

# SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 1 Issue 1

FEB 16 1998



*Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association*

## Editorial

The launch of "Shoektown Calling" is a natural progression of the newsletter circulated by the Simon's Town Ratepayers & Residents Association, to all residents of Simon's Town, to coincide with the Annual General Meeting of July last.

Our mission will be to serve the community as regards the "need to know and want to know". The news bulletin / magazine will be delivered - monthly - to every household in Simon's Town and Glencairn (the old Municipality of Simon's Town), free of charge, some 2 100 delivery points.

There will be monthly feature articles of news and matters of historical interest from, inter alia, Naval Base Simon's Town, our Ward Councillor, the Ratepayers and Residents Executive Committee, FBYC, Country Club, Museum, etc. Indeed, the second issue of "Shoektown Calling" will contain the first of a series of articles on the Dutch East India Company in Simon's Town. So fasten seat belts - here we go!

**Reg Loxton Editor pro tem,  
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# Snoektown Calling

## The news and views of Simon's Town residents

Simon's Town's history has been greatly influenced by the Dutch East India Company, and the Royal and South African Navies. Its very growth as a town arose from this maritime conjunction: dams were built to supply water, farmers settled here to victual the ships, hospitals were established to tend the sick and wounded sailors, stone masons arrived to build the dockyard, Kroomen married local women and made port their new home base, Muslims set up as tailors and experts in naval gold braid, padres of all religions married, christened and buried those connected with the sea.

Sailors have nicknames for places that are important to them. Simon's Town is known as "Snoekie" (Snoekies) to many, and has been for much of this century at least. During World War 2, the SABC's English service introduced a new radio programme, "Snoektown Calling", the brainchild of a temperamental but gifted young man named Cecil Wightman, which soon became as popular as the 8 o'clock news from the BBC, and many older citizens must remember the catchy little jingle that urged listeners to "put all your worries and troubles aside, forget all your woes, keep your ears open wide, for Snoektown's on air, yes Snoektown's on air", ending with a cheeky chirrup from the fish horn. For half an hour every week, listeners could forget their "worries and troubles" and enjoy the exuberant fun offered by Snoektown Calling. It was a morale booster much as ITMA was for the British people during those war years.

Simon's Town then was a home to a large fishing community and the Snoek ran freely in Simon's Bay.

In 1996 much has changed in Simon's Town. As a municipality in its own right from 1883 to 1996, one of the oldest in South Africa it finds itself without its own mayor, council and administration and faces many challenges in a larger organisation: a proud era of municipal history has ended. But Simon's Town has an even longer social history which has its roots in pre-recorded and pre-colonial days.

As the millennium approaches a new phase of Simon's Town's history begins and our community needs its own local newspaper to record the news and views of those who live here. Welcome to "Snoektown Calling"!

**Alderman N. Høidemess**  
1 February 1998

### HAVE YOU SEEN

RED HILL???

OF  
SLOPES

SIMON'S TOWN

THE  
ALONG

WHAT'S GOING ON

You must have spotted the tiny star in the field above Red Hill Road. It's clearly visible from the Main Road as you approach Simon's Town. It can be seen from as far afield as Sir Lowry's Pass and Gordon's Bay. It is not a peak of nature. It is man-made. It is a development known as Bayview Heights. They want to extend the present five-unit to 58 plots, fifty-eight, going two-thirds of the way up the Red Hill mountainside.

The Red Hill Forum has been formed to coordinate the whole development. It is made up of local ratepayers bodies, the Wildlife and Environment Society, (Greenland Gap), and various other interested parties.

The Forum wants to know what YOU think and feel. We will present you with some of the facts, queries and concerns surrounding this development. How far up will concrete be allowed on our surrounding mountainside. Should there be any limit?

We would like you to attend a public meeting at Simon's Town Civic Centre on Thursday 19 February at 7pm where you can ask questions and air your views.

## Simon's Town Neighbourhood Watch

The Simon's Town Neighbourhood Watch is made up of concerned citizens who through their efforts are trying to make an impact on crime in the Simon's Town/Glencairn/Pine Haven areas.

The Neighbourhood Watch was established to work in conjunction with the SAPS, Municipality of Simon's Town, and local businesses in order that crime-related incidents could be identified and the necessary action taken.

The organisation is made up of representatives of the SAPS, Municipality, local businessmen and individuals representing a certain area. The Town is divided up into areas represented by an "Area Commander". The Area Commanders are responsible for the active participation of members within their own areas.

The responsibility of members is to keep their ears to the ground, and report any strange movement or activity in their own area. A telephone call to the local Police Station is all that is required. Under no circumstances must a member attempt to arrest or apprehend a potential suspect.

Meetings of the Neighbourhood Watch are held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Town Hall, St. George's Street, Simon's Town at 17:00 (5 pm). Residents are invited to attend.

In order to secure the CBD area of Simon's Town, Mr. George Watton was appointed by the Simon's Town Business Forum. Mr Watton is an ex-military policeman and SAPS reservist, and is doing an excellent job. In his term of office many "would-be" thieves and vagrants are kept at bay and businessmen feel more secure.

Thank you to all the businessmen who contribute to the salary of Mr George Watton (our own "Bobby on the Beat").

Any information re the Neighbourhood Watch can be obtained from Inspector Store at 786-2127.

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Rosalie and Peter Jack  
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# Simon's Town Community Police Forum (SCPF)

The Simon's Town Police Community Forum was constituted in terms of Section 18 (1) of the South African Police Service Act (Act 66/1995) as promulgated.

The inaugural Meeting of the SCPF was held on the 24th April 1996 at the Gafends Holiday Village.

The powers of the SCPF comprises the following :-

- a. Monitoring the effectiveness of the Police Service
- b. Advising the Police Service in respect of priorities for local policing
- c. Evaluation of the provision of visible police service
- d. Requesting of any investigation policy matters in the Simon's Town area

The objectives of the Forum are :-

- a. Provision, posting and motivating of manpower for the station at Simon's Town
- b. Receipt and processing of complaints from the Residents of Simon's Town
- c. Patrolling of residential and business areas, and the prosecution of trespassers

At present, crime in Simon's Town is of the lowest in the South Peninsula, and can only be attributed to the active visible policing of SAPS members, SA Naval Military Police, and Law Enforcement Officers of the Local Authority.

The Forum consists of a Chairman and Treasurer, elected at the AGM, as well as a Secretary appointed by the SAPS. The rest of the Committee is made up of members representing the various organisations in Simon's Town.

Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month at 18:00 at the Gafends Holiday Village. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

In order to improve the relationship between the public and the community, a co-ordinated crime prevention sub-committee was established under the chairmanship of the Chief Magistrate of Simon's Town, Mr A Dugan.

The objectives of this committee are to :-

- a. Improve crime prevention
- b. Achieve a peaceful and law-abiding community
- c. Promote and advance goodwill amongst all law enforcement agencies

Community Policing involves a customer focus embracing a philosophy that says "We will provide a high quality service." It is a full police service giving attention to the old lines of business, as well as proactive prevention. In essence, community policing is a co-operative effort, involving all interested participants from Government, neighbourhoods, social, civic, educational, and religious groups, to identify, address and solve problems.

*"Swipe from the best, then adapt."*

**JOHN PAGE**  
*Chairman, SA Police Community Forum, Simon's Town*

# **Simon's Town Ratepayers and Residents Association**

## **Notice of Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the Association will hold its half yearly General Meeting in the Town Hall, St. George's Street, Simon's Town on Thursday, 26th February, 1998 at 8.00pm.

Guest Speakers will be Mr. Jamie Monaghan, MP and Mrs. N. Holderness, Councillor, South Peninsula Municipality.

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Address by Mr. Jamie Monaghan, Member of Parliament
3. Address by Councillor Nikki Holderness, SPM
4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th July, 1997
5. Matters arising from the Minutes
6. Chairman's Report by Mr. Chris Hart
7. Treasurer's Report
8. General
9. Closure

### **Tea**

Tea will be served immediately following closure of the meeting.

A donation of R2 per head (minimum) would be appreciated by the Simon's Town Association of St. Guides and Brownies.

### **Outstanding Subscriptions**

Subscriptions outstanding for the 1997 year may be paid at the door or handed in at Glasys Dale Estates.

# Chairman's Report for Ratepayers' Association

As I indicated in my chairman's report at the Annual General Meeting, the survival of the larger and more remote South Peninsula Municipality required a re-structuring of your executive committee so that the association could more easily keep abreast of developments affecting Simon's Town. You will note the changes in portfolio emphasis in this Agenda paper.

It is the intention that each executive member should drive his portfolio by means of a sub-committee recruited from suitably qualified and motivated residents, thus directly involving more community members in our local affairs.

Your committee would greatly appreciate an indication of interest from any resident who may wish to be considered for inclusion in one of the portfolio sub-committees.

The changes in local government have impacted on the legal persona of your Association and it is likely that you will need to place on the Agenda paper at the Annual General Meeting certain changes to the Association's Constitution. It will probably be appropriate, at that stage, to consider also a change of name for the Association.

## White Paper on Local Government

During 1987 your committee submitted responses to, first, the Discussion Paper on Local Government and, then, to the subsequent Green Paper.

We understand from the contents of the Green Paper and recent "leaks" through the media, that the National Government firmly intends to change, once again, the structure of local government. If indications are correct, the metropolitan area of Cape Town will be governed by a single council instead of the six interim councils currently operating.

The implications for a small remote town such as Simon's Town, attempting to relate to a monolithic council governing 3 million residents, are another quantum leap from dealing with the SPM - and that has proved difficult enough.

However the White Paper has not been published (at date of writing) and comment must be reserved until the proposals can be studied. Your committee has again requested that statutory ward councils form part of the new legislation but the hope for this provision seems doubtful.

## Boulders Park

The eschatological of Boulders Park has not been brought to finality although the land has been vested in the S & National Parks and workshops between the SANP and the South Peninsula Municipality continue to seek solutions to the division of responsibilities. We trust that we will be able to report greater progress when next we meet in July.

## Property Developments

Simon's Town has, almost overnight, become a highly desirable residential location and in consequence there is considerably more interest being shown in the town by property developers. It was deemed necessary in July to seek observer status on the Architectural



Advisory Committee and this exposure has been of considerable benefit to the Executive Committee.

Certain projects have caused severe adverse reaction from residents affected both directly and indirectly and the Association has been involved variously as watchdog, facilitator and advisor in disputes and discussions between residents and developers.

As a result of these experiences your executive committee will propose to the SPM that the association be permitted to act as an intermediary between residents and developers. All FOMR formal proposals are submitted to the Council. It has been apparent that much benefit can accrue to both sides if a development project is discussed openly before formal application is made.

The fundamental change in the basis of rates assessments, from a combined site and improvements evaluation to site only, continues to enjoy urgent municipal attention. Field evaluations are imminent. Your Association continues to press for the latest information in the process.

The Cape Metropolitan Council has initiated an Urban Edge Study which seeks to define the limits of urban development in the metropolitan area to contain urban sprawl. Your committee will continue to be involved.

### **Commercial Activities in the Dockyard**

The Joint Industrial Activities Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Mr C.J. van der Berg, Environmental Health Officer for the SPM, has met on several occasions since the last General Meeting of the Association and has succeeded in establishing via an S.A.B.S report that the noise levels in the urban areas surrounding the dockyard, during grit blasting operations, exceeded the legally permitted levels and was therefore, in the opinion of the S.A.B.S., likely to lead to vigorous public complaint. This report is being considered by the Navy which has been requested to take the necessary action to deal with the matter. Grit blasting in the vicinity of the 'synchronists' has been stopped over the past two months.

The Navy has made available the results of the analysis of sea bed sediments from within the harbour which indicates that the concentrations of monitored contaminants are well in excess of the maximum levels recommended by the Department of Sea Fisheries. Further investigation is being undertaken.

2

The Navy announced on 29th January, 1988, that abrasive grit blasting of the upper decks of the SAS Drakensberg will commence soon. The blasting will take place at the Oscar Wall as the dry dock is not available.

### **Traffic and Parking**

During the peak tourist season the Navy kindly made available to the Simon's-Town trading community 150 parking bays in the Navy's Gole Point parking area. Entry was controlled by permits. We take this opportunity to publicly thank Commodore Peter Keene, Officer Commanding, Naval Base Simon's-Town, and his staff, for their consideration.

Traffic calming measures have been approved for application to St. George's Street opposite Jubilee Square and we understand this work will not be unduly delayed. Improv-

nents to public lavatories will also be undertaken.

### Simon's Town Art and Craft Show

The Simon's Town Art and Craft Show was held in the Town Hall from 26 - 30 November and the association's appreciation is again directed to Dr. Loxton and his committee for arranging this event, the proceeds of which are directed to two worthy community organisations, namely, False Bay Hospital and Simon's Town Home Nursing Service.

### Health Issues

I am pleased to announce that the defibrillator urgently required by the community's Voluntary Ambulance Service has been purchased, thanks to good community response and a grant from the D.G. Murray Trust. Dr. vid. Merwe reports that the equipment has already saved the lives of several patients.

There is urgent need for the purchase of a new ambulance as the current unit is of venerable age. Plans are underway to start a fund to assist in the purchase of a replacement vehicle.

### Combined Ratepayers Association of False Bay

The structural changes in the metropolitan area isolated residents' associations and generated an imperative for a combined body that would present to Council weightier opinion than that of individual associations. The combined False Bay body was established on 29th July, 1997 and has since met with interest to discuss development of Railway land and with Metrorail to discuss security on trains. Representations continue.

### Treasurer's Report

The association is solvent but the treasurer reports that almost 50 percent of the membership has still to submit subscriptions for the current year.

The almost certain shift to a metropolitan council will place pressures of time and finance on this association as it seeks to serve the needs of residents of Simon's Town. Finance will be needed also for communicating regularly with our members. We appeal to all those who have not yet paid the modest level of subscription to remedy the situation.

The question of political weight, or clout, will become increasingly important in negotiations with a large and remote council. We need our membership to grow considerably in order to claim, with justification, that we represent the residents of Simon's Town. Please act in your own interests and enrol your neighbours as members.

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## Committee Portfolios

Members of the Executive Committee have been allocated the following portfolios:

| Portfolio                     | Name                    | Telephone |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Chairman and Local Government | Chris Hart              | 786-2380  |
| Local Government              | Dr. Reg Loxton          | 786-1756  |
| Financial Affairs             | Derek Edwards           | 786-2140  |
| Property Development          | Zaigee Parker           | 786-2956  |
| Health and Environment        | Dr. Steve van der Merwe | 786-1897  |
|                               | Juliet Bass             | 786-2362  |
| Business Affairs              | George Bowes            | 786-1495  |
| Amenities and Services        | Don Bailey              | 786-2601  |
| Secretary / Treasurer         | John King               | 786-3552  |
| Minute Secretary              | Jane Pollat             | 786-1786  |

### Simon's Town Ratepayers and Residents Association

#### Membership Application Form

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address:

I am / We are:

- (a) Owners of property in Simon's Town
- (b) Resident in Simon's Town

[Tick applicable box]

Please post this form together with your cheque / postal order for R25 Annual Subscription to P.O. Box 47, Simon's Town.

# News From Simon's Town Naval Base

## The Aerial Ropeway

One of Simon's Town most visible landmarks is the aerial ropeway, its lowest tower standing straddled in the water and used by divers to perform sailing exercises, the rest marching impressively up the mountainside to its very summit.

These giant Meccano towers were erected in 1913: the official story is that they replaced wooden structures, because it was feared that these would be destroyed by bush fires. It is said that the ropeway was used to convey patients and stores to the hospital and sanatorium, stationed less that halfway up the mountain.

However, the lay mind is somewhat puzzled: why did a few young sailors and some supplies need such hairy structures to support them? On the other hand, builders erecting Klover Camp on Red Hill would have needed a way to get their equipment and materials up the mountain, since there was only a donkey track, hardly suitable for transporting weighty goods.

What more practical than, than for the contractors to construct these sturdy towers, which would safely see their gear and their many workers to the summit of the mountain.

Mere conjecture, of course, but very tempting to the lay mind.

## Abrasive Grit-Blasting in Naval Dockyard

Dated January 22, 1988

Abrasive grit-blasting of some of the upper decks of the combat support vessel, SAS Drakeburg will start in the near future (dates to be advised). As the Drydock is currently unavailable, it will take place at Oscar wharf in the SA Naval Dockyard. The abrasive grit-blasting forms part of the maintenance required during the ship's 10 yearly refit.

Limitations have been placed on daily hours of work. Blasting may not take place on Sundays and public holidays, however, cleaning and activities that do not generate noise may be undertaken. Contractors will clean up and remove spent grit on a regular basis.

The waste from epoxy systems in use is inert and non-toxic. The abrasive material used, platinum slag, is black in colour, more visible and generates less dust than white sand was used.

Issued by: Sub Lieutenant Lisa Hendrickse  
SA Navy  
Tel: (021) 767-4125 (x0)  
Fax: (021) 767-4116  
Opn: 082 677 4795 (x16)

## Test Firings in False Bay

Cape Town's citizens are familiar with the boom of the midday gun; but we who live in Simon's Town enjoy (or endure) far more frequent bursts of guns being fired; some are a mere popping as of champagne corks, others loud enough to rattle windows and set the redwingsed starlings flying up in temporary alarm.

These test firings are not made merely to tease the residents of Simon's Town, but are a necessary operation, to test guns and ammunition, and in the training of gun crews.

On certain days there are 76mm test firings, either from the South African Naval Dockyard or the Lower North Battery; these are the window rattlers. On other days the 20mm test firings raise a puff of smoke but not enough noise to upset the birds.

76mm test firings are scheduled for the following days:-

2 to 6 March and 16-20 March 1998

Everyday (Monday to Friday) during May 1998.

20mm test firings will be in:-

February 1998

dates to be confirmed.

## Navy Diary

| When                         | What / Who                                                   | Where                                               |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 25 Jan 98                    | USS PORT ROYAL - an American Freedom class cruiser           | briefly anchored in False Bay en route to Cape Town |
| • 26-29 Jan 98               | 76mm test firings                                            | SA Naval Dockyard, Simon's Town                     |
| • 2-5 & 16-20 Mar 98         |                                                              |                                                     |
| • Everyday Mon-Fri in May 98 |                                                              |                                                     |
| 30 Jan 98                    | FNS Corbet - a French La Fayette Class light Frigate arrives | SA Naval Dockyard, Simon's Town                     |
| 3 Feb 98                     | FNS Corbet departs                                           |                                                     |
| 4-6 Feb 98                   | Chief of Israeli Defence Force                               | visit to SA Navy, Simon's Town                      |
| Month of Feb 98              | 20 mm test firings                                           | Lower North Battery                                 |
| 8 Feb 98                     | SA Navy Band                                                 | Kirstenbosch Gardens                                |
| 27 Feb 98                    | King of Norway                                               | SA Navy, Simon's Town                               |
| <b>Past Events</b>           |                                                              |                                                     |
| 8 Dec 97 - 8 Jan 98          | 1000 & 13500 twice daily tours                               | SA Naval Dockyard                                   |
| 17-20 Dec 97                 | Dry-dock concerts - which was a great success                | Seaborne Graving Dock                               |
| 22 Dec 97                    | 50th anniversary of 2 Free Edwardian Islands annexation      | SA Naval Museum                                     |

## South African Naval Museum

In the olden days boys dreamed of running away to sea; today they probably see themselves making a fortune by slapping a guitar and throttling a microphone.



***Two young visitors in the Control Centre of the Submarine mock-up at the SAN Museum***

Visitors to the Naval Museum will be able to inspect the historic Dutch East India Company's storehouses, built in 1743. Since the Museum was opened by Chief of the Navy, Vice-Admiral Robert Simpson-Anderson in April 1993, it has utilised two of the very large display areas in the building. It is hoped that another will be completed at a later date. The Museum has been wonderfully supported by the entire Navy, particularly by SAS Hugo Bierman, and SAS Chaprian, and the Diving School, whose displays so impress visitors.

The South African Naval Museum is open daily from 10:00 to 16:00. Admission is free.

But there can surely not be a youngster who would be unmoved when confronted by the life-sized mock-ups of the bridge of a Ton Class Minesweeper, and the operations room and control centre of the Daphne Class Submarine, with its fascinating dials and levers and space-age steering gear. These can be seen and experienced in the Naval Museum, which is in the Mast House in the West Dockyard. A young boy, exposed to these two impressive exhibits, is bound to feel a thrill of excitement and - who knows? - decide to become a Naval Type someday.



***Petty Officer Linda Judd in the mock-up of the bridge of a Ton Class minesweeper at the SAN Museum***

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## PLAIN PIZZA BREADS

|                                                             |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Garlic pizza                                                | R6-95  |
| Chilli pizza                                                | R6-95  |
| Cheese pizza                                                | R9-95  |
| Feta Cheese pizza                                           | R9-95  |
| Margherita Basic pizza - Tomato, Oreganum and<br>Mozzarella | R19-90 |

## TYPE A - R25-00

|               |                                                        |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Bermuda       | Ham, Banana and Pineapple                              |
| Botticelli    | Salami and Gherkin                                     |
| Hawaiian      | Ham and Pineapple                                      |
| Jamaican      | Bacon and Banana                                       |
| Just Nuisance |                                                        |
| .....         | Sliced Boerewors, Monkey Gland Sauce, Tomato and Onion |
| Macho         | Chicken and Peri-Peri                                  |
| Madras        | Curried Mince, Banana and Onion                        |
| Milano        | Chicken and Mushrooms                                  |
| Napoli        | Anchovies and Olives                                   |
| Olympus       | Spinach, Feta Cheese and Olives                        |
| Puccini       | Salami and Mushrooms                                   |
| Regina        | Ham and Mushrooms                                      |

## TYPE B - R28-00

|              |                                                    |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Capo         | Bacon, Mushrooms, Avocado and Garlic               |
| Four seasons | Salami, Mushrooms, Olives and Artichokes           |
| Highlander   | Smoked Salmon, Onions and Capers                   |
| Jimmy        | Bolognese, Bacon, Green Peppers and lots of Chilli |

Roque . . . . . Roquefort Cheese, Ham and Mushrooms  
 South Seas . . . . . Tuna, Mushrooms, Onions and Gherkins  
 Vegetarian . . . . . Asparagus, Olives, Mushrooms and Artichokes  
 Breakfast . . . . . Bacon, Fresh Tomato, Mushrooms and Eggs  
 Spring Chicken . . . . . Ham, Chicken, Bean Sprouts and Spring Onions

### **TYPE C - R30-00**

Pescado . . . . . Calamari, Prawns, Mussels and Linefish  
 Suzy . . . . . Ham, Mushrooms, Salami, Green Peppers and Chilli  
 Volare . . . . . Smoked Salmon, Avocado, Cream Cheese and Chives

### **TYPE D - R36-00**

Spanish . . . . . Chourico, Feta, Artichokes, Olives, Red Peppers  
 and Sundried Tomatoes  
 Pavarotti . . . . . Crayfish, Calamari and Mussels (S.Q.)

### **EXTRA TOPPINGS**

#### **R2-00 per portion**

Banana, Chilli, Egg, Garlic, Green Pepper, Gherkin, Onion, Pineapple, Tomato

#### **R3-00 per portion**

Asparagus, Avocado, Boerewors, Capers, Mushrooms, Olives, Spinach

#### **R4-00 per portion**

Anchovies, Artichokes, Bacon, Calamari, Chicken, Chourico, Feta, Ham, Line Fish, Mince, Mozzarella, Mussels, Roquefort, Salami, Tuna

#### **R5-50 per portion**

Prawns, Smoked Salmon, Sundried Tomatoes



## The Mast House and Sail Loft



Visitors strolling along the "Navy Side" of St George's Street can be seen peering over the low white wall at the Naval Museum, or gazing up at the Clock Tower. It is doubtful, however, whether many are aware of the romantic history of the building.

During Great Britain's second occupation of the Cape of Good Hope, from January 1806, the Royal Navy's principal base was in Cape Town. Their ships were anchored in Table Bay, but - following the Dutch example - sought shelter in Simon's Bay during the stormy winter months. Ships could be safely beached on the beach, and these advantages led to the removal of the Royal Navy shore establishment from Cape Town to Simon's Town in 1814.

The Royal Navy took over the Dutch storehouse - still in use today - but also

required a mast house 120 ft. long, with sail lofts and upper storage room. This structure was completed in 1815.

In 1819, when the Anglican church in Simon's Town became structurally unsafe, the Sail Loft was used as a church, and in 1824, when part of a temporary church building collapsed, the Sail Loft was again used as a church until 1834. In 1852 it was once more used for services on Sundays. On weekdays the Sail Loft was used for sailmaking; the altar was curtained off and pews were arranged against a wall.

By 1938, when the sailmakers who had been repairing the quarterdeck awning of the HMS Dorsetshire were dismissed, part of the Sail Loft became HM Dockyard Church. This was entered by a narrow metal spiral stairway which allowed only one person at a time to negotiate it.

A staircase replaced the spiral stairway and a bride and groom could enter the church side by side, instead of ascending in Indian file.

At the beginning of World War 1 South African RNVR officers and ratings were housed in the building: the officers in the church and the ratings in the loft, before leaving to serve in German Southwest Africa, the Mediterranean and European waters.

The Clock Tower was built after Deputy Fiscal, J.H. Brand, requested a sundial which could be used during the summer months. The clock was made by Dutton and Son; the bells are dated 1816. The clock is balanced by three weights, one of which weighs more than 400 lbs. These hang down into a cupboard inside the porch.

# **Snoekie Shellhole**

## **34 Years of Service to Ex-Servicemen**

Snoekie Shellhole received its charter from MOTH headquarters in March 1944.

The shellhole's first venue was a bungalow in Simon's Town provided by the Union Defence Force until the Town Council allowed Snoekie to use the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest Room for their meetings.

In 1952 the Council granted the request of the shellhole that the Rest Room be named the Warriors Room. The shellhole probably had in mind Warriors Gate the MOTH headquarters in Durban which also housed a magnificent military museum.

When Alderman L.J.D. Gay took over as commander of Snoekie Shellhole in 1967 he set to work to collect military memorabilia and artefacts to be displayed in the Warriors Room.

When the shellhole's membership dwindled from fifty to fewer than a dozen, MOTH Gay, fearing that the irreplaceable collection would eventually disappear, approached the Provincial Administration and the Director of Nature Conservation and Provincial Museum that the Warriors Room be declared a provincial museum.

After lengthy negotiations involving the Town Council of Simon's Town, the Provincial Administration and Snoekie Shellhole, suitable accommodation was found for a museum

in the former headmaster's house and on 30 November 1976 a museum was declared by Proclamation No. 408, 1976 with the Warriors Room collection as part of the museum collection.

The museum building proved to be inadequate and the museum was transferred to the Residency in 1988.

To enable the curator of the museum to exercise full control over the Warriors Room collection and to ensure its safe custody, the collection was entrusted to the museum by a notarial deed vesting the ownership and control of the collection in the Board of Trustees of the Simon's Town Museum, with the proviso that the room in which the collection is housed be available for use by members of the Snoekie Shellhole for their meetings and social events.

(To be continued)

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# False Bay Yacht Club

(incorp. S.A. Marlin & Tuna Club)

The False Bay Yacht Club, situated on the picturesque section of Simon's Bay, close to Jubilee Square, was established in 1958 as a sailing club but has since developed into a boating club catering for yachting, angling and other aquatic sports.

With a handful of local residents as founding members, and with a tremendous amount of effort and enthusiasm to promote the sport of sailing, the foresight of these original stalwarts has enabled the Club to grow to a current membership of approx. 400, with a total of 250 keelboats in the anchorage and 140 trailer ski boats using the facilities.

In addition to providing walk-on moorings which cater for yachts from 7m to 12m in length and which are the envy of many other yacht clubs in the country, the Club has excellent catering and ablution facilities and the Clubhouse itself probably provides one of the loveliest settings on the False Bay coast for twilight cocktails or, for that matter, just for a relaxing Saturday and Sunday afternoon, with a drink in hand and the time to watch the activities of the more energetic members of the Sailing and Ski-Boat fraternities "doing their thing".

The Yachting section of the Club can be justifiably proud of the number of members who have developed their sailing techniques and skills to the stage where they have represented not only the Club but the province and also the country in major international events and in the latter instance, we can mention names like Billy Loisegang, Bertie Reed and others who have reached the top levels of international sailing.

There is however no cause for 'sitting on their laurels' for these achievers and many of them are now actively involved in training students, mainly from the local schools, in the arts of dinghy and keelboat sailing. If the enthusiasm displayed by these youngsters is anything to judge by, Simon's Town can look forward to being featured in many forthcoming national and international sailing events.

On the ski-boat angling side, the Club has featured prominently in local and national angling competitions and at a recent Western Province Deep Sea Angling Association prizegiving, the Club walked away with all but one of the prizes.

We welcome new members to the Club and remember - you do not have to own a boat to become a member - all are welcome. Entrance fee to the Club is R600, with an annual subscription of R600 for ordinary members. Absentee and upcountry members pay an Annual subscription of R170 while the subscription for juniors and family members is only R70pa.

For further information and details, please contact the Club Secretary - Pam Gillings on 746 7705.

**Barry Hunt**

# Simon's Town History

... How to find out more...

Many residents and ratepayers are already members of the Simon's Town Historical Society and, by reciprocity, also Friends of the Simon's Town Museum.

The Historical Society was founded 35 years ago with the aim of preserving items of local historical interest and importance, as well as funding a museum where they could be safeguarded and put on display to the public. This museum was duly established and is now situated in the old Magistrate's Court, "The Residency", (built in 1779) in Court Road, next to St Francis Church.

The Museum has static exhibits of the Town's development, its schools, families and its strong ties with the Royal Navy. In addition the Museum owns the Vessel OS-Cable Restorer to which tours are regularly arranged, as well as to the excavated remains of the Glasgow Glassworks which were established in 1807. The Museum also mounts special exhibitions on a regular basis (art, hobbies, special interest items, etc), details of which are sent to the "Chronicle".

During Winter, evening lectures are arranged monthly - these have become quite a social feature for the members as they involve essentially fundraising functions such as: Musical Evenings, Brans, Wine Tastings, Dinners, organised tours, etc.

The Museum can also be hired for book launches, wedding receptions (the Courtyard in Summer is a delightful locale), or birthday parties - all enquiries to the Curator Tel. 765-3046, fax: 765-2381. Normal opening hours are 09:00-16:00 Monday to Friday; 10:00-16:00 on Saturdays and 11:00-16:00 on Sundays.

The Simon's Town Historical Society, with a membership of over 750, is one of the largest in the country. The research conducted by its members is published twice yearly in *The Bulletin*, while the social activities, museum activities and a list of new members is reported in the *Chronicle*, also bi-annually, both sent out free to members. The Society arranges one and two-day tours to places of historical interest.

Annual membership is R15,00 for a single person or R25,00 for two in a household. Membership forms are available at the Museum or from the Library, or simply telephone the Museum 765-3046 and make the necessary arrangements - it's as easy as that!

There are two other museums in Simon's Town very well worth a visit. The expanded SA Naval Museum is now in the Martello in the West Dockyard; there is a pedestrian entrance in the dockyard wall opposite Clifford's Garage to St George's Street, or via Court Road where there is limited parking. Open 10:00-16:00 daily except Dec 26, Jan 1 and Good Friday.

At the southern end of the Town Hall / Sailors' and Soldiers' Rest Room is the Toy Museum. Although run as a business venture a visit there will bring back childhood memories of cars, trains, dolls, used to keep us occupied when young.

## Enjoy our History - Join Us In Sharing It!

*Cherry Dilley, Curator, Simon's Town Museum and  
Nigel Farquharson, Chairman, Simon's Town Historical Society*

PS: If you have any family memorabilia that relates to Simon's Town and you would like to find a safe and appreciative home for them, please consider the Simon's Town Museum.

## Influenza - the Winter Plague

Millions of these viruses will penetrate our cells this winter and use them to produce more viruses in order for them to overpower the immune system and create the usual epidemic pandemonium we are all used to. The cost to Eskom in absenteeism in 1995 (employing some 40 000 individuals) was R11 157 091.

There are two influenza viruses i.e. A and B. B causes more localised and milder outbreaks (eg. in boarding schools and hostels) and A is responsible for the world-wide pandemics we all know. The Influenza A virus, is the one that fools the human immune system and changes its "structure" every year in order to remain an annual pestilence.

We all know the illness which follows a 1-3 day incubation: fever, cold shivers, general aches in the muscles and joints, headaches, sore throat and persistent dry cough. Some poor souls can develop the prolonged period of disability and depression so-called post-viral syndrome. The treatment is simple: analgesia and anti-pyrexial and bed rest. No amount of anti-biotics are going to help unless a secondary infection develops. Bacteria make use of the fact that the human immunity is down and cause bacterial throat, ear, tonsil and chest infections.

The only resistance currently available is immunisation. It is effective in  $\pm$  70% of people and lasts more or less 1 year (since the virus changes its structure every year and the body would not recognise the "new" virus the following year). The only reason for it not to be given, is if the individual is allergic to eggs. The reason is that some vaccines are cultured in chick embryos. The vaccine may have advantages for a wide range of the public, but especially for the patients with chronic heart, lung and kidney disease and the elderly. It has been estimated that the use of vaccines could save the medical aid industry R53 139 500 per year.

*Greetings in health! Getafix*



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## Simon's Town Publicity Association

The Publicity Association was formed eleven years ago (last year was the 10th Annual General Meeting of the Association).

The aims of the Association are still the same as those put forward at the original meetings:

- to publicise Simon's Town's natural attributes through brochures, pamphlets, radio and TV;
- to promote and support shows, exhibitions and other attractions in the town;
- to co-operate with other tourist bodies and organisations to promote our area;
- to provide tourists with information on the Cape Peninsula and other areas;
- to make representations to the responsible authorities for suggested improvements to the tourist, commercial, or publicity facilities considered necessary.

There are three more aims (in my opinion) which must be included with the above. These have become necessary due to the need to accommodate the increasing number of visitors and the changing infrastructure of local government.

- to provide an efficient reservation procedure for our members who provide accommodation for tourists;
- to become financially independent.

Both of the above have become necessary due to the changes in the municipal structures over the past few years.

We no longer receive a grant from the South Peninsula Municipality, rather a monthly payment which only covers part of the staff salaries.

Again the increase in tourism, as I am sure we have all noticed, has become significant. In 1993, according to the Chairman's report, there were 500 registered buses for visitors. We are now much closer to 700 buses, ranging from hotels to self-catering. In December alone, approximately 1 500 visitors called at the bureau, and there were about 15 telephone calls per day.

Each of the establishments has been visited by a staff member of the Association to ensure that the accommodation can be recommended by us.

Simon's Town Publicity is the first Association to be officially accredited under the new Tourism Act of the Western Cape.

The increase in numbers of visitors, the changes to the local structures and the need to become self-sufficient, have placed a significant extra work load on the Committee and staff of the Association. I should like to thank the Committee(s), staff, part and full time and members who have assisted in forming and maintaining the present Association.

The launch of "Snoektown Calling" is unique in that the need for the residents of Simon's Town to join together via all the associations, clubs, groups and institutions means an exciting future.

We wish Dr Reg Loxton and his helpers every success in this venture.

**P. J. Fowell**  
Chairman - Simon's Town Publicity Association

## Classified Directory of Businesses and Services in Simon's Town

In the centre page we have included a loose leaf application form for registration of businesses and services.

This classified directory will serve a useful purpose as a ready reference. All relevant parties are strongly encouraged to complete the form and deliver it to the Publicity Association, together with a registration fee of R30.00. In particular we appeal to those involved in the service industry and operating from home.

There are many people out there with marketable skills - so give it a go!

It is envisaged that there will be an annual update.

## PHIL MASON FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

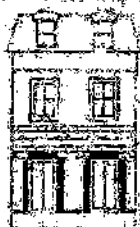
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# Catalogue of Associations, Societies, Clubs etc

*With the generous assistance of Boverley Caidard of the South Peninsula Municipality a comprehensive list of societies has been compiled.*

*During the course of the year each organisation will be given the opportunity to make itself known to the community. The Migeours, Faise Bay Yacht Club etc, initiate this process*

## **CIVIC**

### **Boulders Heritage Association**

Chairman: Mr H. Strauss  
189 McFarlane Avenue  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7975  
Telephone: 786-1749

### **De Gama Park Residents' Association**

Contact: W.O. Lurd  
SA Navy  
Private Bag X1  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7975  
Telephone: 787-4642

### **Glen Marine Residents' Association**

Contact: Mrs S. Brower  
P O Box 273  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7985  
Telephone: 786-3832

### **Glencalm Civic Association**

Contact: Miss J. Webster  
150 Main Road  
GLENCAIRM, 7976  
Telephone: 782-5335

### **Simon's Town Ratepayers' & Residents' Association**

Chairman: Mr G. Hart  
P O Box 47  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7905  
Telephone: 786-2562

### **Simon's Town RDP Forum**

Chairman: Mrs R. Kinsky  
127 Queens Road  
SEAFORTH, Simon's Town, 7975  
Telephone: 786-8843

### **Welcome Glen Civic Association**

Chairman: Mr R. K. Raftery  
Glen Alpine Road  
WELCOME GLEN, Simon's Town, 7975  
Telephone: 787-3323

## **CONSERVATION**

### **Friends of the Simon's Town Coastline**

Chairman: Mr Chris van Vuuren  
6 Via Crescent  
MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975  
Telephone: 786-3890

### **Simon's Town Alien Vegetation**

Eradication Group (SAVE)  
Contact: Mr J. Hale  
3 Protea Road  
MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975  
Telephone: 786-8406

### **Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group**

Chairman: Mr R. Salter  
115 Handman Drive  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7975  
Telephone: 756-1520

## **CULTURAL**

### **Anchor Players Dramatic Society**

Chairman: Mr C. A. Blake  
P O Box 98  
SIMON'S TOWN, 7985  
Telephone: 786-2565

### **Naval Heritage Society**

Chairman: Mr C. Bates  
c/o P O Box 513  
BAARDEN EILAND, 7425  
Telephone: 511-0432



### **SA Naval Museum**

Curator: Cdr M. Bieker  
Oxley Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 787-4835

### **Simon's Town Museum**

Curator: Mrs C. Dilley

P.O. Box 56

SIMON'S TOWN, 7982

Telephone: 786-3046

### **Warrior Toy Museum**

Contact: Mr P. van Zyl

St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1395

### **Simon's Town Historical Society**

Chairman: Mr N. Ferquharson

P.O. Box 56

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-2415

## **MASONS**

### **Phoenix Lodge**

Worshipful Master: Mr J. Kelso

P.O. Box 48

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 782-3026 (Caretaker: Mr

F. Lambert)

## **SERVICE**

### **Friends of the Simon's Town Library**

Contact/Librarian: Mrs M. Du Raan

Simon's Town Library

Municipal Offices

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1556

### **National Sea Rescue Institute**

Station Commander: Mr E. Selk

9 Hugo Road

FRÖGGY POND, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-3094

### **Simon's Town Police Community Forum**

Chairman: Mr J. Page

21 Alexander Road

MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-1551

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Contact: Mr J. Page

21 Alexander Road

MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-1551

### **Simon's Town Home Nursing**

Contact: Sr Swart

P.O. Box 103

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-4242

### **Simon's Town Publicity Association**

Chairman: Mr P. Foxroll

11 St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-2436

## **MOTHS**

Contact: Mr J. Woodcock

Snocks Shellhole

c/o Simon's Town Museum

P.O. Box 56

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-3264

## **MOTHWAS**

Contact: Mrs A. Laubacher

Snocks Shellhole

c/o Simon's Town Museum

P.O. Box 56

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-3046

## **SOCIAL**

### **Masonic Club**

Organiser: Mr N P McLaughlin

Allied Lane

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-3827 / 786-2126

### **Probus Club of Simon's Town**

Chairman: Mr P. Dadds

P O Box 318

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 788-1861

### **SOCIAL/NAVAL**

#### **Seven Seas Club**

Chairman: Capt. P. Barnard

off St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-2729

#### **Dockyard Officers Club**

Chairman: Mr A. Hull

off St George's Street & King George Way

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 787-3127

#### **Naval Officers Association**

Chairman: Cdre A. Rudman

25 Digg Road

MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-1406

### **SPORTS**

#### **False Bay Yacht Club**

Commodore: Mr J. Olustra

P O Box 45

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-1703

#### **Glencairn Tennis Club**

Contact: Mrs J. Weaver

160 Main Road

GLENCAIRN, 7975

Telephone: 782-5535

#### **Simon's Town Country Club**

Chairman: Mr R. Davies

P O Box 58

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-1238

### **STATE**

#### **SA Navy**

Officer Commanding: Cdre P. Keene

Private Bag X1

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 787-3911

#### **SA Police Service**

Officer Commanding: Capt. Du Pisani

Police Station

St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-2127

#### **Simon's Town Magistrate's Court**

Chief Magistrate: Mr A. Duraan

Magistrate's Court

St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1581

### **YOUTH**

#### **2nd Simon's Town Cub &**

#### **Sea Scout Group**

Contact: Mrs R. Hart

32 Dornes Drive

FROGGY FARM, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-2580

#### **Simon's Town Community School**

Principal: Miss P. Serfontein

Seaforth Road

SEAFORTH, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-8276

#### **Simon's Town Girl Guides Association**

Contact: Miss J. Cartwright

68 Glen Road

GLENCAIRN, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 782-3298

#### **Simon's Town School**

Principal: Mr J. De Waal

P O Box 98

SIMON'S TOWN, 7995

Telephone: 786-1056

## WELFARE

### **Happy Haven**

Contact: Mr. J. Page

21 Afrikander Road

MURDOCK VALLEY, Simon's Town, 7975

Telephone: 786-1551

### **Alcoholics Victorious**

Contact: Mr. P. Kean

Methodist Church Annex

Chapel Road

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1981

### **Social Concerns Group**

Contact: Mrs G. Andrews

c/o Methodist Church

Chapel Lane

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-3564

## CHURCHES

### **St Francis Church**

Minister: Padre Buhler

Court Road

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 782-3298

### **Baptist Church**

Minister: Pastor EC Wesson

DA GAMA PARK, 7975

Telephone: 786-3160

### **St Simon & St Jude Catholic Church**

Minister: Father B. Martijn

St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1940

### **Methodist Church**

Minister: Rev N. Kok

Chapel Lane

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 786-1814

### **Dutch Reformed Church**

Minister: Dr Satt

St George's Street

SIMON'S TOWN, 7975

Telephone: 787-3911



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# "Happy Valley Home" For The Homeless

The Happy Valley Home for the Homeless was established to accommodate a maximum of 55 (fifty five) homeless people from the Simon's Town area.

The project originated during June 1995 when a work programme was introduced for vagrants in the area, to become involved, as an alternative to begging and harassing tourists on Jubilee Square.

The then local authority approached the SA Police Community Forum to look into setting up a short, medium and long term programme for obtaining housing for the homeless.

A committee was established and approached the Department of Public Works via the Officer Commanding, Naval Base, Simon's Town, Capt. P. Bhigata, to obtain a derelict building belonging to the Department of Public Works.

The SA Navy strongly recommended the request, which was witnessed during April of 1996.

The previous Simon's Town Transitional Metropolitan Substructure at an Executive Committee meeting held on 3 December 1995 resolved:

"That the Committee, in consultation with the Catholic Church of Simon's Town, investigate the possibility of a "Home for the Homeless", for Simon's Town and surrounding areas."

The objectives of the Simon's Town Happy Valley Home are the following:-

- a. To accommodate the homeless of Simon's Town and surrounding area;
- b. To provide living-in facilities with at least one meal per day;
- c. To provide the residents with professional support (medical, hygiene, clinical);
- d. To provide the residents with various skills to prepare them for absorption into the community, when ready.

A full-time caretaker was appointed to co-ordinate and manage the centre. Additional staff, as required, are utilised from the existing residents.

The Committee is responsible for co-ordination, promotion, public relations and finding of sponsorship.

Since the establishment of the new South Peninsula Municipality, homeless people of the South Peninsula are provided with

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accommodation at the Happy Valley Home. The South Peninsula Municipality supported the Happy Valley Home by a donation of a grant-in-aid, and a once over financial contribution for the maintenance of the centre.

The Home is fortunate enough to have a very dedicated Home Committee, made up of ladies and gentlemen of the various church organisations in Simon's Town. These members voluntarily supply transport for fetching vegetables and fruit donated from time to time.

A church service is held every Sunday morning on a rotation basis, by the various denominations in order to fulfil the spiritual needs of all the residents. Donations in the form of clothes, equipment, utensils, food and money are received on a regular basis.

The Committee would like to thank one and all for donations, in whatever form, received over the last two years.

A skills programme was started in order to equip the residents with the necessary skills (leatherwork, needlework and the making of jams and chutneys are among these).

The residents also run a recycling programme and residents are encouraged to either drop or phone for collections to be made at telephone 787-7320, Mr or Mrs Els. We cater for cardboard, glass and tins. Firewood and compost are sold to boost extra funds for the Home.

Enquiries about the "Home" can be submitted to Mr John Page, telephone. 786-1551 between 08:15 and 12:45.

## GLADYS DILLEY ESTATES

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**THERAPIST: FRANÇOIS ROSSEAU**

## EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN SIMON'S TOWN

### FEBRUARY / MARCH / APRIL 1998

1. French Ship CORVET visiting Simon's Town on a recreational visit.  
30 January - 3 February.
2. Opening of QUAYSIDE LODGE HOTEL, 8 February.
3. Naval band concert in aid of Simon's Town Museum, with food stalls  
by local churches, Jubilee Square, Sunday 15 February, 18h00.  
Tickets at Museum and Publicity Bureau.
4. SUPER SAILOR TRIATHLON, False Bay Yacht Club, 28 February.
5. Anchor Players, comedy "WYRD SISTERS" by Terry Pratchett Briggs.  
18 - 28 March at Simonisberg Theatre, Booking 786 2436.
6. EASTER REGATTA at False Bay Yacht Club, 10 - 13 April.