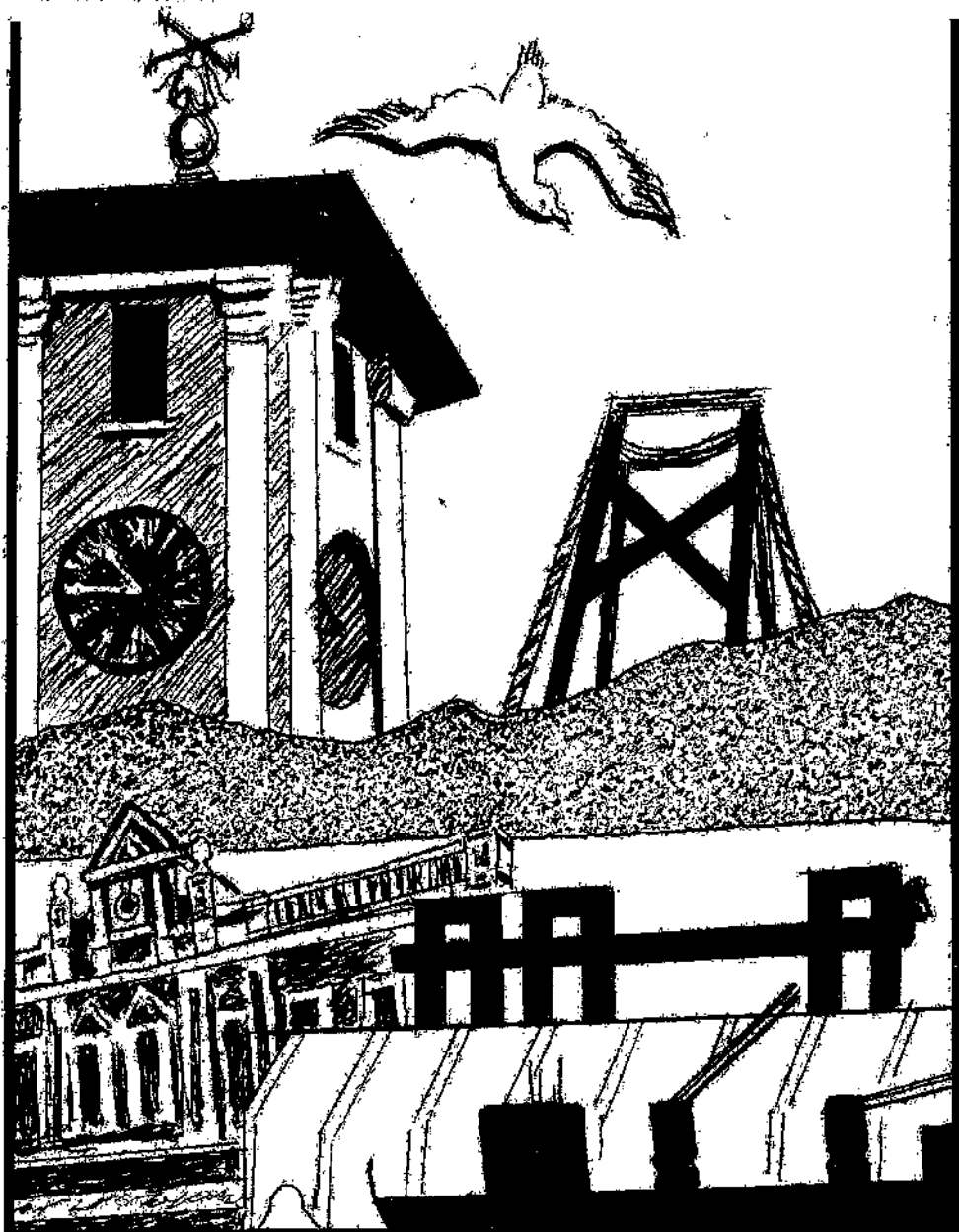


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 1

15 MARCH 1999



Sponsor for March - Dr Reg Loxton

Editorial

This issue commences Volume 2, again with myself as sponsor. I do learn. At same time this year it will be necessary to sort out a more permanent arrangement to finance the publication, both printing and distribution.

The status quo results in a monthly under-recovery or shortfall of about £12,000. I had hoped to recover the shortfall by way of sponsorship, but as will be seen elsewhere, the response has been disappointing, certainly the figure of £14,000 is uncomfortable for most folk.

On the other hand I receive frequent offers of support - hence the idea scheme of a "Supporters' Club", as a means of raising operating funds. Elsewhere I present a catalogue of the current state of the fund. Any constructive suggestions will be welcome. Cheques should be made out to

"Spidegwen Calling" - the catalogue will be updated monthly.

I am concerned about the poor performance of the "Business Forum", indeed, I doubt that it exists in a formal manner at this writing! Who is the Chairman, who is the Secretary, is there a financing committee? - are the obvious questions. Surely some organised body should be monitoring the affairs of the CDD. Get moving please!

Did you know that our boy on the bike, George, was responsible for the apprehension of a gang of A/V hijackers? Well done George!

So be careful out there.

Reg Loxton, Editor
2 Chapel Road, 766 1750



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Down the Historical Mile

Mr Chairman, exclaimed Clara Fijnbosch, the municipal workmen are again busy with those red stripes across the main road at Jubilee Square - they're putting a frill on the edges of the stripes, and they have made them narrower; ek wil weet, Meneer die Voorsitter, wat is aan die gang? Stoffel Boesman didn't want to be left out of the discussion: not a frill - it's a collar. That started a big argument: collar or frill?

Schultz became visibly frustrated by the to-ing and fro-ing, and declared, "It's a retaining border". Of course that was that because after Schultz had spoken there is nothing more to say, and the February meeting of SLAP lapsed into silence.

Piet Pompies broke the silence by calling attention to the big pothole in the main road next to the curb, opposite the Standard Bank - that pothole is so deep that a shorty like Bobby Hoepel would disappear completely if he stood in it. Harold Hardekop suggested the pothole be declared a National Monument: the hole had been there long enough to qualify and it was probably the biggest pothole in the South Peninsula.

Stoffel Boesman, who kept some sort of minutes of meetings, wanted an update on some important matters: like the Post Box proposed for Union Street. The Dok was seen attaching a sort of postbox on the side of the Community Notice Board he had put up there; was this the Post Box, or not? Clara Fijnbosch explained that some simple servant in the Post Office had ruled that the box couldn't go in Union Street because it was too close to the old Post Office. Piet Pompies complained that the decision didn't make sense! Ja well no fine, said the chairman, who are we to question the wisdom of the Civil Service?

Stoffel ploughed on: what's happened to the new parking scheme for Jubilee Square, and what about the repair to the brick pavement? If only John Page had been appointed as Town Ranger we wouldn't be in such a

mess! Mientjie Boep-pens reminded the members that had she been elected Mayor of Simon's Town, this sad state of affairs would never have come to pass!

And so the meeting closed.

Streetwalker

Land Developments in Simon's Town

Progress is being made in various land matters in Simon's Town although far too slowly for those most affected. Here is an update.

LAND RESTITUTION

Some 600 claimants moved out of Simon's Town under the Group Areas Act had registered by the cut-off date of 31 December 1998. These include the 388 claimants from the former Loyola Location. These cases will

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now backfill with by the Land Claims Court in a process which could take some years is complete.

The claimants have formed a committee of two representatives from each group, i.e. the Mission, fishing, tenants, homeowners and loyalists communities. This committee will assist in ordering the process of identifying suitable accessible land in Simon's Town for those who wish to return here.

The State is the single biggest property owner in Simon's Town and it is recognised that only by the release of State land that this goal of return is achievable. Public Works Department, as the holder of the land, currently has the position that land must be released at market value. This would obviously preclude the acquisition of land for restitution and PWV has been asked to re-view its position. There has been an acknowledgement that land should not be released on an ad hoc basis but according to an integrated plan, bearing in mind four square mile area.

- a. The need for land restitution.
- b. The Navy's need for affordable housing for personnel.
- c. The need for affordable housing for other people currently working in Simon's Town.
- d. The need for housing for the black community.

Vegetations are continuing at senior levels, but there is some impatience from those in need, finalisation of the land disposal mechanism will assist many people and address critical issues. I am not sure that the same sense of urgency is felt in the corridors of power.

DIDO VALLEY

Transfer of land is still proceeding at a steady pace in the core residential area.

THE ZONING SCHEME

This is being actively developed by the office and should be ready for advertising soon. This will address the critical issues for future developments. Much confusion could



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have been avoided if this process had been completed when first advertised in 1996.

LAND VALUATION

Another serious issue affected by changes in legislation with major impact on property holders. The Municipal Structures Act, 1998 provides for the establishment of a simple metropolitan local authority with, amongst other requirements, a single financial base. This would imply the preparation and implementation of a common metropolitan valuation system for all properties within the new metropolitan area to be defined by the Demarcation Board. This metropolitan authority will come into being at the next local government elections scheduled for 2000.

Further implications of legislative change include:

- * That general valuations must be carried out every four years.
- * That all property must be valued at market value.
- * That property taxes will be assessed in areas not previously assessed.

One of the most serious concerns in the process of valuing for the purpose of raising property taxes (rates) is that the data needed for valuation and rating does not exist in many areas, especially in former Black Local Authority area. Many areas have not had a general valuation in more than 20 years (Constantia 1974, Cape Town 1979).

I shall report further on these matters in subsequent volumes of Shoektown. Please also remember my public meetings on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 19h30 in the Ward Committee Room, Simon's Town Municipal Offices.

Alderman (Mrs) Nicki Holderness
Ward Councillor: Ward 22, SPM

Simon's Town Historical Society

We have recently launched a pocket history of Simon's Town compiled by members and friends of the Society.

"OUR SIMON'S TOWN" can be purchased from the Simon's Town Museum Shop at the affordable price of R50,00.

The Museum is situated in Court Road, Simon's Town and is open daily from 09h00 to 16h00 ; Saturdays 10h00 to 16h00 and Sundays 11h00 to 16h00. Tel. 786-3046.

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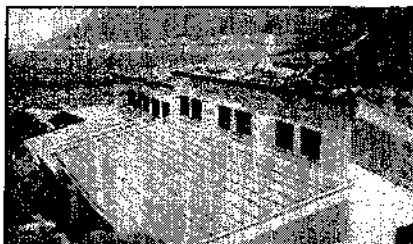




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Glencairn Heights - R698 000



Murdock Valley - R649 000



Seaforth - R700 000's



Glencairn - R298 000



Glencairn - R450 000



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Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

PROPERTY WATCH
No.10 March 1999

1. GENERAL

It was reported at the Association's half yearly general meeting on 25 February 1999, which was attended by over a hundred people, that the primary function of this report in "Shoektown Calling" is to keep our ratepayers and residents informed about departure applications, applications for sub-divisions, changes in land use rights and other items of interest on the Simon's Town property scene, in particular, and in the southern part of the South Peninsula Municipality more generally. The purpose in keeping the community informed is so that interested individuals may follow up and ascertain the details for themselves and decide whether they want to submit comments and/or objections to the municipality. Ratepayers and residents were urged to take notice of the various items in this report and follow up by going to the Simon's Town public library or the Fish Hoek offices of the municipality to read the details of the current applications. This is essential if your voices are to be heard. You cannot expect that this Committee will necessarily adopt the same viewpoint as you. Your Committee is not opposed to any and all developments. Development is believed to be both necessary and desirable for Simon's Town and its environs provided such development is environmentally friendly and supportive of and sensitive to the Committee's Vision 2000 document. The main objectives of your Committee's Property Portfolio are to ensure that:

1. ratepayers' opinions are heard,
2. changes applied for and the developments proposed are in the overall interests of Simon's Town and
3. the local authorities realise and recognise the importance of this community's concerns and its contributions to the public participation process.

Ratepayers: Please take an active interest in what is reported here and make your voices heard! If you are not already a paid-up member of the Ratepayers' Association isn't it time you became one to add strength to this community's diminishing influence in local affairs. Increased membership gives this Association a stronger voice when dealing with the local and provincial authorities.

2. CURRENT APPLICATIONS.

Since the last report in January, no new applications, as such, have been submitted. Details of applications currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Municipality are:

2.1. Erf 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. The municipality has requested the applicant to

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provide additional information which is still awaited. No closing date for objections and/or comments is available, at this stage

2.2. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen: Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and business and for subdivision into 9 portions. The municipality is preparing the necessary public notices. No closing date for objections and/or comments is available, at this stage. However, details of this application and that pertaining to Erf 4719, next item 2.3, can be seen at the Fish Hoek municipal offices.

2.3. Erf 4719, Welcome Glen: Application for rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 5 portions. This appears on the town planning layout as Erf 324. The municipality is preparing the necessary public notices. There is no closing date for objections and/or comments, at this stage.

2.4. Erf 4595, Cairnside: Application to subdivide into two portions. The closing date for comments and/or objections was 10 February 1999. Some objections were submitted.

2.5. Erf 267, Glencairn: Application to Rezone to General Residential to legalise the usage of the property which is zoned single residential. The application is being processed by the SPM and will go to the Urban Planning Committee when the report is finalized.

2.6. Erf 3590, Simon's Town, (Quarry Road): Application for Rezoning and Scheme Departures to build a block of apartments with on site parking for residents. This application was finally approved at the Urban Planning Committee meeting on 11 February 1999. Objectors will be notified of the terms of the approval and will have the right of appeal within 21 days of the date of the SPM's letter to them.

2.7. Erf No 967, Simon's Town (Highlands Development): Application for Scheme Departures. The developer's application to build 7 housing units instead of the approved 8 units was recommended by the Urban Planning Committee on 11 February 1999. Final approval for this change must

be given by the provincial government. Following the approval of the final scheme, the developer submitted an application to subdivide the property into seven portions. This application is necessary to comply with the provisions of Section 9.1 of the Town Planning Scheme regulations which states that there may not be more than one building on an erf. In order to comply with this regulation and to market the approved housing units, the approved development must either be sectionalized to give separate title to each unit or the property must be subdivided to provide each unit with its own erf thereby giving each one separate title. When the developers submitted their original application for this development, they did not know whether the application would be approved or what the final form of any approval would be. Therefore, they were not able to submit the subdivision application until the development was finally approved. This application will not be advertised because the opinion of the SPM's Chief Executive Officer is that nobody will be adversely affected if these subdivisions are approved. However, details of this application may be inspected at the Fish Hoek municipal offices during normal office hours and comments and/or objections should be lodged, as soon as possible.

2.8. Erf 3234, Glencairn Heights: Application to subdivide the existing single residential property in Gallot Close into two erven. Objections received have been sent to the applicant whose response is still awaited.

2.9. Erf 2969, Simon's Town (Harbour Heights): Application to rezone and subdivide to achieve 15 single residential erven. This application was approved by the Urban Planning Committee on 3 December 1998. Although objectors were notified of the terms of the approval apparently no appeals against this approval were received.

2.10. Erf 3844, Simon's Town: (Afrikander Road, Murdock Valley South). This is an application for a second dwelling on a consolidated erf. Approval of the present application seems to be imminent.

2.11. Remainder of Erf 1907, Simon's Town:

(off Rocklands Road in Murdock Valley South). This application to sub-divide into 6 erven has been processed by the SPM and no objections were received. Approval of this application appears pending.

2.12. Erf 625, Simon's Town: (Military Way, Bayview). Application to sub-divide into two portions. There is no formal road access to the one erf. This has been queried by the SPM which is still awaiting additional information from the applicant.

2.13. Erf 250 and Erf 345, Glencairn: Application for subdivision of consolidated erven into 6 sites each 350 sqm in extent. Objections submitted were sent to the applicant whose response is still awaited.

3. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS.

3.1. Portion of Erf 1399 and Portion of Seaforth Road, Simon's Town: (The old Seaforth Restaurant). The Provincial Premier has approved the South Peninsula Municipality's recommendations to rezone this property from public open space to business usage. This means that the SPM are able to continue with the process of advertising for the redevelopment of the old restaurant. An adjudication panel comprising representatives from various community stakeholders will be convened to consider the redevelopment proposals, in due course.

3.2. Simon's Town Station Development: The Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association executive committee despatched a letter to the developers, the Architectural Advisory Committee and the Provincial Government stating the aspects of concern to the committee which should receive attention and be clarified before it will give its support to this development. A response is still awaited from the developers.

3.3. New Street Signage: Samples of the proposed new street signage in Simon's Town which was sanctioned by the Architectural Advisory Committee for a trial period have been in place near the golf course, the station and Quayside for some time. Despite requests for the public to submit comments, in writing, to the Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents'

Association committee, as soon as possible, none have been received. Does this mean that everyone is happy with the proposed new signage? At its next meeting on 7 March 1999, the AAC will probably discuss this issue and make its recommendations to council.

3.4. Boulders Coastal Park - Proposed Development: The boardwalk to Foxy Beach, a viewing platform on the southern side of the beach and the penguin barrier wall at the Boulders Beach carpark are now complete.

3.5. Wildschutsbrand Farm (CFM1404): Application for Land Use departure to establish a San Cultural and Eco-Tourism Training Centre. On 3 February 1999 the SPM advised that this application had been withdrawn. The SPM indicated, also, that a revised application in respect of a restaurant and a craft market is expected and stated that this will be advertised in terms of the Land Use Planning Ordinance when it is received.

3.6. Inquiry into the Building Survey and Land Use Development Directorates: The report was considered by Executive Committee at its meeting on 16 February 1999. It was resolved that the report be released to the public without delay and made available at all SPM libraries. Any person requiring a copy of the report, only, can obtain one at a cost of R25,00 or at a cost of R100,00 for the report plus annexures.

3.8. Property Rates Tax: The implications of this will be investigated further for a later report back.

3.9. Dorion Place: (off Runciman's Drive). Consolidation, rezoning and subdivisions for 16 erven. The overall development proposals have been accepted by the Architectural Advisory Committee. The linking of Jan Smuts Drive to Runciman's Drive has been completed.

Bruce Parker
Simon's Town Ratepayers' and
Residents' Association.

Ratepayers' Association

The recent half yearly General Meeting of the Association was attended by approximately 110 members of the Association. This apparently is a reasonably good turnout, but viewed against some 3000 families within the general Simon's Town area it is poor. The point was repeatedly made at the meeting that this Committee can only do what you as ratepayers empower us to do. If your support is faint, the Committee's viewpoints or representations will be seen as irrelevant. I reported to the meeting for instance that Snoektown Calling was costing Reg Loxton approximately R4500,00 out of his own pocket each time he published it. Snoektown is the Association's sole voice or means of communication and it cannot be right that a particular ratepayer bears the entire cost.

The affairs of Simon's Town will become increasingly marginalised if the new mega city concept takes effect. Critical decisions affecting Simon's Town will be taken by bureaucrats who perhaps have never even

visited Simon's Town. Your Committee believes that it must vigorously and actively gear itself up to ensure that Simon's Town's unique circumstances are promoted and guarded. In particular we want to stop the trend of developers (supported by both the Provincial and Municipal authorities) being allowed to sell off smaller and smaller plots with the result that the surrounding mountainside will become a concrete amphitheatre.

If we are to be effective, the Association will need money. To this end I presented a budget to the meeting, which I set out below. There was considerable resistance to members being required to pay an increased subscription of R75,00. The Executive Committee will shortly make a decision but one thing is clear and that is that unless there is a substantial increase your Association will be helpless to deal with the workload and responsibilities that are falling on its shoulders. Similarly if a substantially greater number of our ratepayers do not join



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up, the Committee's efforts will be side stepped or ignored by outside authorities. Thus our plea is that as many as possible of our ratepayers should immediately join up. The new fee rate will apply only from July of this year.

Andrew Duncan, Chairman

BUDGET

Total membership : 300

Subscription Business :

500 x 20 = R10000,00

Individuals : 300 x 75 = R22500,00

Total **R32500,00**

Office R300,00 per month R3600,00

Salary R1000,00 per month R12000,00

Faxes R50,00 per month R600,00

Telephone R200,00 per month

R2400,00

Other office costs R500,00 per month

R6000,00

R24600,00

Cost of Snoektown

per issue R4500,00 x 6 issues

R27000,00

Total **R51600,00**

Deficit **R18100,00**

ALSO Capital Cost of purchase of computer and printer R5000,00

BUT say 6 issues of pamphlet issued with just Ratepayers news by Part time Secretary, it would then cost approximately R520,00 per issue to have it distributed by the P.O. i.e a total cost of R3120,00. Thus there would still be a small amount available of R330,00 per month to employ cleaner uppers. We will find a way within the above budget to communicate with our ratepayer members but it is clear that Snoektown Calling as we know it cannot continue to be published with Reg's largesse. At the meeting a list of priorities was handed out for completion to members. 54 were returned. The priorities accorded to the various areas of interest are as follows:

The votes were tabled and evaluated, using Excel, to yield a figure for each item which is based on

10 = all members placed this as priority 1. (all priorities 1 to 7 are evaluated).

ISSUES IN ORDER

of members priority

Points out of a possible 10. Number of members who placed this priority 1.

Crime Prevention 8.1 27

Drinking Water;

availability and quality 6.1 8

Land use; Property Watch,

Rezoning, Urban Edge., 4.6 6

Maintenance of roads

and public facilities 4.3 2

Waste removal; domestic,

business and visitors 3.0 0

False Bay Water; quality

for marine life and bathers 2.8 0

Rates; Valuation for rates

and rates payable 2.7 3

Traffic management 2.5 3

Waste removal; building

rubble and illegal dumping 1.9 1

Municipal Finances: Clear report

re income and expenditure

w. key elements for both 1.4 1

Tourism: promotion and

support of 1.1 1

Parks Management:

Boulders Park and others 1.0 0

Job Creation in

Simon's Town 0.7 0

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* I am registered, or entitled to be registered as a voter in Ward 22 (Simon's Town).

SIGNED:

DATE.....

NAME AND ADDRESS (in block letters please)

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.....

NB: For your convenience, subscriptions can be handed in at Gladys Dilley Estates, St George's Street, Simon's Town, in a sealed envelope addressed to our Association.

The Brooklands area of Red Hill

The question of supplying sufficient water to the people of Simon's Town and the Navy, especially in dry years, has been an ongoing problem since 1812. Brooklands Farm had four natural springs and for this reason the Simon's Town Municipality purchased it from a Mr Lankester in 1912. The plan was to build a filtration plant and two reservoirs in Dido Valley.

In 1942 the Simon's Town Municipality took over control of much of the land in the Elsie's River Valley from the Divisional Council and administered it until 1996, when it was incorporated into the South Peninsula Municipality. Some ground was also owned by the Methodist Church and the rest was privately owned by white or coloured people.

The Town Council hotly debated the need for large water storage dams. The Lewis Gay Dam scheme was turned down three times

because some town councillors thought it would never be filled. After a critical water shortage in Simon's Town, the plan was finally given the go-ahead, although some councillors still thought it would be better to connect to Cape Town. The dam was completed in 1952 at a cost of 46 000 pounds and was immediately filled to capacity after four days of rain. When the water level dropped, another 12 inches was added to the height of the wall and again it overflowed. Still Simon's Town suffered water shortages and the SA Navy had to send their ships to Cape Town to take on water.

Arising from this dilemma was the decision, some years later, to build the Kleinplaa(t)s Dam. It was built in 1969 and held 150 million gallons. In his Mayoral Report 1970/1971 L.J.D. Gay reported that another 10 feet had been added to the wall of Kleinplaa(t)s Dam and that its new capacity was 290 million

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When you think of a choir it conjures up visions of angelic clones singing very high notes! But think again, our local choir is a group of people who just love to sing. Being far from angelic and more into enjoying the sheer joy of giving vent to all those pent up notes and warbles we reserve for the bathroom.

All ages are welcome, you are never too young or too old. Our choirmaster will train you and we will all enjoy your company. Lots of giggles and fun in a refined (but not too refined) way. Basically, what I am trying to tell you is just come along, be yourself, leave the inhibitions and complexes behind and for an hour or so on a Thursday evening relax and let your voice bring you, and others, joy.

Thursday Evenings 19h00 (That's 7 pm) at the Catholic Church.

If you need somebody to "hold your hand" for moral support on your first visit Phone: Natalie 786 1320; Heather 786 2120; Beryl 786 3969; Barbara 786 2546; Paul 786 1669; Tom 785 2859.

gallons. In 1972 the Mayor, J.H. Leibbrandt, reported that surplus water from the Rawson Dam at Klaver was being pumped into the Kleinplaa(t)s Dam and then fed by gravity into the Lewis Gay Dam.

In 1972 the Municipality acquired the "affected" property of the Levendal family (who had become "disqualified persons" under the Group Areas Act) along the Elsie's River with the view to building a new dam, just above the caretaker's cottage at Brooklands, which would submerge most of the Elsie's River Valley. It was estimated that the dam would hold 200 million gallons (Gay 1972). To date this has not taken place.

When South Africa entered the Second World War in 1939, it was decided that alternative accommodation should be provided on Red Hill, in case it became too dangerous for cadets to remain aboard the SATS General Botha in Simon's Bay. The work was completed in February 1940 and the new structure was referred to as "The Pavilion". It was officially opened by General Smuts on 4 May 1940 and was named "The SATS General Botha Sports Ground".

The cadets continued to use the ship until March 1942, when war in the Far East meant that an attack on Simon's Town was a possibility. The cadets trained aboard the ship during the day, but slept at Red Hill. Additional accommodation had to be erected.

The SATS General Botha was sunk in 1947 and the camp at Red Hill was officially named the SATS General Botha 11. In 1948 however, the General Botha was moved to Gordon's Bay and so ended its association with Simon's Town and Red Hill.

The history of Brooklands would be incomplete without including the people living in the immediate vicinity in the 1960's, i.e. the inhabitants of The Cottages (Pinehaven), Botha's Camp, Elsie's River, Sabena Vlei and the Methodist property. The community was linked by strong ties of kinship. They lived on what was once a very fertile farm owned

by the Levendals, who had been in the area from the early 1800's, if not before - there were already subsistence farmers in the district in the late 1700's.

The community numbered 500 people living in 70 houses. The people were hard-working, law-abiding citizens and crime was almost unknown in the area. The community proudly boasted that you could walk about, at any hour, without any fear of being molested (West 1967).

In 1967 most homesteads had small plots and grew vegetables and some households kept poultry for their own use. There was one smallholding left on traditional lines, which produced cash-crops for the market. When it was still a farming community, people kept cattle and other livestock. Income was supplemented by wage labour in Simon's Town.

Homes were built of brick or wood-and-iron. In about 1947 the Town Council constructed



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Simon's Town

twenty semi-detached cottages (Pinehills), built of brick with corrugated iron roofs. One property owner had semi-detached houses in the Elsie River area. A house was let for a season at a minimum rental, and the school was used for its maintenance and upkeep.

Until 1967 there was no public transport to Red Hill. There was a worker in Simon's Town as 'up-the-line' walked down the old one-wagon road which runs out at Military Road, above Palace Barracks. The return journey to Red Hill in the evening took at least 45 minutes from the town as the people - they must have been very fit!

Most of the community had no electricity, water, high-speed or toilet removal. The exception was The Cottages (Pinehills), where the municipality supplied water to a central point. From there it had to be carried into each house. Night-soil and refuse removal services were also supplied. The rest of the community at Brooklands and

Botha's Camp collected water from two springs. (The one at Brooklands was very polluted). Many households had their own rainwater tanks.

In 1888 the Elsie River Mission School was started by Reverend John Thomas on land adjoining Brooklands. Miss Bennett began by teaching 10 boys and 14 girls. Reverend Parsons received a grant of land to erect a chapel and a formal school building at Elsie River in 1898. Children paid school fees which, in 1899, came to 2 pounds. A further 10 pounds was paid by well-wishers. The school had to be closed in June 1899.

There was a primary school at Brooklands in 1887 run by the Methodist Church. According to oral testimony it has been in existence for 85 years. One can only assume that at some point the Elsie River Mission School had been re-opened. The school had two teachers and provided education for 65 children from Sub A to Standard 4. The Elsie River Mission School finally closed

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the doors in 1970, as a result of the Group Areas Act.

Silo Primary School at Wildschutsbrakend and three Simon's Town schools: St Francis Mission School (Anglican), St Francis Xavier (Catholic) and Arsenal Road Secondary School (only going up to Grade 8). All had pupils from Red Hill. The children walked to school from Red Hill. Those who wished to matriculate travelled to Deep River (Whisson 1982:22).

The ante-natal clinic was in Simon's Town and until a bus service was laid on in 1967, mothers carried their children from Red Hill to the clinic on foot. A pre-natal clinic was held at Red Hill by the District Nurse once a week. In one of the rooms of the Mission school. The only hospital was the False Bay Hospital, which moved to Fish Hoek & killed away in 1964.

There were no shops at Red Hill. Green-grocers visited the area regularly and some shops in Simon's Town delivered groceries and consumer goods to the homes of the Red Hill community.

Most Red Hill people were Anglicans and the rest were Methodists. There was also a small New Apostolic Church. People living on Methodist land tended to be Methodists and those in the Cottages and close to the nearby Anglican Church (which was housed in a house at Bothe's Camp) tended to be Anglicans (Whisson 1982:25). The community's social activities revolved around the churches. The Red Hill Recreation Club met in the Methodist Recreation Centre and had Methodist and Anglican members.

Most men were employed by the Royal Navy (the SA Navy after 1955) or the Simon's Town Municipality. Women were mainly employed as domestic workers in Simon's Town, although in the 1960's there was a growing tendency amongst young women to be employed as machine and factory workers as far afield as Cape Town. In do-

mestic markets and in the running of the home, women were the backbone of the Red Hill community, as most men were absent from the home every weekday from 6:30 am up to 6:30 pm and many worked on weekends too.

James Leath wrote that "since 1959 the people of Red Hill have been uncertain about the future of their community. In 1959 the first Public Enquiry was held in Simon's Town to examine the application of Group Areas legislation. From that time property owners were unwilling to invest in additional houses on their property and brick and iron houses were built in the Sabona Vlei area ... In 1967 ... Simon's Town, including Red Hill was proclaimed a White Group Area."

The Group Areas Act scuttled the dream for the community. Families had lived at Red Hill for over 150 years, in a rural community where the principle of cohesion was

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friendship. Without misgiving, the people are dressed a fear of being removed to a township. They knew they would inevitably be separated from their kin (Leath 1967:10).

The above statement by Leath is particularly interesting in the light of the Simon's Town Council's vigorous insistence that the Red Hill people were only removed because the region had been proclaimed a "water catchment area" in order to build a new dam and not because they became "disqualified persons" under the Group Areas Act of 1947. In 1972 former mayor, L.J.D. Gray wrote: "The Council has acquired the 'disputed property' of the old Leuwewald estate ..." (Gray 1972). The former Red Hill community themselves are convinced that they were forcibly relocated under the Group Areas Act.

Today more than 35 years after their removal Harbin Lovewald and other former Red Hill families regularly visit the site of their old homes and still collect the indigenous herbs which grow there, for all sorts of ailments.

Cathrynne Sæter-Jensen
Simon's Town Museum

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False Bay Arts Festival

A spectacular new event that promises to become a popular fixture on the Western Cape's cultural calendar, the False Bay Arts Festival, will coincide with Navy Week. The festival, like Navy Week, commences on March 25 and continues through to April 5, encompassing the False Bay coastline from Muizenberg to Simon's Town.

Festival-goers will be treated to a wide and varied festival arts and crafts markets, exhibitions, beach and marine activities, music - jazz, blues, rock and classical as well as theatrical performances. At the same time, visitors will be encouraged not to use their cars but a special seven-seater Festival Cocktail Shuttle sponsored by Cape

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The colourful train will shuttle hourly between Milnerburg and Simon's Town from early morning at 10.30 pm throughout the festival. Passengers will be entitled to one free drink on the train.

Artists and entrepreneurs have been invited to take part in an international craft fair and markets will be held in specially constructed cultural villages, says Jan Lang, organiser of the False Bay Arts Festival. The aim of the event, its hope is to stimulate development of a False Bay community-based tourism industry through re-introducing the summer's-end tourism season.

Visitors to the festival will purchase a R50 token which will offer them unlimited access on the festival night for the duration of the extravaganza. They will receive, free of charge, a festival programme and a booklet of vouchers worth R50 giving them discounts on cocktails, meals, refreshments and performances.

The 1993 False Bay Arts Festival will be the first in a three-year cycle. Anyone wishing to participate or sponsor an event can contact the organisers on 021 7905827.

The event carries the endorsement of the Cape Metropolitan Council, the Diocese of Environmental and Cultural Affairs, the South Peninsula Municipality, Cape Metrolink, the SA Navy, the Cape Times, "The City, Many Cultures" initiative and the False Bay business community.

Jim Freeman 021 683-0830

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Peninsula Tourism - Simon's Town

(Simon's Town Publicity Association)

Did you know that the Information Bureau provides service not only to visitors, but also to you, the residents of Simon's Town.

This season from the beginning of November to the end of February, we had 3995 visitors to the Bureau which included an increasing number for accommodation and 1548 telephone callers.

Please let us know if you are interested in letting your house for the millennium as we have had many enquiries.

If we can be of assistance in any way, please call round. Our office hours are Monday to Friday, 09.30 to 16.30, Saturdays 09.30 to 13.00.

Peter Fewell, Chairman

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Y2K: The Millennium Bug

Recently, on television, crowds of anxious looking people were shown pushing shopping trolleys piled high with commodities and comestibles; at the side of the screen was the ominous sign: "Y2K". The scene was puzzling. Was it a comical send-up, or was a vast retail warehouse named "Y2K" about to be thrown open to distraught citizens who feared they would suddenly be without food, drink or clothing, come January 1, 2000?

In the January 1999 issue of "Vanity Fair" the writer Robert Sam Anson asks, "will the millenium arrive in darkness and chaos, as millions of lines of computer code containing two-digit year dates . . . shut down everything, from hospitals to airlines?" I ponder this question: on December 30th 1999, I have a certain sum of money in a certain bank. On Monday, January 3, 2000, I go to the bank to cash a cheque. Ever so sorry, the teller says, there was money in your account on December 30 1999, but our computers now read January 1900, therefore

your account is obsolete.

Think of it: at a second past midnight, January 1, 2000, nothing works the way it should; credit cards are rejected, ATM's won't cough up cash. In many places there's no power, and so, no lighting or heating. Without coffee or a hot breakfast you leave your cold dark house and find that traffic is in a snarl because robots are blacked out. It's to be hoped, by the way, that you have a full tank, because filling stations aren't functioning.

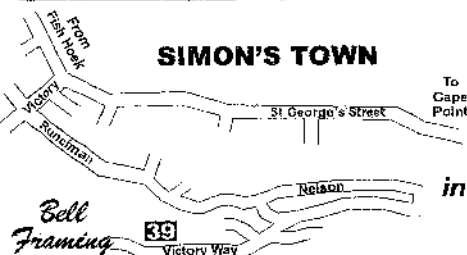
Should your office be higher than ground floor you will have to footslog up dark stairways. You will be fortunate if your office doesn't have electronic keys - but even if you get in, the office equipment, including the phone, won't be working. You may as well take a holiday - but be careful descending those murky stairs, because the hospitals have shut down and your broken leg will have to do the best it can. And don't even dream of an urgent appointment with your dentist.

Safely on the ground floor you may decide that, since the idea of going home to no tel-

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elevision, no telephone, no newspaper or comforting hot coffee, you might as well take in a movie. No go. The best way to go, while you're still in December 1999, would be a pre-Christmas shopping spree, on credit, because in January 2000 all your debts will have vanished without a trace - wiped out - and you can enjoy all those goodies with a light heart. Unless you were short-sighted enough to buy computer

ware.

A comment purported to have been made by the Governor of the Bank of England suggests that those in doubt about the effects of the Millennium Bug should convert all their assets into gold and await developments. After all, isn't gold the ultimate store of value?

Archer

News from Naval Base, Simon's Town

SA Navy Programme - 25th March - 5th April 1999

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
15 - 19 March	Navy Radio Competition
15 Mar - 16 Apr	Change of the Guard Ceremony and firing of Noon Gun: Jubilee Square
20 Mar at 20h00	Gala Ball at Wardroom, Naval Base Simon's Town: By invitation only
25 March	Fleet Pulling Regatta and "After Party"
07h30 - 23h59	Public welcome. See detailed programme
26 - 27 March	Navy Days
08h00 - 21h00	See detailed programme of spectacular events
28 Mar - 5 Apr	Ships alongside open to the public
10h00 - 12h00 and 14h00 to 16h00	
28 Mar - 1 Apr	Sail Training Week for underprivileged children
29 March	Lecture on Orders, Decorations and Medals awarded to SA Naval personnel at the SA Naval Museum
11h00 - 11h45	
29 March	Farewell to retiring admirals, drawn on 12lb gun carriages from Court Road to SAS Simonsberg
14h00	
30 March	Lecture on Cap Badges, Ribbons and Buttons at the SA Naval Museum
11h00 to 11h45	
30 March at 14h00	Day Shoot from Lower North Battery
30 March at 20h00	Navy Band Concert in the Dry Dock, East Yard Open to the public. Free, no booking necessary
31 March at 12h01	Flag Officer Fleet Inauguration at Cole Point, followed by a Freedom of Entry Parade into Simon's Town
31 March at 20h30	Night Shoot from Lower North Battery and Pyrotechnics display from harbour outer basin
1 April at 11h30	Mock Air Attack on Harbour and Ships
8-9 April at 20h00	Anchor Players "Review": SAS Simonsberg Cinema

Programme for Navy Days

26th & 27th March 1999

26th March 1999

Time	Event	Venue
08h00	Gates Open	East & Yards
09h30 - 10h15	Lecture on SA Naval Uniforms Cdr Mac Bisset	SA Navy Museum,
10h00 - 10h30	Diving Display by SA Navy Divers	Diving Centre, <i>SAS Simonsberg</i>
10h30 - 11h45	Air/Sea Demonstrations by the SA Air Force, 4 Special Forces Regiment and the SA Navy	SA Navy Harbour East Yard
12h00 - 12h30	Ceremonial Opening of Navy Week	Cole Point Arena
12h30 - 13h30	Tug Ballet	Harbour - outer basin
13h00 - 14h00	SA Navy Band Concert	Cole Point Arena
14h00 - 14h30	Gun Run Demonstration	Cole Point Arena
14h30 - 15h30	Dimitri Slavis Trapeze Act	Cole Point Arena
15h00 - 16h30	Nile Demonstration	<i>SAS Simonsberg</i>
16h45 - 17h15	Harbour Patrol Boat Demonstration	Harbour - outer basin
18h00 - 18h45	Retreat Ceremony	Cole Point Arena
19h00	Reception for invited guests	Seven Seas Club
21h00	Pyrotechnics Display	Harbour - outer basin

27th March 1999

08h00	Gates Open	East & West Yards
09h30 - 10h15	Lecture on SA Naval Commemorative Covers - Cdr Mac Bisset	SA Naval Museum
10h00 - 10h30	Diving Display by SA Navy Divers	Diving Centre, <i>SAS Simonsberg</i>
10h30 - 11h45	Air/Sea Demonstrations by the SA Air Force, 4 Special Forces Regiment and the SA Navy	SA Navy Harbour East Yard
11h00 - 12h30	Jensen Trophy Swim	Fish Hoek to Simon's Town
12h00 - 12h30	Tug Ballet	Harbour - outer basin

12h30 - 13h30	SA Navy Band Concert	Cole Point Arena
13h30 - 14h30	Gun Run Demonstration	Cole Point Arena
14h00 - 15h00	"Anything that Floats" competition	Submarine Basin
15h00 - 16h30	Nile Demonstration	SAS <i>Simonsberg</i>
16h30 - 17h30	Dimitri Slavis Trapeze Act	Cole Point Arena
18h00 - 18h45	Retreat Ceremony	Cole Point Arena
21h00	Pyrotechnics Display	Harbour - outer basin

Supporting Attractions

East Yard Attractions

Fun Fair for the young and not so young:

• Cole Point Parking Area • Craft Market • Submarine Simulator Demonstrations • "Hole-in-one" Competition on SAS *Drakensberg* • Static Displays • Beer Garden • Tea Garden • Food Stalls • Ferry Service • Tug Rides • "Spirit of Just Nuisance" rides into the bay and harbour • "Fuffy Slide" and sling rope (Dimitri Slavis) • ABSA ATM

West Yard Attractions

• Static Displays • Craft Market • Diving Displays • SA Navy Museum • Beer Garden • Tea Garden • Ferry Service • Food Stalls

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False Bay Volunteer Ambulance Service

For the past 3 years we have had the privilege of a local ambulance service, with an excellent response time and very dedicated staff. This service is run solely by volunteers and they average 200 calls per month. They cover an area ranging from Muizenberg to Simon's Town and Kommetjie to Chapman's Peak. Their calls have increased during the recent times due to increased pressure on state services (and a decrease in their funds and resources) and the fact that they are so close at hand and well situated. They are staffed fully by volunteers, trained as ambulance assistants; paramedics etc. who have undergone the full training course expected of all trainees in South-Africa. During the week (24 hrs a day) they are on call and whenever an emergency arises, they are summoned and respond accordingly. Over the weekends, there is a full crew on stand-by at False Bay Hospital, ready to respond to any emergency call-out. Many doctors in the valley (and more so the patients), have benefited greatly from their prompt response and many lives have been saved in these 3 years. A year ago enough money was raised (also thanks to a large donation from the Murray Trust) to purchase a defibrillator (to shock the heart back into rhythm and resuscitate a patient back to life). This has increased the ambulance service's effectiveness enormously. This piece of equipment and all their other instruments are bought out of their own raised money and the state supplies only their disposables and their vehicle (revived many times over).

We all have realised by now that the piece of the "budget-cake" coming to "small" and "affluent" areas such as ours is getting smaller by the day. More and more services are becoming our responsibility. With an increasing population and less money available the stress on our local government and health services will only increase. Should the current volunteer group not be available

anymore, we will be in serious trouble. The closest ambulance station in Retreat, serves an area from Claremont to Simon's Town and stretching into Strandfontein (with often only 2 ambulances in use).

For those patients in private care and with medical aids the news is not much better. Although a private ambulance service could be summoned very easily, they still take at least 30 mins to get to this area. In this time our local group would have saved your life and have you ready for transport via the private service to a private hospital.

It is therefore of great importance that we support these dedicated people as much as we can. There are discussions and plans are being made to give them assistance (if we don't want to see their demise), but they would be relying on community support.



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Please watch the local press and communications from the business community and Ratepayers' associations. Despite not wanting to sound too much like a TV commercial I feel it is appropriate to say: "They need your help to help you". Save the Whales; Dolphins; Boesman; NP politicians etc., but please save our Ambulance service.

Greetings in Health

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NSRI Station 10, Simon's Town - March 1999

Recently it was reported in the press that two young men, one a naval member, the other an NSRI member, were rescued off Strandfontein by an extremely alert skipper of a Kalk Bay based fishing vessel.

He was able to save them and recover their overturned craft, a small boat powered by a single outboard motor. A few salient points come to the fore from this incident. Firstly, the small craft was apparently launched from Millers Point.

The crew must have put great faith in their single motor to cover such a great distance and return without mishap. Perhaps they had done so on previous occasions. There is no authority that regularly polices local waters to ensure that such craft should operate within the limits required by their licenses. (In this case not to proceed further

than one nautical mile offshore).

Was anyone ashore informed of their planned excursion? There are many more questions that could be asked but I think the one thing individuals who venture on the sea must be aware of is that no matter what organisation they belong to or what experience they think they have, no one is immune from the cruel, hard forces of nature.

Motors are wont to cut out at the worst of times. In one's panic to restart them, accidents occur. Suddenly you are in an unrelenting sea and rescue seems unlikely. If you are extremely lucky, a good samaritan appears and by all good fortune you are saved.

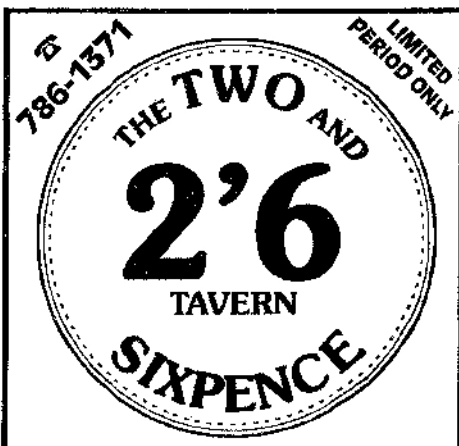
There is nothing to snigger or joke about when such things occur, but if more forethought were employed such things would

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not happen. Well they did. That is the reason for having a part of the NSRI and they are only too grateful to be of use in such times.

Strangely, the NSRI Station 10 "Callex Star" were called out on two separate occasions in 1985 to assist the Life Rayboats in difficulties off Mullerburg. How the wheel came

Scanning our history shows that it is ten years since Station 10 were given the 4 wheel drive mobile by Dallas. Chaps Craig was head of the new unit. One of its first missions was to go to the assistance of a diver whose legs were badly mutilated by the propellers of a pirating skidboat at Buffalo Bay. After being attended to by Chaps, the diver was airlifted to No 2 Military Hospital and I had occasion to run it to him recently. He is now fully recovered and works internationally as a diving supervisor. He still only has praise for those members of Station 10 who came to his assist-

ance so quickly then.

Most of the leg spread and what holds is unknown but we all hope that in total boat operations it will be a safety year.

STATION COMMANDERS REPORT

There was only one call-out to seek for a Mobile Cat that had overcooked near Kalk Bay. The mobile attended to 4 medical call-outs in February. One of them spent a period of two hours on the Saturday.

Chaps Craig asked to be informed regarding the donation of R20,000 which had been gratefully received from Dallas so that he could write and thank them. Dennis Zimmerman will take the matter to his services and to be treated for mast removal.

Yours sincerely
Don Doolery
Station 10 Support Committee

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or conditions.
Lack of Confidence, Concentration, Difficulty in Studying and a host of other problems.

Star Gazing

Many people away from Shoor's Town on the 23d Feb'ry, observed in the early evening, a spectacular conjunction between Jupiter and Venus. "Only one readily observable conjunction of Venus and Jupiter occurs during the years 1985 through 2015", wrote astronomer Fred Schaaf, so those who observed it were most fortunate. In Shoor's Town we were covered by clouds. For the first few days of March, the planets Mercury, Jupiter, Venus and Saturn will be visible in the west after sunset. On the 14th March, a very bright Venus together with Saturn and a Moon only two days old may be seen.

In January this year and again in 1987, two full Moons appear during the month. This only happens because the Moon's periods are out of sync with our calendar and all the months but February are longer than the lunar cycle of 29½ days, this happens about seven times every 15 years. Months have different lengths, so the first full Moon comes around a 29½ days. — *Barbara E. Henson in So*

and Telescopes

Recently, when asked how large the stock was, I was unable to answer, but on checking references I found that the Mongol stock is less than the length of the Mediterranean Sea.

On the 16th February, there were a few who witnessed the Solar Eclipse at sunrise. This was due to poor visibility, as well as clouds over the Humber and Humber-Moors mountains, but those who caught the glimpse to one part of the Eclipse when there was a temporary gap in the clouds. It was all over before 8 a.m. Solar Eclipses only can occur at New Moon. No other Solar Eclipses will be visible in South Africa this year. The only Lunar Eclipse for 1960 was on 31st January.

At the left of the year, the days are getting shorter. On 1st March sunrise was at 06:42 and sunset at 18:43, but at the end of March sunrise will be at 06:58, nearly 7 min. while sunset will occur 18:44.

Peter van Blommestein

Pro Musica Divina

The Street's Town Productions Uganda presents a concert at St. Francis Church (St. John's Town) on 27 March at 8pm. The concert will be conducted by Steven van der Merwe and Robert Deffen and the Pig Music Africa orchestra will perform some well loved pieces. It will coincide with the "Hallel Day Arts Festival" and also with the "Navy Week" and will have a somewhat military touch. Music performed will include Shostakovitch, Handel's Water Music, Haydn's Trumpet concerto, Grieg's Holberg Suite, Weber's Organ Symphony and a debut performance of "The Stone of Beef" composed by Steven van der Merwe. There is also a great possibility that there will be a guitar performance by an international leader, virtuoso guitar and blues player (ALLAN) from the United Kingdom. They will be visiting the all-Africa choir to the "Navy Week" and have agreed (after not initial negotiations by Julia Ross) to an advertisement in the paper pending that buying arrangements - watch the local press for further details and make sure that you get your tickets on-time. Tickets are available at Street's Town Pharmacy or Street Corner at 2555 2133.

Juliet Fears is also presently in discussion with the Salisbury Cathedral about the possibility of having the wood class chair from the UK depicting at our favourite venue on 29 April (Tuesday). The Gouda's Best Great Hobbies has already offered free accommodation for 18 boys (thank you in advance you guys!). Goodnight and all the best to all!

It is wonderful to offer our community this feast of good music and I hope that the varied programs will suit everyone's taste. Ticket prices will vary, depending on the amount of music required per parish/priest and other expenses. The society is a non-profit organization and all funds generated, goes to the musicians. We try to keep ticket prices between fifteen and thirty five cents. It is hoped that at some stage, there would be funds available for a free concert for two. See you there!

Forthcoming Events March/April

1. SIMON'S TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY: SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

invite you to attend

A SPECIAL LECTURE by Dr P HENSHAW at 6pm on THURSDAY
18 MARCH 1999.

"SIMON'S TOWN AND THE ROYAL NAVY IN SOUTH AFRICA : 1870-1957"

The evening will commence with the Lecture at 6pm in the Museum.
At 7pm we will recess for half an hour when the Chairman of the
Historical society invites you to join him and his committee for drinks
and hot snacks prior to the commencement of the Annual General
Meeting of the society at 7.30pm.

There will be no charge for the Lecture or drinks.

2. THE MASONIC CLUB - Alfred Lane Tel: 786 3827

Mar 19 Friday - Irish Night

3. NAVY WEEK - 25 March - 5 April

Please see posters for details of the many events taking place or
telephone: 787 3827 / 786 6193

4. ANCHOR PLAYERS - 8, 9, 10 April Simonsberg Theatre - A "CELEBRATION OF MUSIC and SONG"

Please let us know of any forthcoming events you would like publicised.

Deadline for April 1999 edition: Thursday 1st April 1999

(Friday 2nd April is a public holiday)

Publication date: Monday 12th April

Contact Pat Lochhead,

Peninsula Tourism - Simon's Town,

Tel: 786 2436

(Simon's Town Publicity Association)