

# STEWART ISLAND NEWS

## CELEBRATING RAKIURA

April 2017

\$3.00

April is shaping up to be an alliterative month (see...Alliterative April). The days are drawing in and the clocks have gone back but there have been plenty of compensations: Amazing Aurora, boldly browsing bambi at Butterfields Beach and Bragg's Bay.

Another example of alliteration relates to the Southland Aquaculture Reference Group (for more information on this group and what is being proposed for Port Pegasus see page 9). The community representative is non other than me, Shona Sangster. Joking aside, I take the responsibility of representing this community very seriously and would like to get the views of as many people to take back to the group. Have a read of



Deer eating dandelions. *Photo by Carolyn Squires*

the media release in this issue, and if you are interested I have lots more detailed information that I can provide.

The last month has also seen

the passing of two people who've contributed a lot to our national image—Murray Ball, creator of Footrot Flats and John Clarke, who came up with character of Fred Dagg.

And also one who contributed a lot to Stewart Island. RIP Clifford Broad. Our condolences to his family. There is a tribute on page 8. *Shona*



Jill and Chris Cox were recently accompanied by a big pod of beautiful dolphins on their boat "Mareno", with Jill capturing a very special moment with a 'smiling' dolphin. *Photo by Jill Cox*

# Flight to the Lights

On the 23rd of March, I was one of 134 lucky people to be on the Flight to the Lights, a chartered Air New Zealand 767, which was flown down to the Antarctic, Australis Auroral Oval. Organised by Ian Griffiths, Director of the Otago Museum, with Mark Gee, an award winning photographer, and many other people behind the scenes, we all had counted down the 5 months of planning. Ian & Mark both answered all our questions and helped us get those amazing photos that have been published around the world.

Our day started at 4.30pm at the Otago Museum, where the reception was held, with speeches from Ian, Mark, and the Mayor of Dunedin, followed by a planetarium show, which showed us what we would see, and if anyone is in Dunedin with the kids, take them and see the Planetarium, it is amazing!

We arrived at the Dunedin Airport, at 7.30, departed at 9pm, with many excited passengers, all with cameras at the ready.

As the seats had been sold in pairs, I was very lucky to be sitting next to Damien McNamara, Newly appointed Director of the Solar and Aurora Section of the Royal Astronomical Society, who hadn't been on the flight until a few hours before we left, unfortunately my seat buddy from Bluff had to cancel, so Damien was next on the waiting list. Damien was a great help, got the masking tape out and had our window covered up with just room for the camera, the lights were out in the cabin, but you did need the window completely covered to get a decent photo, with no reflections. The middle row of seats were empty, only the window seats were used, so we had lots of room to switch around.

A meal was served as soon as we took off, and the 7 flight attendants had time to get the meals and drinks out, before we hit the Aurora zone about an hour into



Flight path of the Flight to the Lights

the flight. All lights were then turned off, and the first colour was seen on the portside. One lady was celebrating her 60th birthday, and as we crossed the International Dateline, about midnight, she was back to being 59!

To sum it all up it was an amazing flight, meeting many facebook friends from the Aurora Australis page, who have shared their expertise over the years with me, it was a once in a lifetime experience, that made history as the first ever chartered flight to go and see the Aurora Australis from more than 66 degrees South. Our Southern-most distance was just on 2,294 kms from Dunedin airport, around 8 hours flight time, 4 hours of aurora viewing and a total of 6,247km travelled, at an altitude of 37,000 ft- 39,000 ft.

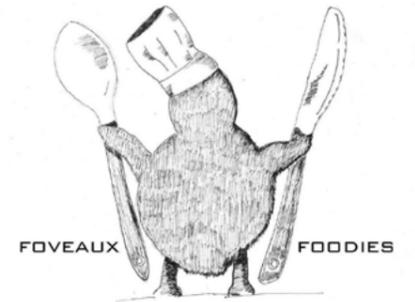
By Sandra Whipp-Johnson



Sandra Whipp



Foveaux Foodies –Wild Food night by Jess Kany  
It was a wild night but not tooo wild... fortunately nobody brought any rat ratatouille. We all tried something new and the dishes were creative, fun, some absolutely delicious and a few downright disgusting. The



mashed mashua – an Andean anaphrodesiac tuber -- was definitely a turn-off. It was interesting to see people who couldn't tolerate a mouthful of liver and heart but happily wolfed down tongue, and others who did the opposite. Of course there was Cynar, the poisonous artichoke liqueur which has become a mandatory drink at these things, its not hard to guess which photo depicts someone trying it for the first time.

A massive THANK YOU to our lovely hostess Cherie Hemsley and her crew of helpers. The driftwood/fern décor was beautifully done and muttonbird leaf signage just perfect.

And thank you as always to the Foveaux Foodies who brought such amazing dishes to the table. I don't like pate and I don't like liver but I loved Dan's deer liver pate! Thea's hot curry limpets? YUM! The tongue was tender, avocado chocolate pudding divinely smooth, creamed paua super tasty, yummy mini venison tacos, excellent bambi chili, and what's not to like about Mike's balls? I experimented with kina: the soufflé fell and was also a bit of a flop; but the kina pie with artichokes, bacon and vodka crème fraiche was good, the key saviour ingredient likely being bacon. Dessert was Tash's Golf Course Blackberry Cake which went so fast there wasn't time to get a snap. And what can I say about the titi baozi... Shona's steamed buns with muttonbird and apple just sum up the spirit of Foveaux Foodies: creativity, originality, celebrating local ingredients, epic deliciousness. (She made dessert baozi too with plum and bush honey.) The only thing more entertaining and satisfying than the cuisine? The company and the banter! Anyone keen to host the next

one?...



Left: Wild feast  
Right: Olivia reacting to Cynar



*One stop Plumbing & Electrical*  
  
 Plumbers & Building Services Ltd

**ELECTRICIAN**

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

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

**Grayson Dolan**  
**Plumbers & Building Services**  
[grayson@pbsnz.com](mailto:grayson@pbsnz.com) -  
[www.pbsnz.com](http://www.pbsnz.com)  
 03 215 7077

**Craft beer launched at South Sea Hotel**



Catlins based brewing company Herne Brewing chose April 1st to launch their new beer with a tasting and free glasses for the first 20 people at the South Sea hotel. Aptly named Maui, as in the demigod of Maori legend this beer is the 3rd in the Herne range, and is a Red Pilsner style, the colour of a stunning Rakiura sunset,

Tom Jones (aka Tom the Pom) and the lovely Vicki (resplendent in purple) travelled across with a keg and launched this beer in style. Give it a try next time you are in pub, it makes a welcome change from Speights in my opinion!  
*Shona*



**Need help with local issues?  
 Come to New Zealand First**

We can provide you with practical help and advice, putting you in touch with the right people when things go wrong.

**"It's common sense"**  
 Call me or email me.

NEW ZEALAND FIRST LIST MP  
**RIA BOND**  
 BASED IN INVERCARGILL

**Contact**  
 Invercargill Office  
 42 Tay St, Cambridge Arcade  
 PO Box 6107, Invercargill 9814  
 Ph: +64 3 214 1894  
[nzfirst.invercargill@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:nzfirst.invercargill@parliament.govt.nz)

Office hours  
 Monday to Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm



Authorised by Ria Bond,  
 Parliament Buildings, Wellington

**Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust News**

After completion of the 2016-17 yellow-eyed penguin monitoring field work, and assessment of the not-so-great results, the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust is considering what to do next. There is so much that could be done which might help answer the questions about why the penguins aren't doing so well in our area, and what could be done about it. However it all boils down to one thing – money. The Trust works tirelessly to operate within a budget which allows them to maintain core staff and work, but to expand on what is already being done requires extra resourcing.

With this in mind we want to thank again all those individuals who donated their time - Dean Nelson, Bridget Hunt, Tommy Dobbins, Cheyanne Carey, Raphael Karnuth and Dave Houston; businesses and organisations that helped out, donated or discounted their services - the Department of Conservation, Stewart Island Flights, Rakiura Charters, Rakiura Hunter Camps Charitable Trust, Sanford Ltd, Tio Operations Ltd; and those who made a direct financial contribution - Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust members and Real Journeys. A very special thanks to Real Journeys who chose the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust to be the charity for their inaugural Cruise-for-a-Cause trip on Doubtful Sound in 2015, the funds raised being for this project on Stewart Island.

Thanks guys – every bit helps!  
*Sandy King for the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust*




Tommy Dobbins with a bagged chick

**Power Issues?**  
 Call  **PowerNet on 0800 808 587**  
 or visit [www.powernet.co.nz](http://www.powernet.co.nz)

**We're just a phone call away**

Increased reliability across our electricity networks means far fewer power outages – but on occasion, they still occur.

Help is just a phone call away on 0800 808 587. PowerNet System Control operates a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week service.

The 0800 number puts residents directly in touch with System Control which has immediate access to our faults response staff.

We are happy to talk directly to network customers, so when a power outage occurs there is no need to contact your electricity retailer. The quicker we receive accurate information from those affected, the quicker the power can be restored.

Alternatively you can view or report outages by visiting our website [www.powernet.co.nz](http://www.powernet.co.nz)

**NIND**  
**ELECTRICAL SERVICES**  
 INVERCARGILL QUEENSTOWN  
 DUNEDIN CHRISTCHURCH

**Industrial • Commercial • Residential**  
*"Quality Solutions delivered on Time"*

**0800502250**    [www.nind.co.nz](http://www.nind.co.nz)    

An intrepid group of kayakers set off to circumnavigate Stewart Island. Kirsty and Craig Moore, Harley Trafford, Chris Atkinson (aka TT, Cake) and Todd and Abbey Wiesbort plan to take 24 days to kayak around the island. They have previously kayaked around Great Barrier Island and D'Urville Island. Kirsty and Craig are celebrating their honeymoon. *Pictured from left to right: Harley Trafford, Chris Atkinson, Kirsty Moore, Todd Wiesbort*



*Rat tales by Sarah Tranmer*

This past week I learnt something new, I learnt that rats have an affinity for sunflower seeds... how would one learn such a new, interesting and exact piece of information? A rat had found its way into the pantry cupboard!

Pete Ross was over quick as with a rat trap, which unfortunately on return from work I set off and broke, so then Shona to the rescue a quick rat trap setting lesson some tasty lure for the rat and away we go..... waiting .... waiting (I am not a very patient person) ... waiting ... the trap was set off (and not by me) but there was no rat. The location of entry for the rat into the pantry cupboard was pretty obvious so next stop was the top of the hot water cylinder and the trap was set for days we could hear it in the roof!

Again the trap was set off but no rat in the trap by this point I had ordered a SIRCET RAT TRAP for \$20, the trap arrived and I decided the new trap could go on top of the hot water cylinder and then Shona's trap could go at the foot on the cylinder, on opening the cupboard to put Shona's trap in, right where I was to put the trap was a dead rat! Hey presto whether it was the trap, the fall off the top of the cylinder or it had just given up the ghost, THE RAT IS DEAD!... immediately followed with photos to Shona as she loves a good rat photo!



**Trombone vs foghorn!** Jim Turrell livens up a slow and foggy ferry ride by playing his trombone for the HMB school kids. Tunes included: Misty, The More I See You, Over the Rainbow, and Sunny Side of the Street.



**SIRCET Update by Shona Sangster**  
**CATS!** SIRCET have recently noticed an increase in the number of feral cats in the Halfmoon Bay Habitat Restoration Project Area and we've been getting reports of feral cats from around the bay. So I thought it would be a good idea to talk a little about feral cats and how they are different from domestic cats and what we are doing with regard to them.

Since February SIRCET have caught 14 feral cats within the project area. We have 20 live capture traps. These are a simple cage trap which do not hurt the animal at all. As well as occasionally catching a domestic pet—we also have caught a little blue penguin once and the odd possum. Under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 any live capture trap must be checked every 24 hours, and we have volunteers who help us with this.

But don't cats eat rats? Yes—but not only rats. The relationship between predator/pest species is a complicated one but rats have evolved in an environment with cats, whereas our native bird, lizard and invertebrate species haven't. Cats are highly efficient predators, and have been known to cause local extinctions of seabird species on islands around the world. Both sea and land birds are at risk, particularly those that nest or feed on or near to the ground. Killing behaviour is independent of hunger. Feral cats will, if the opportunity arises, kill any suitable prey they can, and store the surplus for future use. In addition, feral cats can be aggressive towards pet cats. Through fighting they cause severe injuries sometimes resulting in the pet cat having to be put down.

How do you know if you have feral or unwanted cats? The most characteristic and obvious signs are scats

(droppings). Domestic cats usually bury their scats, but feral cats often deposit them in conspicuous places on tracks or clumps of grass. The scat usually consists of about 3-6 cm round to elongated segments, which contain matted fur, feathers and bones and is dark in colour. Feral cats are always timid around humans. They are usually short haired, slightly built, with a large head and have very sharp features. Once caught in a cage they will act aggressively, hissing, growling and spraying. Feral and unwanted cats do not meow or purr. This is a trait of contented domestic cats only.

SIRCET use a microchip scanner to help us check whether a cat is feral or not, but the difference is usually obvious from their behaviour and appearance. Obviously having a collar on your domestic cat will be a clear giveaway that it is a pet. Feral cats are humanely disposed of.

How can I be a responsible cat owner? In spite of being fed by humans, cats can range up to a kilometre from their 'homes' and will prey on wildlife, including native species if available. The predatory instinct is present in all cats. Even well fed domestic animals will hunt if given the opportunity. However, when cats are responsibly owned their negative impacts can be minimised. You can help: keep your cat inside from dusk till dawn, identify your cat with a collar (and a bell), feed your cat indoors and do not leave food out for stray or feral cats. If you are worried you have a feral cat and would like to find out about borrowing a live capture trap please contact Willy Gamble – [willy@sircet.org.nz](mailto:willy@sircet.org.nz) or 0271694504

(Feral cat facts provided by Greater Wellington Biosecurity)



***Kiwi Avoidance Training Day***

This is a follow up for dogs that have attended a previous session and also for dogs that have not yet been trained. The workshop will be run by a qualified local trainer, Sandy King.

**The Training Day will be held over Easter weekend, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April.**

**It will run from 9 am, with 15 minute slots.**

**Location: Ringa Ringa Height Golf Course,**

For more information or to register please contact Di Morris on 027 7599773 or email Sandy King at [sdk@kinect.co.nz](mailto:sdk@kinect.co.nz) or Shona at [shona@sircet.org.nz](mailto:shona@sircet.org.nz)



Cliff Broad

Retired Invercargill accountant and philanthropist Cliff Broad passed away last month at the age of 87. Cliff's involvement with the Stewart Island community goes back to the 1960s when he helped establish the Stewart Island Fishermen's Co-op. For many years Cliff was the company secretary and helped to establish a lucrative market for Stewart Island rock lobster. During the busy crayfish boom of the 1960s the market was frozen tails sold mostly to USA and Cliff enjoyed working on behalf of fishermen to get the best prices. His interest even stretched to becoming part owner of the fishing vessel *Lady Sarah*, which was built in Invercargill for the Kinsward Fishing Co. of which Cliff was a shareholder along with Ernie Hopkins and Fred Edwards. Cliff's love of tramping and the outdoors saw him holiday on the Island with expeditions to Port Pegasus and South Cape as well as a climb up Mt Anglem. He always maintained a keen interest in Stewart Island and the friends he had made during his time as the Co-op secretary and we were extremely grateful when he donated \$5000 towards the new Rakiura Heritage Centre only weeks before he passed away. Our sympathy to Cliff's daughters Alison and Sarah and son Lindsay and family.

Oban Presbyterian Church Chatter by Jo Riksem



Lovely old windows

As a missionaries' kid I use to get teased a lot because of what my parents did; "Goody two shoes", "Religious nut", "Churchy person" to name a few. It got to the point where I didn't want people knowing about my parents, so I came out with stories that wouldn't get me teased. Then I realized how proud I was of my parents and all the work they had done in India and the teasing didn't have the same effect on me anymore or on the others that tried to taunt me.

I think that some may see people that go to church as "Holier than thou" type people but in reality we are just normal people with a faith in the Lord that is as real Monday through Saturday as it is on Sunday. So here is an invitation to come along: Welcome to our warm and friendly Oban Presbyterian Church on beautiful Stewart Island. A place where you can leave your cares at the door and find old and new friends inside. A cup of tea is not far as you sit and converse with visitors and locals. An unlocked door each day is open to all, to come and enjoy the peace and quiet. We enjoy a good laugh and frequently make a joyful noise unto the Lord of which you are welcome to join in. If you have any talents big or small that you would like to share let us know so we can include you in our worship. Baking and pouring tea is helpful too. There is no formality just joy in worshipping the Lord.

Speakers for May

7 & 14 May Carol Grant – Communion on the 14th. - Carol is an ordained but retired active Presbyterian minister and am currently the Presbyterian Women United Nations Convenor and a Police Chaplain for the Southern Police District. She is a qualified spiritual director and professional supervisor.  
 21 Nigel Crocombe - He a Northland boy born at Te Kopuru (Dargaville) and raised in Donnelly's Crossing and then in Pukenui. He is still amazed to find himself and his wife (a Waikato girl) working with the Waiiau Valley Presbyterian church in Southland! When one serves God amazing things happen.  
 28 May – to be confirmed  
 Services every Sunday 11 am. Prayer Circle Saturday 11:30 in the vestry at the back of the church.

Wharves Southland District Council Media Release

The present and future needs of wharf users on Stewart Island is being studied as the Southland District Council attempts to identify priorities for six island wharves.

Community Partnership Leader Michelle Stevenson said the council had embarked on a community and stakeholder conversation around the five council-owned Stewart Island wharves and the Golden Bay wharf, owned by South Port.

South Port has indicated it views the Golden Bay Wharf as a community asset as opposed to a commercial asset, she said. "South Port wish to divest themselves of Golden Bay Wharf." That approach had sparked the need to look at priorities around the other wharves. The main wharf at Halfmoon Bay is not included as it is owned and operated by South Port. The Port William Wharf was rebuilt between 2014-15 and the Ulva Island Wharf is due for replacement in 2018. The Golden Bay Wharf is in a state of disrepair and needs complete replacement.

About two-thirds of all island visitors use the Golden Bay Wharf as it is the departure point for Ulva Island, she said. As well as visitors, it is used by salmon farm staff, cruise ship passengers, water taxis and other recreational users. "It's a significant wharf in that regard."

The five council-owned wharves had varying degrees of use – from trampers, to DOC workers to Kiwi-spotting trips, Ms Stevenson said. The council has engaged Christchurch-based contractor Sandra James to carry out the work. "We were looking for someone independent, and independent of the area. "We're in a state of looking at priorities in terms of wharf maintenance."

Mrs James visited the island in late March to look at the wharves and talked to people about issues and timeframes. The consultation proper is likely to begin after Easter when visitor numbers ease off. "It's quite a broad piece of work and the council's very open to hearing what comes back." Mrs James was scheduled to visit the island again in early May and would be available for people keen to meet with her, Ms Stevenson said.

Reference group established for Southland aquaculture project –Media Release

A reference group has been formed to help ensure all stakeholders are involved in the process of exploring the environmental, cultural and commercial feasibility of salmon farming in Stewart Island.

The Southland Aquaculture Reference Group (SARG) held its first meeting last week, 30th March and is expected to meet again in June once science research reports are available from an ecological survey currently underway at the north arm of Port Pegasus.

The group, includes representation from a wide range of stakeholders, including government agencies, Environment Southland, Southland District Council, the aquaculture sector, Ngai Tahu, Stewart Island community and the Environmental Defence Society.

SARG's Independent Facilitator Graeme Todd said: "It is important that the process involves local community, local government, central government, iwi, industry and interested environmental groups. "Our aim is to gather all the facts to inform this process. The detailed scientific data being gathered in the current survey will further facilitate and inform community engagement."

He added: "We are committed to gaining a clear understanding of all issues to find an acceptable pathway for a social license from the community and interest groups for the development of new water space opportunities for sustainable marine farming in Southland

"SARG will consider all environmental outcomes and

landscape, amenity, social and cultural values, regulatory controls and treaty obligations. Output from SARG will take the form of

a report identifying where consensus has been reached between participants and issues where agreement has not been reached, along with recommendations."

Aquaculture, particularly salmon farming, is a key focus of the Southland Regional Development Strategy (SORDS) Action Plan, which aims to diversify Southland's economy, grow the population and strengthen local business.

Scientists from the Nelson-based Cawthron Institute are carrying out fieldwork including detailed seabed surveys in an effort to understand whether the area is suitable for aquaculture. The areas identified for survey are all outside of protected marine reserves.

The project is the result of a central-government funded programme put together by SoRDS in collaboration with Ngai Tahu, the Department of Conservation (DoC), the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.



Southland Regional Development Strategy

TE IWIME ORANGA RAUEMI

Knitting- Mission Without Borders

Once again we are collecting knitted goods for overseas orphanages. Can be blankets, hats, scarves, children's clothing etc. If you can help please contact Elaine or Pat. This year they need to be in by the end of June.

Happy knitting. Elaine Hamilton

PS, Knit & Knatter meet every Tuesday at the fire station at 2pm. Maybe you would like to learn to knit!

Need a Resource Consent?

... I can help!

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

- planning
- resource management/consents
- mediation
- facilitation



WILLIAM J WATT CONSULTING LTD

phone 03 217 0114 mobile 027 495 9288  
 williamwatt@ihug.co.nz www.williamjwatt.co.nz



Stewart Island Real Estate

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

See our website TODDCO.NZ

or contact our local representative

Jeanette Mackay on 027 681 8589

for all Island real estate enquiries.

The Friends of the Library committee have again had cause to be grateful for a donation. It is such a pleasure to be part of a community whose business people are so generous towards local enterprises. Megan Cowley, at The Stewart Island Gift Shop, donates annually towards such causes and this year she has chosen to donate \$100 towards the buying of books for the library

We are also very appreciative of her extra gifting of bookplates which will record the generosity of those who present books to the library. They are so delightful that we have included a sample with this article. Thank you, Megan!



"Birds of Stewart Island" © The Stewart Island Gift Shop

Blackberry

By Elaine Hamilton

Have you seen a Blackberry? Have you held a Blackberry? Have you used a Blackberry? Have you owned a Blackberry?

Yes! To all of the above. Three years ago for a special birthday I was given a Blackberry phone. 'Top of the range with endless possibilities', I was told. Comments varied from 'wow' to 'never seen one of those'

I took the phone to Telecom [now Spark] in Invercargill to have the Sim card installed. The girl said she had never seen one of these and suggested it was far too advanced for me and I would be better to get a more user-friendly one. That was the start of the comments. Since then I have heard it all.

However I did master the basics, often asking questions of those who 'know a lot' about cell phones. No one could offer much help, but I persisted.

A few months ago when 'Spark' changed the settings the fun really started. So I visited the Spark office in Invercargill again. Comments ranged from 'Oh a Blackberry, never seen one of those' and to the other staff, 'Ever held one of these?'

And so on. Then was told no, they couldn't help, but gave me an 0800 number with the assurance that 'they' will definitely help.

Next day I phoned the 0800 number and after two calls, was passed to someone with limited English. Some progress was made. However the next day nothing had been re-

solved. So back I went to the 0800 number and was told someone would call me back. In fact two different people called back. Eventually I was told to either get another phone or find an expert on Blackberrys. 'Good suggestion' I said. 'Who can you recommend?' 'Sorry don't know of anyone, have a good day!'

Next visit was to the Spark shop in Dunedin, which was very busy. Eventually I spoke to a very nice lass and after the usual 'never seen one of these etc. she said she could probably help and was sorry I had been having difficulties. She did manage to sort some things out but some Apps didn't seem compatible. She then suggested I go to Harvey Norman as some of their staff are 'very good with phones'. So I rang to check and made an appointment with Mark.

On arrival Mark greeted me with the comment 'Oh you are the lady with the Blackberry. Never seen one of these, interesting phone'. Other staff appeared with similar comments, adding 'Do you know that Blackberry phones can't be hacked and the American Intelligence use them?' Also words like obsolete and a relic were mentioned.

After much debate I bought a new phone. One staff member seemed quite taken with my Blackberry and commented 'Don't throw the Blackberry out, maybe you could frame it' Really!

Once home again I was grumbling about 'Blackberrys' to a nice local who the next day provided me with some interesting info and what a

revelation, even why it was called Blackberry.

The name was chosen because the keyboard's buttons resembled the drupelets that compose the blackberry fruit.

Yes it was the 'in' phone in 2014 with all the 'bells & whistles' and was promoted as the best ever. In 2013 there were 85 million subscribers.

President Obama depended on his Blackberry device for his 2008 Presidential campaign and insisted on using it until around the end of his presidency.

The Hillary Clinton email controversy was also associated with the Blackberry.

However so was an Italian criminal group "Ndrangheta" communicating with a Mexican Drug Cartel because 'texts were very difficult to intercept'.

In Canada, Toronto and many other municipalities have been issued with Blackberry devices for most of their employees. Currently the city's email environment is set up to support only Blackberry devices, and on it goes.

In September 2016 sales dropped to 16 million and Blackberry ceased making these phones in favour of outsourcing to partners.

Will I keep it? Maybe, Will I frame it? 'NO'



## Stewart Island Health Committee AGM

Will be held at the Health Clinic on Wednesday the 12th of April 2017

at 2pm. We welcome anyone who is interested to be involved in the present and future of Health care on Stewart Island

S Munro Sec Phone 2191327

Stewart Island Senior Citizens Mid Winter Dinner

Just an update Seniors for your information

The Mid-Winter dinner will be a week earlier this year

Wednesday June 7th

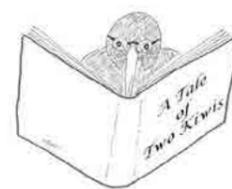
We are having a baby photo competition, so we need

your baby photos by 20th April, they should be up to the age of 2

Please address them to Sue Munro and place in Box 99, with your name on the envelope.

Should be fun. Your official invite to lunch will come later on

Cheers, the Committee



Book Reviews From Sue Ford

Book of the month is Nicholas Sparks' "Two by Two".

Russ has a successful career in advertising and a high-maintenance wife, Vivian. They have a cute daughter

they love. Then, in the space of a year, their lives are thrown into disarray, beginning with Russ losing his job. Vivian goes back to work as Russ struggles to start again. Half-way through, I knew this wouldn't end 'happily ever after' for everyone. However, the dilemmas, sadness – and the great joy – of family life are beautifully drawn, made me laugh and cry. I grew to love the characters so cleverly described. The tension of 'what will happen next' was as great as in one of my favoured 'who-dunnits'. In Russ's voice, this is a well-written drama, documenting the pressures of the modern family, told with wry humour.

"The Sleeping Beauty Killer" by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke is first class. Laurie produces a TV show called 'Under Suspicion'. Casey was convicted 15 years earlier of killing her fiancé but wants to prove her innocence. Laurie starts out believing Casey, but soon, new evidence begins to pile up. She begins to think that Casey's manslaughter verdict ought to have been murder...! Good, old-fashioned story-telling. So is Val McDermid's "Out of Bounds" in which DCI Karen Pirie of Scottish Police's Historic Cases Unit follows up on the serendipitous discovery of a DNA link to a 20-year old rape/murder. But it's not that easy, and meanwhile, she finds herself drawn to a contemporary death – with connections to another historic crime. Excellent crime drama. Tense and no less dramatic: John Connolly's "The Burning Soul" – I'm fascinated by Connolly's style of writing, rather than by the content: it is lyric and atmospheric. This story starts out slow but picks up. The 14-year old niece of a washed up gang-boss goes missing in a small U.S. town. Incognito, a child-murderer lives there too. It's up to Charlie Parker to sort out what's happening. A nod to supernatural goings-on doesn't detract. "After Anna" by Alex Lake is worthy of a read too: 5-year old Anna goes missing – but is then returned a week

later in perfect health except she has only one memory of the week. And that leads Anna's mother to the centre of this murderous mystery. The mother's anguish is excellently portrayed, and the tension builds nicely.

I don't know how I would class "Lost Girl" by J.C. Grey. Is it a romance? A tragedy? A drama? A ghost story? And I guess the answer would be 'Yes, all the above!' It is told with chapters looking backwards at events in the life of Em going back more than 12 months, alongside the present. It also explores the distant past! Normally, I don't like this time-hopping style, but this time, it works. Emerald (Em) is a 'face' – an 'It Girl' as she calls it. But she hasn't always been that high profile, and she lives in constant fear of her grimy past catching up with her. Then she marries Sydney's most eligible bachelor – against her better judgement. Despite Marc's best efforts to save the marriage, tragic events cause Em to do what she does best – run! Where she runs to is a dilapidated and run-down house which seems to welcome her into Sanctuary. However, residents of the local township think she ought to move on quickly. Why? And Em discovers that she may not be alone in the house. She is forced to stop running and face all kinds of ghosts from the past, most importantly, the ghosts and demons of her own life. The writing is better than the plot – and the plot is fair enough. It is billed as 'An atmospheric and haunting story of mystery and romance' which probably sums up the tale. Not a prize-winner, but despite some harrowing passages, is quite a lovely wee story for a wet Sunday afternoon read.

However, "The Seven Sisters" series by Lucinda Riley, beginning with Maia's Story, is my new obsession! The first book deals with the mysterious past of the eldest of six babies, now young women, adopted by a mysterious, reclusive billionaire. Amazing detail regarding the building of Rio's 'Christ the Redeemer' as well as a great love story and the kind of jigsaw that has you running back to the Library for the next in the series. And that is "The Storm Sister", Ally's story. Less compelling but equally intriguing as Ally traces her ancestry back through composers and musicians in Norway – the land of Grieg of course! Quite fascinating. Will welcome the next one in the series.

**Stewart Island-Rakiura Community Board Update:**

Members: Jon Spraggon [Chairman], Steve Lawrence [Deputy Chairman], Aaron Conner, Dale Chittenden, Anita Geeson, Greg Everest & Bruce Ford [SDC]

**Community Nursery**

The Board and SIRCET are working together to find a suitable Halfmoon Bay site for the nursery, presently located at Horseshoe Bay. Several sites beside Traill Park are being considered.

**Seats**

A request from the family of the late Rob Spinks to place a seat in his memory on land at Lee Bay was received. In discussion with our Engineer a site has been agreed to and the seat should be installed shortly. An additional seat donated by the Stewart Island Women's Institute has been placed on the side of Golden Bay Road for those travellers needing a break when walking to or from Golden Bay and the Lions Club have purchased one which is located part way along Horseshoe Beach.

**Re Zoning Bylaw**

The changes in the zoning bylaw in relation to the island were discussed by the Board. Any property owners with concerns are advised to contact the Southland District Council Planners at an early stage of any development to ensure they receive clear and accurate advice.

**Abandoned Vehicles**

The number of unregistered and unwarranted vehicles being left on the roadsides around the island is causing concern. Outside the community centre seems to be a favourite site. Please arrange with the Recycling Centre, for them to be shipped off the island once there is no further use for them. This service costs only \$38.

**Observation Rock Viewing Platform**

With the current Health & Safety Rules in mind, the safety of people at Observation Rock was discussed. It was agreed that the development of a Viewing platform could be a suitable project for monies raised as part of the Stewart Island Rakiura Visitor Levy. It was also suggested that parking for vehicles on the road side while people walked to the Observation Point could be improved. This project will be added to the Long Term Plan so that initial planning and costing can be undertaken.

**Parking**

Due to the misinformation and lack of progress with the gazetting of the revised requirement for Elgin Terrace, Board members are investigating other areas where it may be necessary to impose restrictions. Members of the community are encouraged to share their thoughts on the parking needs for the future with Board members or in writing to Kirsten at the Council Office.

**Energy Report**

A full report will soon be available to the community. The Board has been asking for this material for some months now and once it has been made available to the community we will be asking for future direction in relation to aspects of this project.

**Toilets-Carpark Improvements**

The Board has been working with DOC to improve facilities at the end of Main Road. It is proposed to install toilets and to enlarge the car parking area at the entrance to the National Park.

Creative graffiti spotted at the Halfmoon Bay wharf



**Rakiura Maori Land Trust News:**

Islanders will see the Pearlers building advertised for lease in the next few weeks. This is a great opportunity for an energetic entrepreneur. We will keep you posted when we advertise it nationwide in the next few weeks.

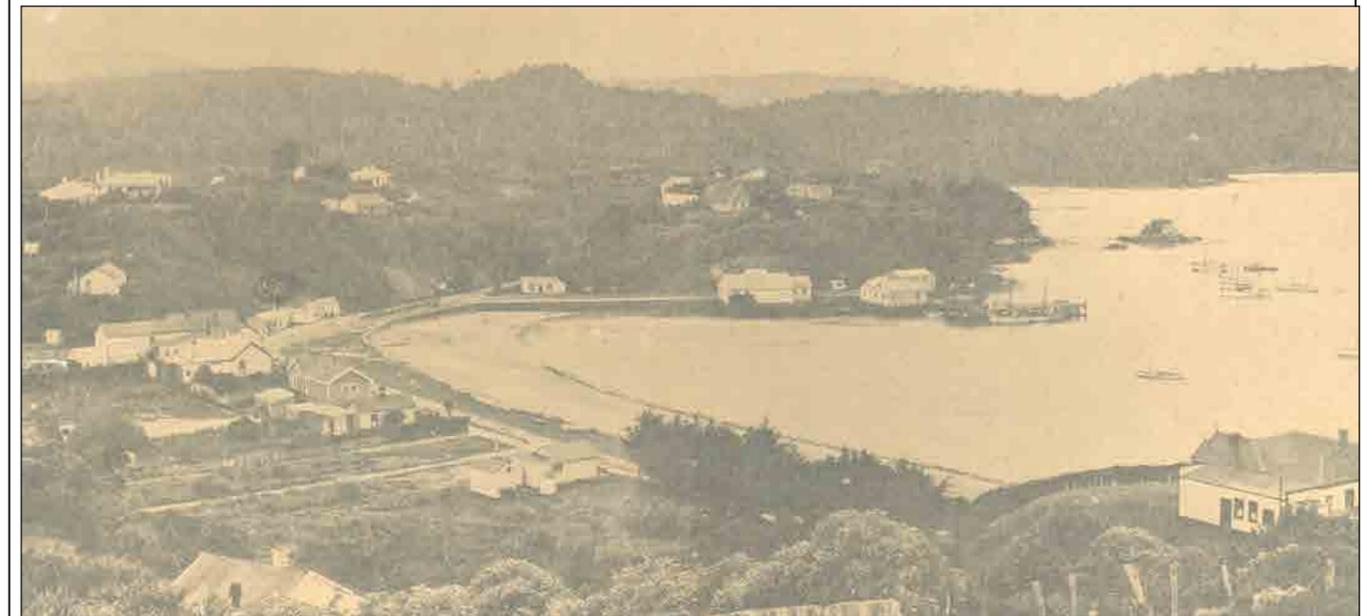
The Hunting season is underway and bookings are strong. We know that this venture is only successful with the support from island businesses and individuals.

The Trust would also like to thank the island community for their support of the kiwi-spotting venture. We believe that low impact operations like this are key to managed growth of tourism opportunities on the island.

We are also looking to upgrade our website as well which will help us provide better information and updates to our beneficiaries and the public. If you have any stories, pictures or information re the Trusts lands we would love to use them.

We will be holding our next meeting on Stewart Island from May 26 to 28th. If you have anything, you would like to discuss with us then please let us know by emailing Ess@rmlt.co.nz

**Museum Matters by Jo Riksem  
90 YEARS AGO**



**Halfmoon Bay 1927**

Carrying on from last month's theme this shot of Halfmoon Bay in 1927 shows many of the buildings, houses and boats that no longer exist. Many of our acquisitions that have come in recently are now on display. The Lockerbie Archaeological Exhibition will still be on show for another couple of months. A large collection of maps that came in some years ago have now been catalogued and housed in conservation material. It was a big job so nice to see it all completed. These are still available for viewing on request.

**Acquisitions:**

- Archival material about the Stewart Island electricity, sewage scheme and golf course.
- Lovely old hat that was worn by Charles Robertson
- Maori artefacts
- Old liquor bottle and small medicine bottle
- Book about the Jacky Lee family

Searches for February were:  
Pegasus Buildings

Group photo at Whalers Base at our 2014 Norwegian Celebration  
Old Department of Conservation photos for their 30th Anniversary  
Pete Garden  
Hilliar Family  
Scollay's boat "Dauntless"

Many thanks for all those who have handed in information and photos for our Titi Exhibition on the history of muttonbirds and muttonbirding, then and now, at the Community Hall on Labour Weekend (end of October) of this year. Further items would be appreciated. Please contact Raylene Waddell (03 2191-092 or glendaruel@extra.co.nz) or Bev & Jo at the museum (03 2191-221 or stewartislandmuseum@southlanddc.govt.nz).

Winter hours are now as of May Monday - Friday 10- 12, Saturday 10-1:30, Sunday 12 - 2:00.

**ISLAND INSPIRATIONS**  
**Rakiura Art Programme**  
**Stewart Island 2<sup>nd</sup>—5<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Stewart Island Promotion Association presents a weekend of film, photography, and fine art workshops with high quality tutors from around NZ.

Contact us for full information and programme brochure:  
Email: [visitus@stewartisland.co.nz](mailto:visitus@stewartisland.co.nz)  
[www.stewartisland.co.nz/pages/events-on-stewart-island](http://www.stewartisland.co.nz/pages/events-on-stewart-island)

Simply Inspiring

# Hawaiian Island Themed Party



*Wear your loudest Hawaiian Shirt, Sarong or Sunfrock (Fancy Dress Optional)*

**Good Friday** April 14th

Stewart Island Community Centre 7pm - 1am

**Live Music - Quantum**

Great Supper - Cash Bar - Courtesy Transport

Tickets just \$30 & on sale now from: South Sea Hotel  
Glowing Sky, The Ferry Terminal, Pete Ross Auto

NO DOOR SALES - ROAR

A Stewart Island Lions Club Fundraiser for Community Projects

## Sarah's Rakiura Remarks

### Building Safe and Secure Communities

This Government is committed to the growth and development of our small local communities. The Government has taken firm actions to grow regional economies, such as rolling out ultra-fast broadband and expanding regional infrastructure. However, the Government is also dedicated to ensuring families and children living in our local and rural communities are safe, happy and prosperous.

Domestic violence is undeniably one of New Zealand's most challenging social issues facing our local communities. Every year, police respond to 110,000 family violence call-outs and children are present at nearly two-thirds of these incidents. 1 in 3 women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from a partner in their lifetime. In the four years from 2009 to 2012, 76% of intimate partner violence-related deaths were perpetrated by men.

Unfortunately there is no quick or easy fix to end this often intergenerational cycle of violence.

However, this Government is stepping up to say enough is enough. The Government has introduced the Family and Whānau Violence Legislation Bill that will overhaul our family violence laws - the biggest reform in 20 years which will completely redesign how our legal system understands, prevents and responds to family violence.

The Government is building a better legal framework for confronting family violence. Our reforms will set up a more integrated and effective system and hold perpetrators to account. The Government is also undertaking changes to better support domestic violence victims and keep them safe. This Bill is a critical step towards combatting family violence and keeping our communities safe.

The Government has also recently launched the new Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki. It's important our vulnerable children and young people have a safe, stable and loving home. The new Ministry will do this by putting children and young people's safety and wellbeing first. This represents a major transformation

programme to build a more child-centred care and protection system which focuses on harm and trauma prevention and early intervention.

The Ministry is also putting the community in the heart of decision-making. Children and young people need to be safe and secure in their environment and have a sense of belonging. That's why the new Ministry will work hand-in-hand with Iwi, families and community groups to help them provide nurturing, safe and loving environments so that the future for our vulnerable children will be brighter.

While supporting the economic growth and development of our regional communities is a top priority for this Government, we are also heavily investing in the social wellbeing of rural and local communities. By putting in place the necessary social infrastructure, communities can thrive and families and children can feel safe and secure.

From the Office of Sarah Dowie. MP

# CAKE STALL & RAFFLES

Easter Saturday - 15th April @ 10:00am

At Community Noticeboard

A Stewart Island Promotion Assn & Rakiura Heritage Centre Trust fundraising event.

All donations of baking, produce welcome.



Village Centre, Oban : [glowingsky.co.nz](http://glowingsky.co.nz)



**Glowing Sky Merino. All You Need.**

## Anzac Day 2017

- Poppy Day Saturday 22th April
- Anzac Day Tuesday 25th April
- 0700 hrs Parade will assemble outside Ship to Shore.
- 0715hrs Parade marches to the Memorial
- Laying of Remembrance Wreath
- Public to lay poppies and wreaths
- Readings of Official Messages
- Prayers
- HMB School talks
- Reading of the Ode
- Last Post, Minute's Silence observed & Reveille
- Parade dismissed
- Any members of the public are welcome to make and lay a wreath.
- After the parade everyone is welcome to adjourn to the RSA Pavilion in Ayr St. for refreshments: Tea Coffee & Rum toddies.



**Department of Conservation** *Te Papa Atawhai*  
**What's Up, DOC?**  
 From Jennifer Ross

**The Department of Conservation Turned 30**

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all previous and current Stewart Island/Rakiura DOC staff who joined us to celebrate 30 years of DOC on Friday 31 March!  
 The 1980s bush wear was a huge hit, old signs, dated maps and weeds were used for decorations, and all the music was



Serious Group shot *Photo Credit: Laire Purik*

played on a record player in true 1980s style thanks to Willy Gamble. Current DOC staff put together a potluck barbeque spread and the group ate together at a long table.



*Above left and Centre: Partygoers enjoying a barbeque feast and the dessert spread Photo Credit: Laire Purik*  
*Right: Blast from the past PJ eats rat sandwich Photo Credit: Sandy King*

A slideshow featuring the past 30 years of DOC Rakiura was shown and thoroughly enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Sandy King, Belinda Dobbins, Dale Chittenden, and Steve Meads for providing photos! Another huge thank you to Jo Riksem and Bev Cowley at the Rakiura Museum for all your help with selecting and scanning old DOC slides into digital images! One highlight from the night was current DOC staff attempting to recreate a photo of DOC Director-General Lou Sanson from 1987:



Which is the real Lou? Lou Sanson shows new Department logo to Southland Times journalist at the launch of DOC, 1987 *Photo Credit: Jake Osborne*

**Rat Found Near Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara**

A rat was found caught in a DOC 200 trap on Pipi Rocks near Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara during a routine monthly coastal trap check on 14 March 2017. The deceased rat was identified as a Ship rat. Pipi Rocks is 514 meters away from Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara and rats can swim this distance.

**Port Pegasus/Pikihaiti Possum Control**

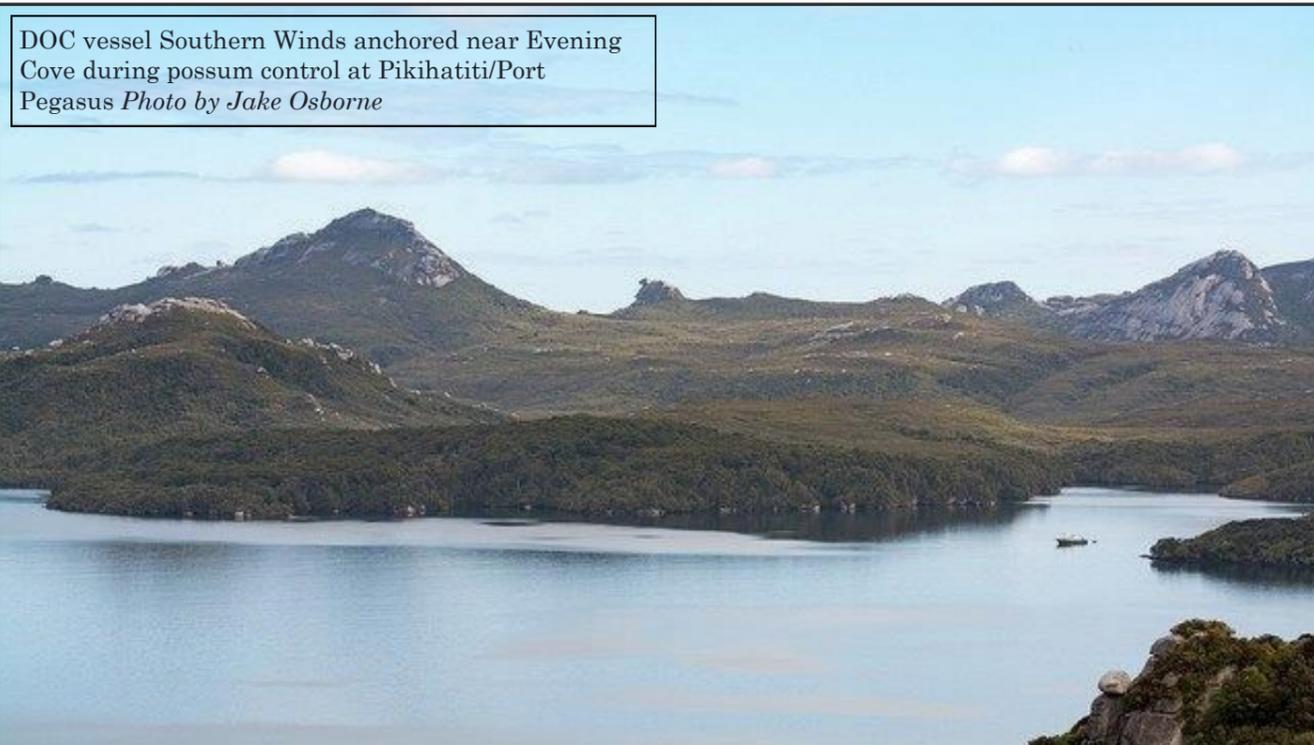
Six Department of Conservation staff travelled to Port Pegasus/Pikihaiti aboard the Southern Winds DOC vessel in March to place pre-feed in the possum control area. Pre-feeding helps train possums to eat pellets and significantly increases the



*Above: Ship rat found in trap at Pipi Rocks near Ulva Island/Te Wharawhara by DOC ranger Cherie Hemsley Photo Credit: Jennifer Ross*



*Left: Rakiura DOC team arrive back at DOC vessel Southern Winds after a day of possum control work at Port Pegasus/Pikihaiti Photo credit: Jake Osborne*



DOC vessel Southern Winds anchored near Evening Cove during possum control at Pikihatiti/Port Pegasus Photo by Jake Osborne

effectiveness of toxic baiting. A team of two DOC staff and four contractors followed the pre-feed team and stapled 1080 in bait bags to trees (at least 700mm high to keep away from wekas). Post monitoring determined that we reached our target of less than 3% residual trap catch (RTC) for possums with a final figure of 1.9%. Pre-monitoring in 2013 indicated that possum numbers were 7.6% RTC and possum numbers will have climbed steadily since then. Keeping possum numbers low helps to maintain an intact forest canopy where vulnerable tree species can thrive as well as reducing the impact of possums raiding native bird nests for eggs and chicks.



**Halfmoon Bay School Mill Creek Weeds Project**

Halfmoon Bay School has taken on a weekly (every Thursday afternoon) restoration project at Mill Creek. The school has a history of involvement with the dunes in this area and are looking to weed the dunes to free up the sand around the pingao plants and help to create a healthy dune system for the future. This started at the beginning of March and so far, we have decided on a project plan, marked out our first weeding section, and weeded it.

Above: Community Ranger Jennifer Ross with Week 3 Halfmoon Bay School group at Mill Creek. Right, top to bottom: Week 1: Scoping out the area, full of weeds. Week 2: Marking the first section with poles and string. Week 3: Starting to weed the first section. Week 4: Finishing weeding the first section!



Sea lions at Port Pegasus/Pikihatiti Photo by George Nicholas

**Port Pegasus/Pikihatiti Sea Lions**

Dr. Louise Chilvers (Massey University) led a sea lion research team (George Nicholas DOC and Odin Neil Auckland Zoo) to Pikihatiti/Port Pegasus in March. This is the first year the team surveyed sea lions on Taukihepa, one of the most southern muttonbird/titi islands. 41 sea lion pups were tagged in 10 days, the highest number recorded since tagging began. Port Pegasus/ Pikihatiti sea lion population is on the verge of being classified as a colony site (35+ pups for 5 years) and will be the first colony on the mainland of New Zealand since the impacts of sealing in the 19th Century!

**Local Weeds Update By Letitia McRitchie**

Weeds are now moving from flowering to setting seed and it's a good time to spray/cut and paste/dig out before seeds ripen and spread further. Along with our Barberry control we are still surveying and controlling weeds around the bay. Many of the weeds we find are beyond our resources to control but we are happy to provide advice to landowners on how to remove these nasties from their garden/bush sections. We still have a few bottles of *Bamboo Buster* available which have been donated by Environment Southland. This product is great for weeds that can be cut and pasted (anything with a stem, including bamboo which is highly invasive). Pop into DOC and have a chat with me and I can pass some along to you.

**Banana Passionfruit**

This weed is highly invasive, happily growing over the top of large trees and smothering everything. We recently found a large plant and it's been several years since we last found one. Thank you to the landowners who were happy



for us to come and remove it! Please let me know if you have this plant on your property before it takes over!

**Buddleia**



This flowering shrub is a real menace, with its aggressive weedy characteristics: it's happy to grow in any conditions, grows quickly and forms dense stands. Cutting and pasting works well on this plant although there is likely to be a seed source in the ground for the next year. It generally has long purple flowers (sometimes white) and another weedy variety has orange globe-like flowers.

**Rakiura Track Maintenance**

The Rakiura Track maintenance team has been working hard throughout February and March to repair and maintain some of the worst sections of track. Digger work has sped this process up by digging water tables, installing drains, and re-routing the track altogether in some of the worst sections. The team has also put down matting in many sections in preparation for gravel.

**Port William/Potirepo Haulers and Sawmill Site Maintenance Volunteer Trip**

DOC Ranger Aristya Marzuki led a group of volunteers to maintain the historic sawmilling machines around Port William/Potirepo and Maori Beach. The group treated and tidied up both sites and spent some time clearing back trees and vegetation around Port William/Potirepo hut and campsite with some help from the Cambridge Tramping Club.

Below right: Volunteers perform sawmill site maintenance at Maori Beach Photo Credit: Aristya Marzuki





# Ambergis

New Zealand's longest established dealer of Ambergis.

AmbergisNZ is wishing to buy all grades of Ambergis, please refer to our website:

[www.ambergisnz.co.nz](http://www.ambergisnz.co.nz)

We are offering top New Zealand prices.

Contact: Terry & Wendy

Email: [info@ambergisnz.co.nz](mailto:info@ambergisnz.co.nz)

Or

Phone: 0274 991 881

**Stewart Island Community Library**

**Monday 8.30 – 12.00**

**Wednesday 8.30 – 12 & 2 – 4**

**Friday 8.30 – 12.00**

**Saturday 11 – 12**

**Wifi, dvds (\$2 for 7 nights), computers, jigsaws, magazines... & books!**

## Spotted on Facebook—hopefully satire?



## Quality Handyman Services Guaranteed

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

### Handyman Services

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

### Office Services

can also be provided

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

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



Contact  
**Geoff**



## Stewart Island Handyman Services

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

Stewart Island News is published on a monthly basis as material permits.

**Please send articles and enquiries to Shona Sangster at PO Box 86 Stewart Island or email to [stewartislandnews@yahoo.com](mailto:stewartislandnews@yahoo.com)**

If you wish to have Stewart Island News sent to you or a friend, please fill out this form and send it with a cheque made payable to "Stewart Island News" to P.O. Box 156, Stewart Island 9846.

Or  
Direct deposit to Westpac 03 1750 0250628 00 — please put your name as reference and don't forget to send me an email with your address.

The cost is as follows:

- 12 issues to an Oban address \$36
- 12 issues to other New Zealand address \$48
- 12 issues to international address \$72
- 12 issues emailed \$24

Name of Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Advertise in the STEWART ISLAND NEWS

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

Contact editor for rates.  
[stewartislandnews@yahoo.com](mailto:stewartislandnews@yahoo.com)