

STEWART ISLAND NEWS

CELEBRATING RAKIURA

October - November 2010

\$2.50

Lucky Stewart Islanders received the touch of royalty this month, with a visit from *Queen Susanna*, celebrating an auspicious award for our Island specialist nurses Debs and Marty. Lucky for Debs and Marty, the Queen was well practised in the use of the royal sword, as her loyal executioner seemed only too happy to use his to carry out her ready command of "off with his head!". See pg 2 for more on this story.



Also highly awarded this month were the Halfmoon Bay School students and teachers, receiving the Southland Conservation award for their efforts. See *DOC Spot pg 8* for the full story, and google *You Tube*, key words, "YEP Habitat" for their video clip showcasing the students' research findings into the disturbing decline of Yellow Eyed Penguins.

Congratulations goes to our new Community Board members and Council Ward representative. To those who missed out, thank you for putting your names forward; many people have expressed surprise at each one of you missing the cut-off, so your willingness to represent the community is certainly well valued. See pg 9 for more.

The Scavenger Hunt was a great success, with teams of clowns entering into the spirit of the competition - not to mention into the bubble bath section of the hunt! See pg 4 for photos - or make friends with someone on Facebook for the really scary bubble bath photos! Gala Day organisers are hoping this month's Gala Day will be an even bigger success, so get your ovens cooking, your planning into gear and your gear into the stalls ready for Sunday, 24th October. Contact Sue Graham for any queries and see pg 7 for details on who is running stalls so far.

With Christchurch continuing to rock and roll, Sue Lovett has collated some of the important lessons she and friends have learned from their experiences, to share with us through the SIN. See pg 12 for Sue's shakey advice, and pg 11 for the Stewart Island Civil Defence's emergency up-date.

Back on terra firma, the community garden is growing fast! Raised beds were raised this month and dirt is arriving soon. If you can help shovel soil, collect seaweed, turn compost, plant seedlings, weed or any other tasks which might be useful, or if you just want to stay in touch with progress, get in touch with Kirsten and add your name to the email list. See pg 3 for photos of the garden gang.

With September's sudden snowfall almost forgotten and the wind settling to a gentle leaf-toussing 15kts, it's a great time to stock up on your vitamin D. Enjoy the summer Stewart Island, and thank you for all of your contributions to the news. Jess is back next month, after chasing the sun halfway around the world, so I'll be back to snuggling up on the couch with each month's completed SIN once more.

Kari Beaven

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Rakiura's Royal Investiture - Nurses by day – Knights by night

Rakiura Court Circular

19th September, 2010



This evening Her Gracious Majesty, Queen Susanna of Rakiura, was pleased to create two new peers of the Realm. Preceded by the Right Honourable Town Crier, Dame Dawn Chorus Wake-a-lot McClellan and escorted by her Consort, Prince Phillip Brutus, her Lord High Executioner, Sir Behead-and-Bedone-With-It Beaven and her Court Jester, Master Jackanapes Marley, Her Majesty entered the Hall of the Venerable Order of Fire Fighters to the acclaim of Her loyal subjects. Her Lady-In-Waiting, the rosy and pleasingly rotund Lady Melissa, was unable to attend this happy occasion, being great with child and awaiting a happy event of her own.



Her Majesty wore a beautiful evening dress of midnight blue and a tiara to match the occasion. Prince Phillip wore a morning suit in the customary dove grey set off, in the Prince's inimitable style for innovation, by a black trilby.

"My husband and I are delighted to be here on this auspicious occasion," trilled Her Majesty.

Infirmary Attendant, Yeoman Martinius Pepers, was dubbed a Knight of the Realm and awarded the Ancient and Honourable Order of the Stethoscope for his services to her Majesty's subjects in their hour of need and for his dedication to ridding Her Majesty's forests of troublesome quadripeds. Sir Martinius was heard to mutter that he was *knighthed* because the #!!*!!# poxy plebs waited till the small hours before calling him out of his bed to soothe their fevered brows.



Health Herbalist, Mistress Deborah Rose Dillon, was dubbed a Dame of the Realm and awarded the Ancient and Honourable order of the Thermometer. Lady Deborah blushed prettily when asked why, in her opinion, she had been recognised. "When you get to the *bottom* of a problem, most people are pretty grateful." Several bystanders also blushed – prettily.

Both new knights were adamant that their elevation to the peerage would not alter their attitude to their patients. "Our patients are our peers," they emphasised. "What goes in the specimen jar, stays in the specimen jar."

Her Majesty was pleased to accept a bouquet of flowers from the delectable Maid-In-Waiting Keisha and Sir Martinius and Lady Deborah Rose received bouquets from Maids-In-Waiting Meg and Sophie.

The assembled commons broke into a hearty rendition of "For they are jolly good fellows" in recognition of the new knight and dame. The only jarring note on this splendid occasion was the sight of a knavish villein, one Noel Pasco, appearing reluctant to sing with true vigour. Her Majesty dealt out summary justice in demanding his immediate beheading, which the Lord High Executioner attended to immediately.



Thereupon, the assembly fell upon the delicious meal that Her Majesty's loyal subjects had provided and there was much eating, drinking and rejoicing.

Long Live The Queen!

by Raylene Waddel

It's a growing thing!

By Kirsten and Kari

The three raised beds have been raised, tyres have been stacked and a whole swarm of mussel buoys in wooden stands have been positioned for maximum growth. Two more compost bins are under construction and we have 5 fadges of garden mix, a hose, watering cans, hand tools, and a whole feast of vege seeds on the way, once again thanks to the Quiz Fairy and the Stewart Island Lions. Community support has been terrific - well done everyone!

A big thank you goes out to:
Stewart Island Lions for donation of garden mix,
Vicki the Quiz Fairy for the same
Big Glory for the mussel buoys
Rakiura Shipping for freight
and all those who have turned up to build, lug, stack and unpack.

So, poke your head round the back of the clinic and take a peek. We'll need plenty of strong workers when the dirt gets here, so let us know if you can lend a hand. Anyone interested in regular information about the garden, get in touch and we'll put you on the e-mail list. No pressure to help out but all hands are welcome.



Need any building work done?????

We are between building houses and are available to do any building jobs (large or small) on the island.

Give your local builders Brett Twaddle "Loosie" and team a call on 2191366 or 0274331074.

Support your local boys

Chocolate Award

The chocolate award for this month goes to Kirsten Hicks.

The award was chosen by Ewan and Jenny Gell, to say thank you, first of all for *thinking* of a community garden project and then for getting it off the ground!

Congratulations Kirsten, well deserved.



Scavenger Hunt 7

Clowning Around!!

The Scavenger Hunt filled a day with a lot of laughs, as people squeezed into sudsy bath tubs or sought that elusive Michael Jackson LP. The day raised \$257 for first aid kits for SIRCET volunteers.

Thanks to Everyone!



Another One Night Stand

AN EVENING OF WELL KNOWN SONGS AND ORIGINAL MATERIAL - WITH A STEWART ISLAND FLAVOUR

- Suzanne Lynch -
- Mal McCallum -
- Simon Gomez -
- Steve Barkman -
- Peter Madill -

Sunday October 17th
7:30 PM - Halfmoon Bay Community Theatre

MISSION - \$15.00 | CASH BAR | ALL PROCEEDS TO TOI RAKIURA ARTS TRUST



British Birdwatching Fair, 21-23 August 2010

The British Birdwatching Fair is an astounding phenomenon. Thousands of birdwatchers and nature enthusiasts flock (sorry, I couldn't resist the pun) from all over the world to attend this annual three-day event which is hosted in England's smallest county, Rutland.

For 22 years the "Birdfair" has set pulses racing among the international bird-watching community. Not only does it support conservation projects around the world, it offers a stage for eco tourism operators to promote their country/region and the flora and fauna within it; a place for retailers to launch, give advice, and sell products for outdoor hobbies; and a place for nature lovers to soak it all up! To seek



out that elusive field guide, try and buy new optical equipment, research a destination they've always wanted to visit, book a holiday to see a near-extinct species, or simply window-shop their way around the world and dream "if only I could win Lotto ...".

For Matt and I it was all of this and more. When we lived in the UK we probably attended the Birdfair as visitors for around 10 years: Matt as a keen/obsessed birdwatcher, and me, avid people-watcher and lover of most things nature.

To attend the birdfair as an exhibitor was such a privilege. Even more so because we were representing "New Zealand Islands" on the *New Zealand Birding Network* stand, with Ulva's Guided Walks, Kapiti Island Alive!, Albatross Encounter (Kaikoura), Heritage Expeditions, Wild Earth NZ Travel and Wrybill Birding Tours. A bunch of fantastic New Zealand-based companies showcasing what an awesome country New Zealand is to visit, the uniqueness of its flora and fauna, and the great opportunities available to visitors that NZ Birding Network members can offer.

Our stand even won third best in the show!

The New Zealand Birding Network directory itself got a very positive response from visitors who remarked on how useful and "customer centric" it was to have one source of information for their needs and commended the collaborative efforts of the Network.

This year the birdfair had over 22,400 visitors milling around the seven marquees (each about half the size of a rugby pitch) containing hundreds of exhibitors from Andalusia to Zambia, plus a few "events" marquees hosting lectures, quizzes, celebrity book-signings, not to mention retailers tempting us with books, cameras and clothing, as well as celebrated artists in acrylic, watercolour, sculptures ... oh and a huge food court!

The first evening we attended a lecture given by Mark Carwardine. An active conservationist, zoologist, writer, wildlife photographer, TV & radio presenter ... he was also famously (or infamously) humped by Sirocco the Kakapo in the "Last Chance to See" TV series!

Mark entertained and educated an audience of hundreds with his witty and articulate tales of travel with Stephen Fry, supported by remarkable photography and he even took the time during the interval and after the show to sign everyone's books. Hopefully New Zealand will pick up his TV series about the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, it promises to be a fascinating documentary.

by Jules Retberg



BAY MOTEL

9 Dundee Street, Stewart Island

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URGENTLY
FOR THE TOURIST SEASON**

**Please apply in person to
Manager, Robin Campbell or
phone 2191-119 for an interview**



Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust news

The season is just about to kick off with penguin nest searching commencing in a couple of weeks' time. Firstly we will search the Bravo islands and after that Christian Gunter from SIT and I will be heading to Codfish Island. The third site for nest searching is likely to be the Neck, where there is a small population of yellow-eyed penguins too.

Then we will leave the penguins to incubate and hatch their eggs over November/December, returning to the sites in January to check on chick survival. Finally, in late January the almost-fledged chicks will be weighed, measured and micro chipped, so that they can hopefully be identified as future breeding adults around Stewart Island.

Antje

Antje Leseberg
 Stewart Island Field Assistant
 Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust
 Ph: 03 219 1317
 Email: anjie@xtra.co.nz

Keeping Friendly with the Joneses

"I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that I've met on Stewart Island for making me feel so welcome. The Knit and Knatter group was great - thanks for the extra wool Wendy! Spending time with Matt and Jules was very special, and the islanders' hospitality was the "icing on the cake". Many thanks, Jill Jones (Matt's Mum)"

Health Committee Fundraiser



The Health Committee are fundraising to buy Dental equipment to establish a Dental Service at the Health Clinic.

We would really appreciate donations of produce, preserves or baking for our table at the Labour weekend Gala Day on Sunday 24th October.

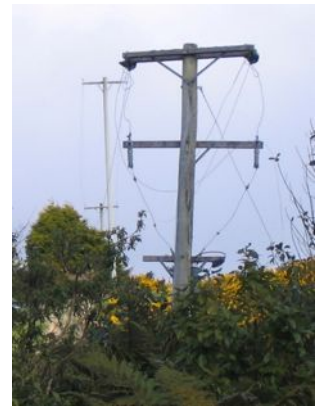
If you can help with any donations of produce, preserves and baking, or donations of frozen fruit to make jams and chutney, please contact one of us...

Belinda Dobbins 050 Kari Beaven 533
 Raylene Waddell 092 Mary Chittenden 223

A Swift Switch to "Solar Power" by Kari Beaven

Stewart Islanders emerged, blinking, into the sun this month when a strategically-placed tree-fall (across the power lines at Ringa Ringa) quieted the island's indoor conveniences.

As one, the facebook photos of the previous day's Scavenger Hunt, online games of scrabble, the TV's whining V8 supercars and play-station challenges disappeared off-screen, and all heads it seemed (after checking that the minor of the house hadn't discovered an unprotected power socket, thus creating the above situation) lifted as one to notice that indeed the sun was glistening, fresh and bright, off a satiated garden, the morning's rain had stopped and only a light breeze wove its gentle path amongst the leaves.



Within minutes, front yards became play zones, building sites and a book worm's haven; beaches filled up with stone collecting children; parents and grandparents, when not close on the heels of these adventurous toddlers, caught up on news with other parents and grandparents; dogs were granted more leisurely walks than usual; and the tui around our home, though ever present, seemed to sing with renewed passion in the sudden, natural quiet.



So, thanks, to whomever is wishing to get back that split-second's decision, for reminding us again what it is we love about this place.

An ENORMOUS THANKS must also go to Peter and Jed who worked into the evening, saving thousands of dollars worth of food in freezers throughout the bay, restoring power just before the final cloak of night descended.

DON'T FRY THE FRIDGE! Tips for Power Cuts.

There are often "lumps" in the power when it comes back on, which will fry the electronics and leave your favourite appliance dead. DISCONNECT and UNPLUG everything you can think of in the event of a power cut; computers, microwaves, washing machines, fridges, TV's, absolutely everything.

In the old days, a fridge had a motor and was pretty bullet-proof. The worst that would happen in a power surge was that it would sound funny for a bit. These days, everything has a sensitive, new-age computer running it, which will spit-the-dummy in a power surge, doing irreparable damage.

Leave a few sacrificial lights switched on. When the power comes back through, these can be your guide. If you can see them dimming or brightening, the voltage will still be pretty out of whack so don't be too quick to load up the dishwasher or stop that meat from defrosting. Wait until the lights are steady, or you might just slaughter your fancy flat-screen TV.

Waiting also helps the power sort itself out faster. Reconnecting to a huge power load can undo some of the repair work. Show your gratitude to the power team and hold off for five.

By Kari Beaven, with information from Jed

Gala day / Mardi Gras

These sponsors are supporting us so far:

Ship to Shore, Glowing Sky, Pak N Save, Elles Rd New World, E Hayes & Sons, Mitre 10 Mega, Pumpkin Patch, Invercargill Licensing Trust (ILT), Living Space Hotels and Apartments

Let's have some fun and get our community spirit into gear!

Sunday 24th October 9.30 - 2.30pmish Labour weekend 2010

Estimated Timetable

- 10.30: Fruit cake judging - *please bring fruit cake and \$5 entry fee* - great prize for first place
 11.00: Kids cookie competition - *please bring a decorated cookie and \$1 entry fee* - prizes
 11.30: Camp cook up competition - *please bring a pot and small gas cooker \$5 entry fee* - great prize for first place
 1pm: silly races

Hopefully a wood chopping competition so sharpen your axe!

Best fruit cake competition - \$5 entry

Rugrats: a baking stall, sausage sizzle, camp cook off, face painting and games/races for fundraising, kids cookie competition - *best decorated*.

School: is going to hire out silly bikes and sell calendars.

Garden Circle: are having a table

Health Committee: having a preserves and jams table

Vicki and the Lions: having a white elephant stall

Library: is having a book sale

Civil Defence: - glow-stick stand and info packs

Open to all individuals, businesses and community groups

Contact Diddle 2191166 for any queries

Health Committee News

Thanks to the combined support of the Stewart Island Lions Club, which has donated \$2000, and the Community Trust of Southland, which has donated \$5000, the Health Committee is well on the way to achieving its goal of providing all the equipment for a complete dental surgery. Debs and Marty have worked miracles to track down the correct gear and the price is much less than first feared!

The dental chair is on its way. Huge thanks to Ron Morrison who has worked hard, cutting through the entanglements of red tape to get it here! Once the chair arrives, a check-up of the Island children's teeth will be scheduled. We're sure the kids will be as pleased as we are!

Further fundraising is still required. The Committee is busy preparing for a Preserves and Produce stall at the Mardi Gras at Labour Weekend. Donations to the stall will be gratefully received. In the meantime, we are delighted that the Knit and Natter group has organised a raffle to support our fundraising. Thank you, ladies!

Last but not least, congratulations once again to Debs and Marty on their presentation of QSM awards – Quite Simply Magnificent.



The 2010 Pink Ribbon Day "Appeal" Team

Thanks to everyone who didn't resist the appeal of the Chittenden Family team collectors, accompanied also by Chris Visser. The boys did a fabulous job, with many people donating twice, just to make it fair for each boy! There was a large collection made this year, with all money donated going straight to the Breast Cancer Foundation.



HMB School pupils shine at Awards Ceremony

I want to start off this month's DOC Spot column with a very big congratulation to Halfmoon Bay School for winning the Richard Henry Award for Southland Schools at the Southland Conservation Awards, held during Conservation Week. I especially want to commend Sophie Conner and Logan Leask-Davis for their excellent acceptance speeches; they did the school and the local community proud. Schools are nominated by DOC staff for this award because of their involvement in meaningful and sustainable initiatives, with clear evidence of student learning and progress. Other considerations for selection include impacts on the natural and cultural resources as well as the benefits to the wider community and future generations.



Sophie, Logan and Kath accept their conservation award from Dil Belworthy of Glowing Sky. Photo by Southern Exposures - see advert below for more photos of the night.

Southern Islands / Te Tai Tonga Area staff were proud to nominate HMB School this year because of the enthusiasm and commitment the pupils and teachers have shown to conservation. Although small in numbers, they are much attuned to the Stewart Island / Rakiura environment and over the past year much of their learning has focussed on elements that set the island apart from the rest of the country.

Among other things, they have conducted their own research into the decline of yellow eyed penguins / *hoiho*, resulting in the production and filming of a puppet show that highlights the main threats to the penguin population. The show can be viewed on 'YouTube' (*key words: YEP Habitat*).

The pupils have also worked with the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa to create 'wonder boxes' which show how man has used the environment to live and work on Stewart Island / Rakiura – in the early days exploiting the environment with endeavours such as logging and mining, but today using more sustainable industries such as marine farming and eco-guiding. Each of the boxes went on display at Te Papa for a two-month period and is now currently on display at the Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre.

The school has also spent time with members of the Stewart Island / Rakiura Community and Environment Trust, learning about the habitat restoration project at Ackers Point and helping with planting and weeding at the island's community nursery. For their efforts, Sophie and Logan accepted on behalf of the school a cheque for \$500, sponsored by Glowing Sky, and the Richard Henry Trophy which is now proudly on display at the school.

This year's other award recipients were:

- **Individual Services to Conservation Award** (sponsored by New Zealand Aluminium Smelters) – Alistair Jukes.

- **Services to Conservation with Communities Award** (sponsored by Community Trust of Southland) – Bluff Hill/Motupōhue Environment Trust.
- **Corporate Conservation Award** (sponsored by E. Hayes and Sons Limited) – Rio Tinto Alcan New Zealand Limited.
- **Conservation Champion** (sponsored by Real Journeys) – Michael Skerrett.

Employment opportunities

The biodiversity section of DOC is looking for two people to work fulltime for six months over the summer season. If you are interested in either of these positions please keep an eye on the DOC website or the community noticeboard where they will be advertised soon. In addition to this we are looking for a friendly, outgoing person to assist in the Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre on a casual basis through until Easter 2011. Hours of work will be as and when required with the successful applicant required to work most public holidays over the summer months and some weekends. Initially these hours will be irregular; however from December 26 through to March 31, the successful applicant will be rostered to work approximately 25 – 30 hours per week. Flexibility and availability are essential. Further employment after that time may be available, subject to requirements. If this is a position that might interest you, or someone you know, please contact Jan West on 2190009, or call into the visitor centre to arrange an interview.

Continued pg 10...

Southern Exposures



Official Photographer for the Southland Conservation awards. Check out the fabulous photographs on www.southernexposures.co.nz. You can order a copy of your favourite shot directly from the website, or contact David Russell to capture your next event.



LIBRARY NEWS

New books have been donated by Loraine Hansen, Donni Goomes, Jenny Gell, Claire, Kari, Kirsten, Rayleen Waddell and Pat King, and jigsaws from Mona. A big thank you to all of these people.

Megan is tackling our backlog of overdue books. Would the holiday homes 'carers' please have a look to see if any library books are hidden away somewhere? We would love to have them back.

A reminder that the Library hours are

Monday nights 6.30-7.30pm as well as Wednesday 2.-3pm and Friday and Saturday 11.00-12.00

Hope to see you all at the Rug Rats Gala Day on Sunday 24th October.

Jenny

Stewart Island Community Board Election Results

by Margaret Hopkins

This year's Local Government Elections attracted more interest on Stewart Island than the unsuccessful attempt to get nominees back in 2007. Due to lack of interest last time around, when not enough nominations were received for the 6 positions available, a by-election had to be held in February 2008 to get the two extra Community Board members required. Jon Spraggon and Ken Jones were elected at that time to join Barry Rhodes, Aaron Conner, David Squire and Brent Beaven.

New faces to join the Stewart Island Community Board as a result of this year's elections are Karen Bowman, who topped the poll with a clear win of 170 votes and Jarrod Baird, third highest to poll with 130 votes. They will join other Community Board members successfully re-elected, Jon Spraggon 149, Aaron Conner 118, Brent Beaven 114 and Barry Rhodes 97.

Unsuccessful candidates included Graham Okey with 82 votes, Jan West 74, David Squire 65 and Ken Jones 56.

It is encouraging to see so many young faces now representing the community. The past few years has seen unprecedented growth in young families buying or building houses here on the Island and the recent number of babies born in our community is wonderful for the Island's future and wellbeing.

Bruce Ford was returned unopposed as our Stewart Island Ward member on the Southland District Council and Frana Cardno continues her long term as Mayor of Southland District now going into her 7th term of office.

Congratulations to all those successful candidates and a big thanks to everyone who put their names forward for consideration.

Local Body Elections

by David Squire

I would like to congratulate the new Stewart Island Community Board on their election and wish them well over the next three years. I would also like to take this moment to thank the Stewart Island Community for the opportunity to represent them over the last three years. I have enjoyed my time on the Board. To my supporters I say thank you for your support and sorry I couldn't deliver the result that you wanted.

**CONGRATULATIONS
Ulva Island Research**

The Ulva Island Research Project has been awarded a grant from the Marsden Fund, not only enabling a further three years of research on the island, but also acknowledging with high acclaim the project itself.

For those who do not know of the award, the Marsden Fund is like the Commonwealth Games of the science world, and only the most highly respected projects are awarded.

The grant reflects the integrity of the research, the solid work put in by students, professors, staff and volunteers, and the strong logistical support from the Stewart Island Department of Conservation.

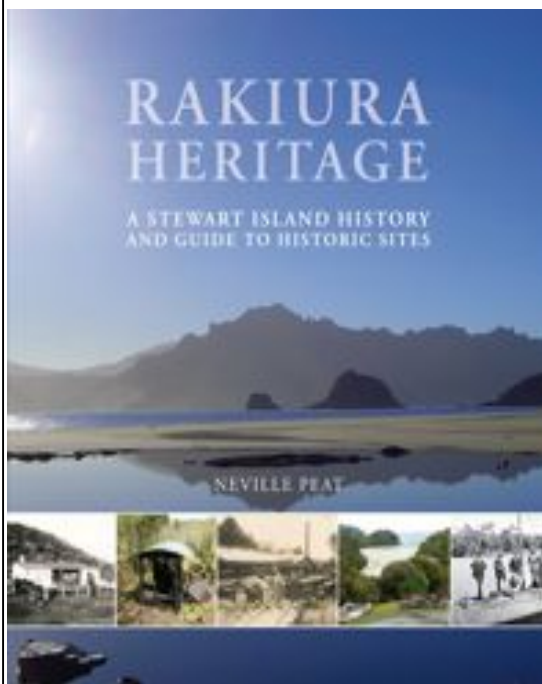
A great relationship has developed between the University of Otago and the Department of Conservation throughout the past 10 years of this project and other, similarly cooperative projects. The project has gained international recognition for its work on inbreeding and genetic diversity in translocated populations (such as the robins and saddlebacks, which were translocated back to Ulva Island after the removal of rats from the island).

The research has followed the plight of the saddlebacks and robins from the original founding birds released in 2000. It considers the pedigree of each individual bird, looking at the incidences of inbreeding and loss of genetic diversity through translocation "bottle necks". More on this project will follow in the November SIN.

Look out for the new pamphlet sponsored by the Ulva Island Trust describing the research project; available from DOC, Stewart Island.

Christmas shopping dilemma solved

As mentioned in previous columns, author Neville Peat has been commissioned by DOC to write a history of the island. I'm very pleased to announce that *Rakiura Heritage – A Stewart Island History and Guide to Historic Sites* is almost at the printing stage. This extremely readable 112 page book, featuring 166 pictures and 6 maps will retail for \$35 and should hit the shelves by mid November - just in time to solve my Christmas shopping dilemma!



DOC Spot continued from pg 8...

Possum control update

This year's possum control is well underway with the contractors already finished the coastal block between Mason Bay and Hellfire. They have now moved into treating the slopes of Mt Rakeahua. The DOC team has started monitoring the results of this control, but won't have a measure of the effectiveness until this is completed in a couple of weeks.

Visitor Asset team update

The recent snowfall on the island caused little damage to the tracks; however the team maintaining those tracks didn't get off quite so lightly. A number of the visitor assets team were camped at Smoky Beach the weekend the poor weather struck. The sleet and snow just added to the joy of working in the back country, as the boys battled the elements to remove the old swing bridge and replace it with a new one. In this case, the thought of long hot showers was all the incentive needed to get the job completed in near record time!

Almost all the new interpretation panels are now in place on the Rakiura Track and out at Ackers Point, so why not make the most of daylight saving and take a stroll to check them out? A new panel at the viewing platform at Lee Bay continues the theme of 'linkages' and has incorporated the cable that once provided the first telecommunications for the island. There are also a series of panels at Maori Beach and the old haulers above Maori Beach telling the story of the last of the island's sawmills. The last of the new panels will be installed at Kaipipi, at the site of the island's first sawmill, within the next few weeks.

Ryan's Creek track is now open again, with the contractors back on site working on the upgrade, which should be completed within the next two months. It would be advisable to wear your gumboots, if you are planning a trip around the track before then, as there is still a fair bit of mud, especially towards the Kaipipi Road end.

The first of our conservation volunteer project trips started earlier this month, with huts around the North West and Southern circuits huts receiving a good spring clean prior to summer. DOC staff will also be assisting Elaine Hamilton and a team of volunteers with the annual tidy-up at Moturau Moana gardens prior to Labour weekend. Other work planned for the visitor asset team this month includes the re-roofing of Island Hill Homestead at Mason Bay.



Steve Meads working in the snow, on the new bridge at Smokey Beach



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In return we offer

A competitive remuneration package, accommodation and an opportunity to become part of a community where you can help make a difference. Downer will offer airfares return to the Mainland quarterly.

Make a lifestyle choice and grasp this opportunity today! Visit www.downercareers.co.nz quoting reference number 492927.

Closing: 11 November 2010.

Contact: Sara Paris – Recruitment Advisor - 027 654 5352.



The Island Beat

WHARF Rules:

The wharf rules have been in place for a over a year. The congestion at the wharf has reduced.

As the tourist season is upon us here is a copy to refresh your memory.

The Wharf Rules:

(To make the Wharf more user friendly)

1. Police will enforce loading zone time limit, No parking lines, No parking area, and parking on footpath.
2. Park Vehicles facing away from the wharf in 30 minute loading zone. (Stops a bottle neck at turn around)
3. Park inside broken parking lines where possible.
4. No parking in turn around area. 'Keep it clear'.
5. South Port (Jon SPRAGGON) to enforce parking on wharf.
6. No unattended parking on wharf other than in the one approved park on beach side of entrance to wharf, for loading or unloading only.
7. No pedestrian traffic on work area of wharf.
8. All Bulk Freight to be moved off Wharf within 24 hours of arrival.
9. All Bulk Freight to be pre booked

before going onto wharf. Non Perishable bulk freight/freight items to be uplifted/dropped off outside of Ferry/Freight boat arrival departure times.

10. Take small amounts of personal luggage via walkway to the wharf office, then place in bins by office.
11. Drop off bulk amounts of luggage early.
12. If you have a lot of personal luggage, wait until the congestion is clear before loading/unloading.

Note: There is a copy of these and the 'South Port, Stewart Island Wharves-condition of use' on the notice board at the wharf.

Stewart Island Visitor Strategy 2010 - 2015

The Stewart Island Visitor Strategy 2010 - 2015 is to provide direction on how tourism should be developed and managed on Stewart Island for the next five years and updates the previous Stewart Island Tourism Strategy 1996.

The Stewart Island Visitor Strategy 2010 Steering Group are now calling for feedback on the draft strategy and welcome your input.

Submissions close at 5pm on Wednesday 3 November 2010.

Electronic versions of the strategy and submission form (along with the Stewart Island Visitor Survey completed early this year) are now available online at www.southlandnz.com/submission

Paper versions of the strategy and submission forms will be available at the Stewart Island Post Office from Monday 18 October 2010.

Please direct any enquiries regarding the strategy or submission process to Steering Group Chair, Margaret Hopkins (margandcolin@clear.net or 219 1126) or Venture Southland Tourism Administrator, Glenys Carson



Are you aware:

1. Your emergency kit should contain no-perishable food (canned or dried) and a can opener
2. Your emergency kit should contain a first aid kit and essential medicines
3. The food & water in your emergency kit should be replaced every 12 months.

Rakiura Resource Recovery Blokes about to Kick the Bucket

The Rakiura Resource Recovery team has been threatening to kick-the-bucket this last month; several buckets in fact, containing local food scraps.

Collecting waste is not always an enviable job. As Doug put it, "We're out there rain, hail, sleet, snow, thunder and lightning" to give a weekly service. The pay isn't great, the work conditions are up and down (more so when you're standing over the truck's suspension) but the boys don't shy away from a hard day's yakka - their gift to keep our community running.



Our job, then, is to make it possible and maybe even pleasant, or at the very least, not a health hazard.

Please

Don't wait until your bucket is full - put your food scraps out weekly.

(A fresh 1/4 bucket is better than a full but unapproachable bucket; a weekly service is provided on purpose)

Absolutely NO crayfish and paua shells.

(The worms choke, and Doug has had to perform the Heimlich maneuver on over 200 of them this month alone.)

Rinse the bucket after each week's collection, before it gets smelly.

If you've accidentally left it too long, dig your own hole and start again.

(Or come along to the community garden to learn how to start your own compost!)

If it helps, imagine asking your own mother, brother or son to collect the buckets. Respect the people who shift our waste for us and set yours out accordingly.

You can help!

Restore the Resource Recovery boys' faith in the island community by cleaning up your act.



STEWART ISLAND GARDEN CIRCLE

The next meeting of the Garden Circle will be held at the home of Lee Wadds, at 2.00pm, Thursday 11th November.

Theme: Salad Vegetable

www.stewart-island-news.com

More Rock 'n Roll Tips

By Sue Lovett

We have been rocking & rolling here for some weeks now. Below are some of the tips we have put together from our own and friends' stories:

1. Make sure the torch is beside the bed where you can find it with batteries that work...just because they are "new" doesn't mean they have charge.
2. Don't have the transistor & survival kit on a high shelf or somewhere heavy stuff can fall on it...we know of several who lost the lot when the shelf fell off the wall & everything was squashed or smashed.
3. Have an ordinary telephone that doesn't need electricity....so many people thought the phones were out...they just didn't realise cordless phones use electricity.
4. Keep rechargeable batteries charged.
5. Be very careful about trying to move in a quake as falling pictures and things leave a lot of broken sharp bits...and if you can't find the torch....
6. Be very careful about candles...quakes & candles don't mix if the aftershocks are quite strong & they fall over...then you have fire to deal with too. Stand them in the sink.

7. Same with fires...chimneys can be still standing but they might be cracked (it was cold, friends lit the fire & their roof filled up with smoke through the cracks in the mortar)
8. The first thing everyone wants to do when they have been scared sh**less is go to the loo which is ok if it is still connected to a sewer!
9. Nothing prepares you for how weird it feels. Think bouncy castle, dark, unbelievable noise and when it stops it starts again...and again...
10. The shakes can feel like jolts, rolls, vibrations, swaying, lifting up, sinking down, twisting, sideways shaking...kind of like being in a washing machine I guess & it messes with your head.
11. Watch out for windows...big windows, thin glass, twisting buildings = big dangerous mess.
12. Watch out for the light fittings. Friends lost older style fittings which cracked or the bulbs fell out & went straight through the glass shades & shattered on the floor.
13. Opening the cupboards after it all stops shaking. If they weren't flung open chances are they have glasses or similar that rolled up against the doors so go carefully.
14. Full bottles & jars up high can go a long long way way....and then they break. Beetroot is particularly good if you want a new carpet.
15. Don't underestimate aftershocks. All our damage has happened since the big one. We only lost a glass & a plate in the 7.1. Since then we have

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- 12 issues to an Oban address or Internet address \$24
- 12 issues to other New Zealand address \$30
- 12 issues to international address \$54

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cracked tiles, chimney, ceiling, walls, etc.

16. Heavy stuff like TVs take a bit of getting moving but they can move a long way once they are going.
17. If you have precious stuff like old bottles or china don't store them near concrete or tiled floors & expect them to survive.
18. Check your insurance policies now not after it has happened.
19. If you have cans in the kit have a can opener with them!

Hopefully SI will remain tranquil & safe & Canterbury will settle down soon.

Community Centre Activities

Time	Day	Activity	Cost
9.30am	Monday	Music for under 5's	donation
9.30am	Tuesday	Tai chi - intermediate	
10.30am	Tuesday	Tai Chi - beginners	
11.30am	Tuesday	Cardio something	\$2
4.30pm	Tuesday	Swiss Ball	\$2
9.30am	Wednesday	Walking Grp	Donation if we use centre
6.30pm	Wednesday	Sport night, netball, volleyball, soccer	\$2
4.30pm	Thursday	Swiss Ball	\$2
5.30pm	Thursday	Tai Chi - beginners	
6.30pm	Thursday	Tai Chi - intermediate	
9.30-11am	Saturday	Office open	
4pm	Saturday	Swiss Ball	\$2
9.30am	Sunday	Tae Bo cardio	\$2 for non members