |
| 1.00 | 1.20 | 1.30 | 1.50pm |
| 4.00 | 4.20 | 4.30 | 4.50pm |

Reporting time

In'gill - 30min before flight
S Is Travel - 40min before flight
Flights operate almost hourly during the Summer Season

**Stewart Island
Charter Service**

Box 24 [HMB] Stewart Island
Ph: [021] 378-376 Bluff

TIMETABLE - Mon/Wed/Fri

Bluff.....Stewart Is.....Bluff

| Dep | Arr | Dep | Arr |
|------|---------|------|--------|
| 9.00 | 11.15am | 2.00 | 4.15pm |

Ticketing:

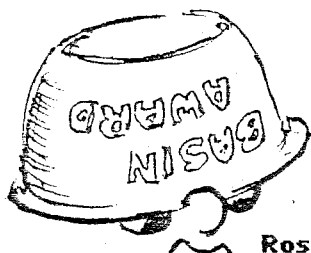
From 1hr before sailing

Boarding:

From 15min before sailing

**Coming
Attractions**

Listings of events for
December and January
are on p26 inside



**Basin
Award
No: 10
1987/8**

Roslie Dobson

Our absent-minded friend of
Rakiura Riders donned her crash

Business House Hours

Anchor Merchants

Mon-Fri 9am - 5.30pm
Sat/Sun 10am - Noon

Co-op Chandlery

Mon-Sat 10-11.45am
Mon/Wed/Fri 1.30-5pm

Stewart Island Travel

Mon-Fri 8.30am-6pm
Sat/Sun 9.30am-5pm

Post Office

Mon-Fri 9am-1pm
2pm-5pm

SI County Office

Mon-Fri 9am-Noon
1pm-3pm

South Sea Hotel

Mon-Thu 11am-10pm [Bar]
Fri/Sat 11am-11pm
Daily Noon-1pm [Lunch]
6pm-7pm [Dinner]
Casuals Book before 4.30pm

The Fernery

Most Days 10am-2pm
[Ph:391-299 if closed]

Rakiura Riders

Most Days 10am-5pm
[Ph:391-482 if closed]

Rakiura Museum

Mon/Wed/Fri 11am-2pm
or by arrangement - Phone
Mrs T Kershaw 391-458
Mrs M Hopkins 391-126
Mrs N Schofield 391-340
Mr W Fisher 391-099

Stewart Island Library

Wed 2pm-3pm
Fri 11am-Noon

DOC Information Centre

Mon-Fri 8am-4.30pm
A/H & weekends see notice on
door for duty officer's phone no.

District Nurse Clinic

Mon/Fri 10.30am-Noon
Ph:391-098

Police Ph:391-020

**EMERGENCIES
DIAL "111"**

Stewart Island Events Calendar

DAILY - Mon-Fri

Exercise Class - 9am [RSA]
2pm [Trail] Park]

MONDAY

Yoga - 1.30pm [RSA]
OVFB Practice - 7.00pm

TUESDAY

Playcentre - 9.30-Noon
Bible Study - 10am [Ph:391-199]
Last SI Lions Club - 6pm [RSA]

WEDNESDAY

Keas - 3.15pm [Trail] Hall]
Brownies - 3.15pm [St And. S/S]
Guides - 3.15pm [Dianne Smith's]

3rd Parent Support - 10.30am
SICC Meeting - 7.30pm [Hall]

THURSDAY

Playcentre - 9.30-Noon
Foveaux Radio SI News - 11.40am
Cubs - 3.15pm [Trail] Hall]
Badminton - 7.30pm [Hall]
1st DWI - 2pm [RSA]
SI Promo Assn - 8pm [OVFB]
2nd Garden Circle [Ph:391-020]
4th APW - 2pm [Ph:391-230]

FRIDAY

RSA Raffle - 6.30pm [Pub]

SATURDAY

Prayer Circle 1pm [Ph:391-199]

SUNDAY

Oban Presbyterian Church 10.30
Yacht Club - Foreshore - 2pm
3rd St Andrews Anglican Church
[See Noticeboard]

BEDS WANTED

Accommodation is needed for
Fordley's friends coming to
the festivities on the
weekend 29-31 Jan. If you
can help, please contact:
Bruce or Murray Ford.

helmet, locked up shop and drove
off into the sunset. She finally
realised she was in the ute, not
on a bike. This is taking road-
safety to extremes - or is it?

Nominated: Keith Edwards
Seconded: Colleen Dawson