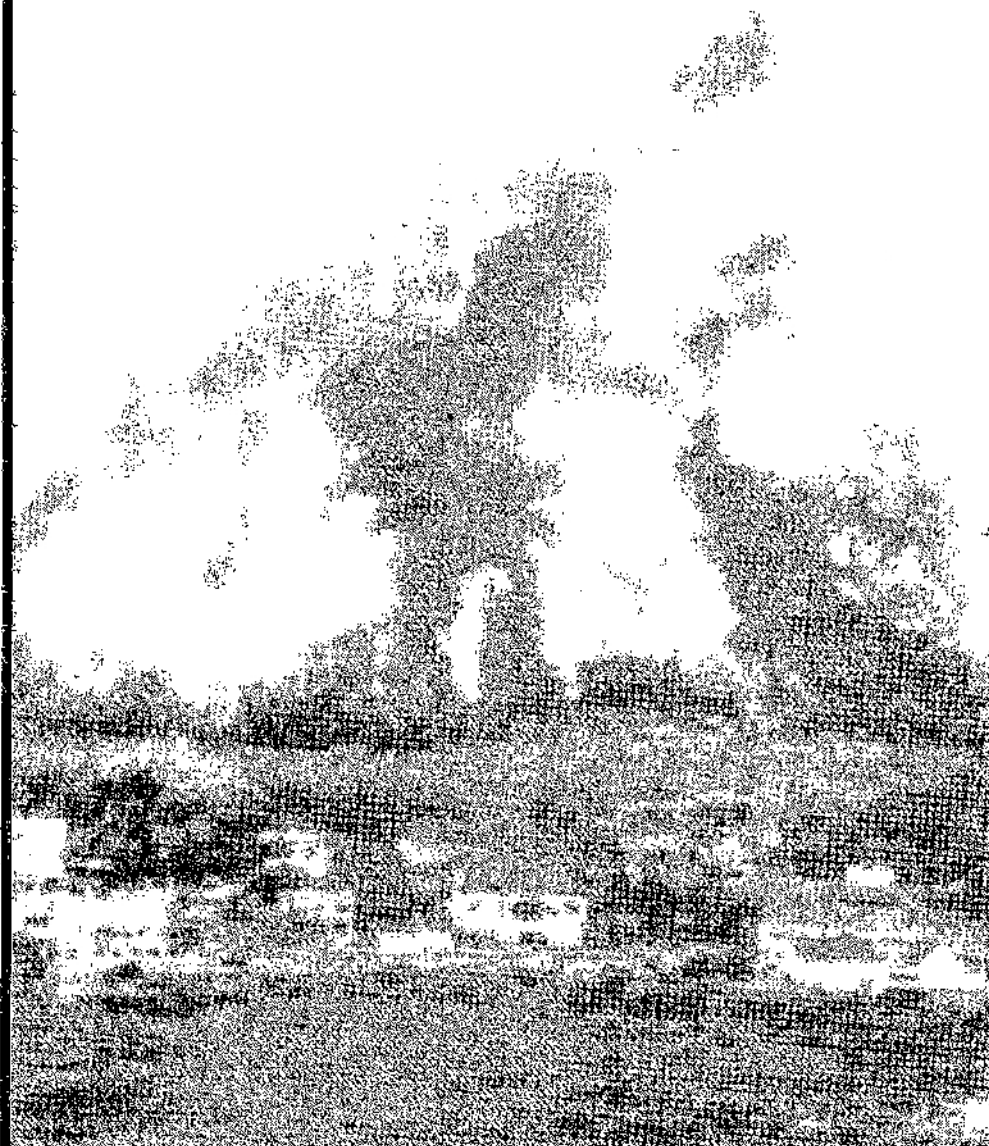


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 11

14 FEBRUARY 2000



Sponsor for February - Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

**Simon's Town Ratepayers' & Residents' Association
Committee Members and their Portfolios:**

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Secretary:	Verena Hinsch	782 7806
Property:	Bruce Parker	786 2955
Environment:	Juliet Bass	786 2362
	Joachim Zimmer	786 3991
	Sharon Bosma	786 1072
SPM Liaison:	Neil Grant	786 1491
Fund-Raising & Membership:	Cedric Duncan	786 2538
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Editorial

First, a sincere thank you for the generous contributions to the SnakeTown "Supporters Club". If the cash flow continues in a like manner, the future of this publication is assured. Much work, advertising rates have been increased.

1/4 B73 1/2 A750 For page 1000
Also great consideration is a "small ads" page.

Now for the major event, the devastating fire of Wednesday 18th January. (The front cover photograph was taken by Gary Sheppard.) My personal experience has some relevance.

At about 3pm on that Wednesday I was standing at the steps of New Chapel Road, looking out towards the Glensann mountain, whose enormous flames were shrouding up many miles across the skyline. Obviously, in a situation like New Chapel Road, I told myself, "there's no way that fire will ever reach Chapel Road. too many buildings in the

way". Then I looked down at the wasteland behind Clifford's Garage and there was the fire, burning towards the gas bottle store shed, at the back of the workshop.

Fortunately I was well-organised with two long hoses connected up and ready for action. This fire was successfully extinguished, then I looked to the right where another fire had started, at the top of Club Lane; but nothing could be done, as the blaze was out of control, heading for the rear of the Lord Nelson Inn and the Adfect Hotel. A backward glance identified new fires at the back of my house, with the two men fighting the courtyard and workshop burning fiercely, so both hoses went into action to control the blaze.

At this point I was instructed by a policeman to "evacuate" immediately. I replied that I was too busy fighting the fire, and others that had started up behind the houses. These fires were in fact begun by "the barbies" or



Irene Porter Properties C.C.

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"STAND TALL AND TAKE A BOW"

To the Naval Personnel, all our very brave firefighters and Volunteers, the Helicopter Pilots, the Police and Traffic Department ...

THANK YOU one and all for your magnificent effort in saving our town and in particular my family in Cable Hill and Bay View Heights. Our hearts go out to Ricky and Colleen Groome and their children as it does to all who have lost so much.

Love Irene, Debbie, Perry-Ann and Tracy-Lee

burning embers that were raining down like red hot grapeshot. Indeed, had I run away as instructed, the house and all its contents would have been destroyed. Damping-down continued until midnight. Later reconnaissance of the neighbourhood proved that the inferno at the end of Cardiff Road, behind the Waterfall Navy Barrack was the source of the "fire bombs" that landed in Chapel Road, some 250 metres away. So endeth the lesson: always be prepared. Thank the Lord for the Men in Blue.

In this issue we begin a new series, being extracts from a Tanganyika Journal (now Tanzania). This series is in response to frequent requests to relate experiences in post-war East Africa. I hope the readers will find these interesting.

Next issue, I hope to start a second new series, so watch this space. Meantime, be careful out there!

Reg Loxton, Editor
2 Chapel Road
786-1750

J AllenR	40.00
D Beneke	60.00
M Myerson	80.00
B Walters	20.00
M Brouard	60.00
R	260.00

Compared with the 1998 Show, it is a great disappointment that our net income available for distribution to our three charities - False Bay Hospital, Simon's Town Home Nursing Service, and the Happy Valley Homes - has declined by some 50 percent.

Indeed, for the first time, door donations (gate money) exceed the income from sale of art works. So, people want to look but not buy.

An innovation in the 1999 Show was the accommodation of a small group of exhibitors from Simon's Town School. However, despite the financial disappointment the philosophy of providing an opportunity for new artists to present their work, will remain

1999 Simon's Town Art Show 29 October - 3 November

Statistics: 46 exhibitors
 (including 13 school children)

123 items on show
 300 + visitors

Statement of accounts:

	R.
Opening balance (1.11.99)	239.33
Display charge (hanging fee)	2400.00
15 % commission on art sold (R7448.00)	1117.20
Door donations	1465.78
Donations (other) B Paynter	637.50
	R5859.81
Less: Rental - Nil	
Bank charges:	130.63
	R5729.18

Outstanding debtors (hanging fees)

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our principal motivation - so I guess there will be an Art Show come October 2000.

Finally, a vote of thanks to our sponsors:

Catering: Café Pescado
Salty Sea Dog
Django's

Wine: Zonneblom

And to our Ward Councillor, Nicki Holderness, for organising the rent-free Town Hall.

Reg Loxton
Convenor

Snoektown Calling Supporter's Club

1. Individuals

Jim & Sheilaigh Lawson - Craig	R 100
Mrs Delene Stamper	30
Lance Robinson	100
Mrs DE Taylor	100
Peter Dodds (Balance of R60 donation)	10
JJ Bentley	60
Mr & Mrs John Rees-Jones	150
Peter Whitfield	1 000
Dr CM Duran & Mrs M Pollard	220
Arlette Smith	100
MJ Martinson	100
RA Birkby	100
Mr & Mrs GW Gibbons	75
Lynn Rast	60
Mike Munnik	1 000
BH Kent	100
PA Mc Carthy	100
Mr & Mrs Collett	50
Otto Niels	100
JA Voysey	60
Anon (TC)	2 000

2. Association

Millenium party: Peninsula Tourism 1 500

3. Corporate

Ulli Bleibaum CC 200
Cheques should be made out to Snoektown Calling and handed in at the Simon's Town Bottle Store or posted to 2 Chapel Road, Simon's Town 7975.

Please do not make donations via the Rate-payers Association - this only creates confusion.

Down The Historical Mile

The Chairman opened the February meeting of SLAP by announcing the agenda. You see, Stoffel Boesman Terblanche (he demanded the use of his full name, as a proper way to start the New Year) insisted that proper protocol be observed in conducting meetings - there must be an agenda - you can't have a proper meeting without an agenda.

Stoffel was working himself up to tell us a long story about his brother who worked at the provincial Parliament and knew all about such important things as protocol - but fortunately Schultz (the breker from Boksberg, who is known to carry a Lüger) showed his irritation in no uncertain way, and stopped Stoffel in his tracks. Harold Hardekop got a word in edgeways by declaring that he thought "protocol" was some new name for mampoer or even skokiaan.

The Chairman banged a bottle on the deck



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to stop the talking - you see he doesn't have a fancy hammer to bang on the table, like they do in movies. Indeed he doesn't have a table either. So, the agenda:

1. The Millennium Party
2. The Fire of Wednesday 19 January
3. The Floating crane, the Castero Otto

Stoffel started up again: "Meneer die Voorsitter, how can we have a proper meeting without minutes of the previous meeting at the beginning, and at the end, any other business?" Again, Schultz had to intervene, this time by standing up and turning towards Stoffel as though he really meant business. Stoffel's head seemed to drop between his shoulders, and he appeared to shrink visibly: such was the terrible reputation of Schultz. Anyway, Stoffel didn't utter another word for the rest of the meeting. That's why we keep Schultz around.

"Meneer die Voorsitter, ek stel die vraag, on item no 1, of the agenda," said Mientjie Boep-pens. "I wish to complain: as Mayor-

ess of Simon's Town I demanded a complimentary ticket, but the man at the gate refused, no matter how hard I argued." Piet Pompies, SLAP's spokesman on Security, rescued the situation by explaining that the security men were from out-of-town and weren't aware of Mientjie's important identity. Mientjie declared she was going to write to the Ward Councillor about the matter. It was a disgrace, and think of the fuss of aunt Constance Nienaber from Wynberg got to hear of the story, that Mientjie had to watch the party for the sideline. "Skande, Meneer die Voorsitter, dis 'n skande".

Clare Fijnbosch, on the other hand, reported that it was a lekker party; she had her ticket and everything was fine: no problems, no hitches. Not like last year, when she bought a ticket that included a seat at a table, but when she got there, there were no seats.

"Meneer die Voorsitter, now the fire of Wednesday 19 January," announced Wingnut Williams. "The fire was so terrible and did so much damage that we must hon-



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Simon's 2 Town

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our this day as an important event in our history. So I propose the day be recorded as THE GREAT FIRE OF BLACK WEDNESDAY the 19th of January 2000."

Hoor - hoor, said Piet Pompies. If the helicopters hadn't bombed out the fire behind the ABC Building and the Central Hotel, both buildings would have burnt down. Arrie nee, said Clara Fijnbosch. It really was verskriklik. And Mientjie began to cry.

So everyone felt sad and there was no more talking - meeting over.

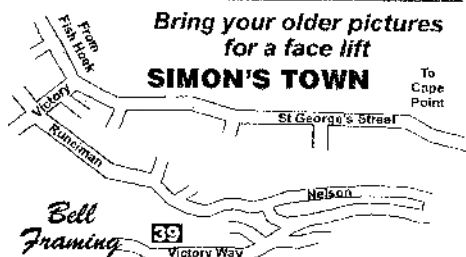
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Chairman's Report

The Half Yearly General Meeting will be held on Monday 28th February 2000 in the Town Hall at 19h30. We have changed the set up for the meeting so that you as residents can tell us what you think the problems are that have to be faced in the future and how best to deal with them. Thus after the opening of the meeting we will be dividing up into small groups to discuss for half an hour or so these issues. Thereafter a full report back by the leader of each group will take place with a final summation by Sharon Bosma, the facilitator, of action steps. This is really an exciting concept in that it means that it is up to each of us to decide what and how best the Committee should be doing.

There are, as you know, enough issues. First of all our town almost burnt down. In the middle of the fire the water ran out. We have addressed Mr Kruse, the Chairman of EXCO, on a number of occasions in regard to problems relating to water and other core services. No reply has been received but the real answer was evidenced by the SPM's inadequate facilities and co-ordination to cope with the fire. The real answer could be that our Municipal services are going from bad to worse! Of course mudslides will follow. One of the areas that I am sure you will want to discuss is what steps should be taken to prevent a similar fire breaking out in the future.

We now have a "ship" which looks more like a bedraggled tramp ship in port with generators feverishly throbbing 24 hours a day. No attempt was made by the Navy before its arrival to check that electrical supplies and other dockyard services would be able to cope with the barge. The Navy has adopted the attitude that it is a working dockyard and noise levels are more than reasonable. This is notwithstanding the fact that almost the entire community whose houses look onto the dockyard suffer from insomnia. The Navy is also in effect ignoring a written undertaking given some two years ago that all

disturbing noise would stop by 18h00 and completely on Sundays!

Other problems besetting our town include haphazard and continued development despite the recent Resolution calling on the Council to delay further development until a holistic study is carried out for the whole of Simon's Town and self evidently subject to the Municipality being able to supply core services without unreasonable interruptions. We have had no response from the SPM in regard to this Resolution.

Anyway these and many other issues will be discussed by you at our half yearly meeting. We would also like to discuss a change of name for the Association so that it becomes easy to identify with. The winner of this competition will automatically be appointed Chairman of the Association for a five year term! Good luck.

Andrew Duncan

Ward Councillor's Report

1. FIRE. Just when we all thought the only thing to worry about was a man-made computer problem, Nature decided to let us know what real power was: this is fire territory but we have become careless. Bad housekeeping over the last few years brought serious repercussions when fires swept through the Southern Peninsula in January 2000.

On Sunday 16 January a fire started at Silvermine. The first call came at 14h42. The fire moved very swiftly and at 16h44 Code Red was declared, acknowledging the seriousness of the situation. The Fire Mutual Aid Agreement was also invoked and Cape Town and Tygerberg sent assistance. One Heyns company helicopter was commissioned to assist. The South African Air Force helicopters were unavailable as they were already involved fighting the fires in the Winelands.

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Time: 7.30pm for 8.00pm

By 17h00 the fire had already spread to Chapman's Peak.

At 22h00 the South African Navy responded to a call-out to a fire on Red Hill. The South Peninsula's firefighters were deployed elsewhere. By the early hours of Monday 17 January the fire had spread to Scarborough and Misty Cliffs.

At 07h00 the Airforce sent three helicopters to start waterbombing.

By 02h00 on Tuesday 18 January Sotwater, Kommetjie, Hout Bay, Chapman's Peak and Red Hill were burning and the fire moved steadily on to Noordhoek. By that evening San Michelle was threatened and residents evacuated their homes. Certain houses in Noordhoek were built in the middle of dense stands of highly inflammable myrtle, on narrow, eroded gravel tracks completely inaccessible to heavy firefighting equipment.

On the morning of Wednesday 19 January Noordhoek's once heavily overgrown slopes lay smoking silently, occasional hot-spots flaring up. The fire at Red Hill was burning steadily but slowly across towards Pine Haven and Da Gama Park. In the course of the morning the wind changed from south east to north west and the fire then raced on to Da Gama Park, Glencairn, Glen Marine, and Woodlands. Pine Haven was surrounded as the fire moved down Red Hill and through into the centre of the town itself. In the afternoon the Airforce sent two extra helicopters and the four Airforce helicopters together with a private pilot in a Bell Ranger who had come as a volunteer, continued waterbombing sections of the town until well after dark. This was only possible because the Navy could floodlight the water so that the pilots could calculate their distances accurately. It was also possible to refuel from the ships.

The ground firefighting forces had by this time been working for considerable periods

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without a break. Large numbers of people had come forward to assist with the firefighting but transport and equipment was a problem. Those responsible for co-ordinating the resources were doing sterling work in Simon's Town under extreme pressure. Power lines were down in various areas, telephone lines had been burnt. The main water pipe at Dido Valley burst in the heat and the resultant mud slide caused a major hold-up on the main road for some time. Congestion on the roads led to complete chaos as cars could not move, emergency vehicles could not get through and no one could communicate with panicking returning residents and anxious relatives to explain what was happening. Cellphone systems were overloaded.

Several areas of the town had been evacuated and residents piled pets and possessions in the streets and in their cars.

Metro Rail offered to lay on special trains to evacuate the town and The Times of London phoned to ask how many British citizens were affected.

At this stage the Premier declared a disaster area. In terms of the legal requirements the Chief Executive Officer as head of Civil Protection must ask the Premier to do so. A combined operational headquarters was set up in Cape Town.

In the early hours of the morning the fire was largely under control in Simon's Town.

The fire moved to Capri Village but on Thursday 20 January apart from some flare-ups the fires were manageable.

On Friday 21 January at 14h30 Code Green was declared and the Mutual Aid Agreement dissolved.

In these fires some 80 square kilometres of the Peninsula were burnt. Houses were destroyed and other properties burnt. There was no loss of human life unlike during previous fires but there was terror, panic and fear as well as considerable financial loss for many people.

We need to learn from this terrible event.

Why have we forgotten the lessons of the past? Simon's Town is fire territory- while we analyse how we can better manage our firefighting resources and what we can do to improve co-ordination and communication, we as individuals can ensure that our properties are cleared and free of alien vegetation that will contribute to the fuel load. In our town we have people who diligently keep our mountain slopes clear of alien growth. They work without reward and often without recognition. We need to support them. Let us remember too those who fight the fires for us. Our careless behaviour puts them at risk of death or disability. Our heartfelt thanks to them all- we salute them.

It is now necessary to assess various aspects of these terrible events. Apart from the huge financial costs we need to plan for the rehabilitation of the mountain slopes as well as the prevention of mud slides and rockfalls. Chapman's Peak is going to be closed for some considerable time and this is going to affect us in several ways. The re-



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location of the settlement on Red Hill must also receive priority. As the signs into large townships must be seen from their properties clear.

Various people have made suggestions about some kind of memorial for the fire and the religious. These have ranged from proposals for bus stops for lighting to donations of plants for the disjunct mountain slopes. Please contact me with your ideas so that we can come up with something appropriate.

As a car wash I have noticed the very large number of small brown beer bottles which litter the front and sides of car parks. If the plastic bag is cut it will blow away and so say the little brown bottles appear to be the first.

Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

PROPERTY WATCH No 18

Feb-March 2000

1. CURRENT APPLICATIONS

Five new applications have been submitted since the last Property Watch report in the November edition of "Simontown Calling". The most recent applications are at the beginning of this report. Details of applications currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Municipality are:

1.1. **Ext 60, Simon's Town (Blancpain).** Land Use Change application on behalf of the Waterfords. Ext 60 is a very large tract of land immediately adjacent to the houses on the north western side of Blencaine Heights. It extends from near the top of the mountain down across the Blencaine Expressway to Blencaine Road. The depar-

We now serve the following:

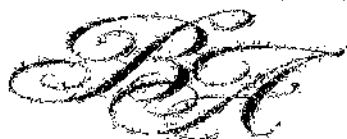
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ture application is to build a primary school on a small (9000 sqm) portion of this erf below the expressway north west (above) the existing scout/recreation camp. This application will be advertised and is subject to the normal approval process.

1.2. Proposed lease of Portion of Municipal Land abutting Erf 457, Simon's Town:

This application from the Golden Arrow Bus Company is for the renewal of the lease of this portion of municipal land which is off the Main Road providing access to their bus depot near Redhill Road. The extent of the leased portion is 80 sqm, the proposed annual rental is R560,00 escalating by 12% per annum, plus rates. The closing date for objections and/or comments was 17 January 2000. This Association did not object to the renewal of the lease, but did state that the proposed rental does not appear to be market related and requested that this aspect be investigated by the SPM.

1.3. Erf 2406, Simon's Town (Boulders National Park): Old Degaussing Station. This application by the South African Na-

tional Parks for a consent use to convert the existing building into a visitors' centre and to do certain extensions to the building was recommended for approval by the SPM and referred to the Provincial premier whose approval is also required. There is no right of appeal in this case.

1.4. Erf 2930, Simon's Town (Erica Road, Murdock Valley): Proposed Alienation or Lease of portion of this municipal land. This was advertised in the press on 15 October 1999 and the closing date for comments and/or objections was 8 November 1999. Two objections were received and these will be referred to the applicant for response.

1.5. Erf 4350, Simon's Town (Welcome Glen): Following reconsideration of the original application, a new application was submitted to rezone this property from Group Housing to Single Residential and to subdivide it into 10 even. The application was approved by the Urban and Environmental Services committee on 2 December 1999.

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1.1. Erf 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. This application should have been considered by the Urban and Environmental Services Committee on 2 December 1999, but the application was pended at the request of the applicant to allow time to resolve the traffic and parking problems which had been raised in the SPM's report. In the meantime, a notice to cease all illegal activities (restaurant and the shop) within 40 days was issued on 5 January 2000.

1.2. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen: Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and business and for subdivision into 9 portions. Following the non-approval of this application by the Urban and Environmental Services committee, a new application was submitted. This was advertised for comments and/or objections with a closing date of 26 November 1999. No further objections were received and the application is being processed.

1.3. Erf 4719, Welcome Glen: Application for rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 5 portions. The objectors' appeal to the Provincial premier against the approval was late (not within the stipulated 21 days) and was therefore considered to be invalid. This is awaiting final approval by the premier.

1.4. Erf 4595, Cairnside: Application to subdivide into two portions was not approved and the applicant has appealed against this decision to the Provincial premier. A final decision is awaited from the premier.

1.5. Erf 267, Glencairn: Application to Rezone to General Residential. This application seeks to "regularise" an illegal usage and has been re-advertised. This application was considered by the Urban and Environmental Services Committee on 2 December 1999. The rezoning was not approved. The applicant may apply for approval to have a 2nd dwelling. This will be a new application and the abutting owners and the objectors will be notified when the

**Our town's future
... and yours ...**

are at stake ..!

**** When the Cape burns again, will you be safe?***

**** When the mud slides, who will stop it?***

**** When the Megacity comes, who will hear you?***

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MANY OTHER THINGS GOING ON AROUND YOU!***

**COME TO THE RATEPAYERS' AND
RESIDENTS' MEETING, TOWN HALL,
7.30 PM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.**

new application is made.

1.6. Erf 3590, Simon's Town, (Quarry Road): Application for Rezoning and Scheme Departures. The Provincial premier's decision on the appeal against the approval of this application is that the appeal has not been accepted.

1.7. Erf No 967, Simon's Town (Highlands Development): Application for Scheme Departures. The application to subdivide the property into seven portions to comply with the provisions of Section 9.1 of the Town Planning Scheme regulations was approved by the Urban and Environmental Services committee at its August meeting. The letters to objectors advising them of their rights of appeal had not been sent out by 21 January 2000 and it is unknown, at this stage, when they will be sent.

1.8. Erf 3844, Simon's Town: (Afrikander Road, Murdock Valley South). Application for a second dwelling on a consolidated erf. Processing of this application has not been finalized.

1.9. 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 application is still pending.

1.10. Erf 250 and Erf 345, Glencairn:

Application for subdivision into 6 sites each 350 sqm in extent. The SPM is awaiting details from the property owner related to an objection received.

1.11. Erf 2454, Glencairn: Application for Special Consent to Establish an Off Course Tote adjacent to the Glen Adinda Hotel, Glencairn. The process of obtaining the consent of adjacent property owners is, apparently, still not complete.

1.12. Erf 4837, Simon's Town (Cornwall Street): Application to subdivide this property into 2 portions. The SPM has referred this application to the AAC and the National Monuments Commission. Both have indicated disapproval of the application. These comments have been sent to the applicant whose response is awaited.

1.13. Erf 2212, Simon's Town (Cockburn Street, Glencairn Heights): Application for a Bed and Breakfast establishment. Objec-



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tions received were referred to the applicant whose response is awaited.

1.14. Erf 4830, Simon's Town: (58 Hopkirk Way, Glencairn). Application to subdivide into two erven. This property is zoned as single residential. Originally it was two separate erven which were consolidated. One objection was received which has been referred to the applicant for response.

2. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS.

2.1. Portion of Erf 1399 and Portion of Seaforth Road, Simon's Town: (The old Seaforth Restaurant). The SPM has decided to proceed with this project on the basis of the original tender conditions and is finalizing the negotiations with the recommended tender.

2.2. Wildschutsbrand Farm (CFM1404): Application for Land Use Departure for the Establishment of a Restaurant and Tea Garden, an African Arts and Crafts Market and Overnight Accommodation. This application was advertised on 26 November 1999

and objections and/or comments had to be submitted by no later than 28 January 2000. This Association submitted objections on the basis that this farm is in an environmentally sensitive area and that no environmental impact assessment has been done as required in terms of the Environment Conservation Act of 1989, that the existing infrastructure is inadequate to accommodate the increased tourist activity and that the granting of these additional rights will set an unfortunate and difficult to control precedent resulting in further degradation of this sensitive area.

2.3. Cole Point Parking Area: Work has been completed.

2.4. Erf 4831, Simon's Town (Simon's Table Restaurant): The owner has submitted an application to change the rezoning conditions which are being contravened, presently, and this has been submitted to the Provincial premier by the SPM for his decision.

2.5. Consolidated and Amended Town Planning and Zoning Scheme Regulations

GLADYS DILLEY ESTATES Est. 1930

118 St George's Street,
Simon's Town, 7975
P.O. Box 40
Simon's Town 7995

**ESTATE AGENTS, SWORN
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PROPERTY ADMINISTRATORS**

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UNRIVALLED SEAFRONT POSITION

Situated near unique Boulders Beach on the seafront, with a golf-course at your back door. Rock pools, beaches and penguins on your doorstep. Properties rarely come on the market in this area.

Comprises three bedrooms, three bathrooms, study, lounge/dining room, spacious separate guest suite over double garage, swimming pool and braai area, self-contained servants quarters.

R2,5 million

Contact Sole Agents Gladys Dilley Estates

DAN

082 778 8807

WILLIE

082 461 8457

for Simon's Town and Fish Hoek: These are now available for public scrutiny at the Simon's Town and Fish Hoek Libraries and comments must be submitted before 12 March 2000. The zoning maps which support these new regulations are available, also. There may have been some miscommunication about the content of the "letter" sent to all residents with their recent water accounts in that ratepayers and residents were asked to check the proposed zoning of their properties to compare it with what they understood the current zoning is. If you are unsure of the current zoning of your property this can be checked with the Land Use Department at 710 8000. Should discrepancies be found, these must be communicated to the above mentioned department as soon as possible.

2.6. Second Dwelling Policy and Policy on Bed and Breakfast Establishments and Guest Houses: A draft document on policy for these items has been received by the SPRL but this gap still has to be filled in the revised town planning regulations.

2.7. Simon's Town Conservation Area - Revised Guidelines: These are also available for public scrutiny at the Simon's Town Library and comments must be submitted before 10 February 2000.

*Phanie Parker
Simon's Town Ratepayers' and
Residents' Association.*

Simon's Town Ratepayers' & Residents' Association

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Half Yearly General Meeting of the Association to be held in the Town Hall, Sir George's Square, Simon's Town on Monday 28th February 2000 at 19h30.

**AGENDA FOR MEETING TO BE HELD
ON MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2000 AT
19h30**

**1. GENERAL MEETING (ITEMS TO MEET
CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS)**

1.1. Welcome and Chairman's Report

1.2. Treasurer's Report

1.3. Confirmation of minutes of the AGM held on 2nd July 1999

1.4. Amendment to Constitution and Byelaws, proposed by Jeanette Zimmer (see elsewhere in this issue of Breakdown Call).

2. WORKSHOP

2.1. Introduction by the facilitator

2.2. Subject discussion on:

**WHAT ARE RESIDENTS MAIN CONCERNS?
WHAT DO YOU AS RESIDENT THINK
SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT THESE CON-
CERNS?**

2.3. Subgroups report back

2.4. Facilitator develops summary of steps to be taken.

CLOSURE

**TEA DONATION OF R2.00 PER HEAD (OR
MORE) FOR THE GEN. GUIDES**
(Members may opt to contribute at the door).



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Simon's Town

Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

GENERAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 2000
PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED
BY THE MEETING

THAT ANOTHER "OBJECT" OF THE ASSOCIATION" BE ADDED TO THE CONSITUION;

4.1.- To support residents of nearby areas who are traditionally using Simon's Town beaches and coastal facilities, so that they can also continue to enjoy free or low cost access.

THAT A RESOLUTION BE PASSED:

The committee shall request authorities and consultants to invite groups such as beach-users from Ocean View as "interested and affected party" whenever development plans could affect the accessibility and availability of coastal facilities.

MOTIVATION

I believe that voting for the proposals is a necessary initiative of Simon's Town residents to further harmony between different groups. It is appropriate for this town, where residents have more than 20 years ago erected a memorial plaque with the inscription:

"To the memory of generations of our fellow citizens who dwelt here in peace and harmony until removed by edict of 1967."

I make this submission as a member of the Association and not as a committee-member.

Joachim Zimmer

Red Hill Access Road

The SA Navy would like to remind motorists that the link road between Upper Dido Road and Red Hill Road is a military road and not a public thoroughfare.

The Navy will therefore accept no responsibility whatsoever for damages incurred to civilian vehicles that continue to use the road.

Lieutenant Commander Brian Stockton

Simon's Town Business Association

An invitation to all those businesses who operate from home.

Although we had a devastating fire in Simon's Town on 19 January 2000K everybody worked side by side to help one another - the community stood together and together we were strong. Its amazing how a disaster can bind and strengthen a community.

The business association has been running for almost a year now and has taken steps to also bring the business community together for common good. To achieve objectives it is seldom easy as one lone voice but together we can create a orchestrated sound that will be heard.

To do this, we need the support of every business. To grow strong we need lifeblood, to achieve our aims and objects, to work for

Blue Bayou Theatre
Cafe

CUTTY SARK LANE SIMON'S TOWN
Restaurant & Bar
Internet Connection
Tel 786-3798

Specials
Prawns

Tuesday & Thursday
10 Tiger Prawns & Rice or Chips R30.00
Smoked Spare Ribs
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
300 grams & chips R20.00

Thank you All
For Your
Valued Support
over
The
Festive Season

The benefit of all we all trust put together.

What is it for you?

- Memberships of a strong community based organisation striving to better business conditions, facilities and security in Simon's Town and surrounds.
- A strong voice to approach Government and all municipal bodies to our our concerns, needs and ideas to the right department.
- Local thinking ideas - to solve problems that are common. To offer solutions and ideas - to brainstorm, arrange community business meetings and create a different approach to problem solving.
- To give support and assistance to each members problems and problems.
- To encourage a community spirit of equal and fair opportunity for each and every business.
- To promote ethical, professional and client orientated business methods.
- To keep our Bay's clean and safe for visitors and residents alike so that it attracts more visitors to keep our town thriving and enjoyable.

So all you home businesses - join forces with us, the Business Association is not just for traders in the main street - its for you too.

Become part of the strength and decision making team that will guide and encourage marketing and trade in Simon's Town to ensure a happy and profitable business for each and every one of its members.

Endorses: **Andre Duran**
Sally Sea Dog
Heather Linderstedt
Heather Linderstedt Estates

REALTY

SIMON'S TOWN 786-1855

GLENCARNE HEIGHTS R298 000

Stunning 4 bedroom cottage with master character & beautiful balcony.



SIMON'S TOWN R298 000

Well located 3 bedroom home, all on mature, beautiful level facing bay & panoramic views.



GLENCARNE R298 000

One of our beautiful homes. Colourful garden, elegant accommodation and views.



GLENCARNE HEIGHTS R298 000

Stunning 4 bedroom 3 bathroom home with double garage, swimming pool, walking distance of beach & shops.



To view call Sole Agents:

Eleanor Currie 082 456 5946 or
 785 3124

Francis Case 082 491 8537
 782 2612

Community Policing - How It Works

Apparently there are some doubts about the role of the Community Police Officer (CPO) in Simon's Town. To help address any questions you may have, here are some facts.

For the past 1 1/2 three years monthly burglaries have taken place from the business community as well as some private dwellings. More than 30 cars have been stolen. George Walton in exchange for his services. In addition, the CPO was provided with a cell phone to facilitate easy communication between George and the stationers, the again of which are paid from successful seizures. A police radio was also supplied. George's salary, for his services and support of the community's efforts further increased this facility by linking their CPO with the police directly to the radio.

At discussion of this scheme it was agreed that the purpose of retaining the services of

A qualified, experienced and registered Police Reservist, with full powers of arrest, was to help ensure the security of the Simon's Town CPO.

It was also agreed that, in view of the specific nature of George's work, his hours of duty would fall within the normal hours of business, from 8 to 5 from Monday to Friday. This also applies to the normal working week stipulated in the employment conditions applicable to the SAPS. In fact, George has often worked on Saturdays for no extra compensation, but has occasionally organised time off in lieu of these extra hours worked.

While on duty, as required because of his status as Police Reservist, the CPO is indirectly under the command of the SAPS. George reports to Insp. Cassie Garsen, who in turn reports to Capt. Duffourie (Station Commissioner). The SAPS are not the



Jubilee FAST FOODS

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Simon's Town

HAMBURGERS

Jubilee Big Buster	R 5.50
Montgomery Burger	R10.50
Essex Chicken	R14.50
St. Walker's Pocket	R14.50
Fungi Filler	R12.50
Essex Chili	R14.50
Dogwood's Deluxe	R12.95
With chips	extra R 2.00
Packet of chips	R 4.99

TOASTED SANDWICHES

Big or petit-pail chicken & chips	
Garlic chicken	R 9.99
Hot chicken	R17.50
Whole chicken	R20.00

SEAFOODS

Cape whiting & chips	R14.50
Catch of the day & chips	R14.50
Crabbed rings & chips	R16.00
Scallop mussels, prawns, chips	R18.00
Prawns & chips	R20.00
Cape rock lobster & chips	R29.50

TOASTED SANDWICHES

Cheese, onion & tomato	R 6.50
Chicken & tomato	R 7.50
Ham, cheese & tomato	R 7.50
Salami, cheese & tomato	R 7.50
Bacon & egg	R 7.50
Bacon, cheese & tomato	R 7.50
Any extra	extra R 1.00

duty terms applicable to George in respect of time and area as envisaged by the business community, ensuring his availability to this community as intended.

Any additional tasks that George may wish to undertake out of his regular working hours would be a private matter between him and the person wishing to contract him. He would not, however, be covered in terms of public liability or against any harm that may come to him in the performance of these duties, and may not wear his police or bike squad uniform or in any other way represent himself as a police officer. His status would revert to that of any other citizen.

The recent formation of the City Community Patrol Board (CCPB) has resulted in the mandatory signing of a contract between the business community (represented by the Simon's Town Business Association) and the CCPB.

There is no sponsorship of our CPO by the Board or any other body at this stage. The

STBA is obliged to pay the sum of R3120.75 per month, of which R2000 is paid to George under the terms of a separate employment contract between the CPO and the CCPB. The Simon's Town business community pays George more than R2000 per month and therefore we need to make up the difference to him, plus pay the existing cellphone contract charges.

Under the new contract, there are no changes to George's responsibilities. He is still a Police Reservist and under the full control of the SAPS. However the Simon's Town Business Association's contract with the Board ensures that he will continue to report only the local Station Commissioner and is not, therefore, at risk of being deployed elsewhere.

If you have any questions regarding the above please contact Insp Cassie Carstens at 786-2127, Capt D DuPisanie at 786-1822, Andre Duraan at 786-1918 or Dorothy Mecinska at 786-2133.

HEATHER LUNDERSTEDT ESTATES cc

St. George's Street, Simon's Town
Tel: 786 3505 / 082 786 0038 / 786 2120 a/h

"Wake up Bob,
we've got burglars!"

ON THE MOVE again!!!
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RENTAL DIVISION

A new addition to our services. If you have premises to rent out or are looking for a new home please give MELANY a call on 786 3248 or 083 746 0909.

THE AGENCY WITH THE "DIFFERENT" APPROACH



Crime Report



Break Ins (Res.): 2 - Hilltop Rd, Scarborough
and Living Water, Simon's Town
Break Ins (Bus.): 1 - Millers Point

One of the residential breakings occurred during the week and the other over a period of time. The business breakings occurred during the night.

Arrests in February:

Drunk - 1

Warrant of Arrests - 1

Crime prevention operations and Road - blocks will be held during February 2000. Residents are thanked in advance for their understanding and patience.

SAPS Simon's Town

Station 10 N.S.R.I.

Simon's Town

February 2000

Saturday the 22nd of January saw the official launch of Station 10's new rescue craft. The venue for the occasion was the South African Navy West Dockyard at Simon's Town.

The vessel is a very handsome successor to the "Caltex Star". She is a metre longer, at nine metres, and is powered by two 200 horse power Mercury out board motors. The ceremony began with a Blessing of the craft administered by Father Braam Martijn and the Reverend Mike Macintosh. Mr Snookie Seik, a past Station Commander of Station 10, was Master of Ceremonies and he introduced the guest speaker Mr. Hennie Taljaard the General Manager of the Airport Company who is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Sea Rescue Institute. Mr. Taljaard said that as G.M. of his company it was good to know that False

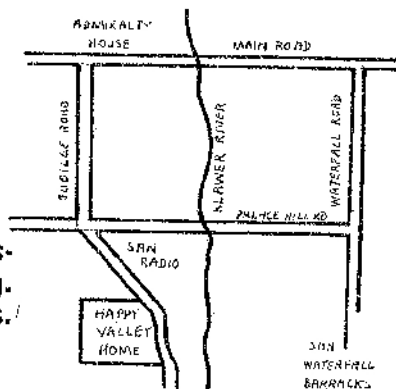
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Product is sold by volume of 10 litres.**

- Matrix of Kaolinite
- Good quality compost admixture
- pH modified to Neutral
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- Highly recommended for pots and containers, lawn top-dressing and general fill.
- The product has been thoroughly field-tested and proved to be a winner.

**High quality compost now
also available.**



**Free delivery in the
Simon's Town / Glencairn
area for orders in excess
of ten bags.**

**Give us a call - we need
your support.**

Sky was as well served by the N.S.R.I. and that the new replacement vessel at Station 10 would improve that crossing.

Cdr. Nick Carter, the District Grand Master Western Division of English Freemasonry whose organisation has been responsible for by far the largest portion of sponsorship for the craft said that the Free Masons were proud to sponsor such a worthy cause as the saving of life at sea.

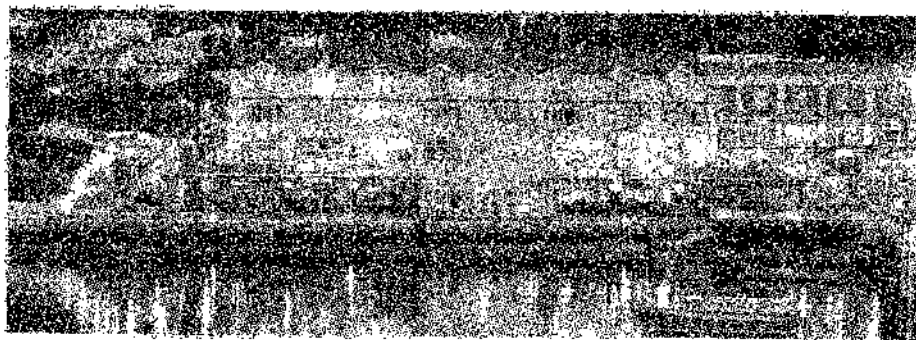
The vessel was then named "Spirit of Freemasonry" by Mrs. Gwilym Carter and launched with the pouring of champagne over a portion of the bows and hull. The launch was followed by a sail and fly past with the Rescue helicopter leading the "Spirit of Freemasonry" followed by the rescue boat from Station 9 in Gordon's Bay and then the inflatable "Eagle Beaconmont". Thereafter, some VIP guests were treated to a short cruise.

Appropriately two hundred guests witnessed the launching ceremony and after

the sail past they proceeded to a magnificent tea in the S.A. Navy Sailhouse which was kindly provided by the owners of Bertha's Restaurant, of the waterfront at Simon's Town, in support of the N.S.R.I.

Many distinguished persons attended the launch and naming ceremony. Cdr. Nick Carter and a strong delegation of members of the English Free Masons. The Mayor of the Southern Peninsula Municipality Alderman O.J. Jacobs and his Deputy Mayor Councilor Refiloyi Muthama and their delegation. Vice Admiral Edw. Green and other senior Naval officers. Admiral H.H. Biermann and Mrs. Biermann and many other retired naval personnel who have always supported the N.S.R.I. activities. The station N.S.R.I. personally from Golder's Bay ex Harbourmaster and N.S.R.I. Station Commander, Captain van der Har who at 88 years of age still actively supports N.S.R.I. Station 10's very first Station Commander, Cdr. Allan Boyle attended as well as the Chief Executive Officer of National Sea Rescue Mr. Ian

The restaurant that will remind you of why you chose to live in the Southern Peninsula.



BERTHA'S
Traditional Cape Cuisine

1015 BEAUFORT STREET, 1 WHEAT ZED, SIMON'S TOWN 601, 7000

Wienberg and members of Headquarters staff.

Earlier after the morning ceremony, Station Commander Schnops G. Galt presented a framed certificate commensurating the crew's entry to St. Constantine and he also presented Deputy Station Commander Dennis Zimmerman with a Merit Certificate for his excellent work in the design and preparation of this class of rescue vessel and in particular the new craft.

All in all it was a great occasion marked only by a strong south Easter and the memories of most people's thoughts still toward devastating fires especially in those of the many Station personnel who are also volunteer firemen. Station to thank all persons who attended and is especially grateful to the Officer Commanding Naval Base Simon's Town and Officer Commanding S. A. R. Simonberg for allowing the use of the facilities of their respective grounds for parking and the Station canteen facility for catering.

Big trees ensuring the overall success of the occasion. Station 10 is again grateful to the officers of Bertha's Restaurant for the provision of an excellent. In the time preceding the launch, which on this the crew staff earned her stripes, so to say, by going to the aid of a distressed yacht which was towed off the rocks near Glenelg station and back to the harbor in Simon's Town.

On Saturday the 8th of January, Station 10 held a street collection in Simon's Town, Veldland and Main Road Fish Harbours where an amount of R21,275.60 was collected. Station 10 Support Committee thanks all persons who made donations and especially their support. All persons who gave their time and their services to do the collections are sincerely thanked for their valuable assistance. Station Commanders report January 1983.

1. A yacht was towed off the rocks and returned.
2. A fishing boat was towed from Matherberg to Kalk Bay.
3. A fish alarm on a helicopter catching more fish.
4. 1000s of fish to wear at the launch have arrived.
5. The Station Middle has been very busy over the holiday period.

Yours and
Don Gallery

Member Station 10 Support Committee.



Bertha's Restaurant co-owners, Peter Westman and Tammy Hefagl sponsored the snacks and drinks for the RATH launch held at Simon's Town Naval Base. "We were keen to support a community project, and we feel that the RATH provides an invaluable service to the False Bay area. We are proud to be associated with them," they comment.

Penguin Stories for Video

If you see some strange individuals waiting around your neighbourhood at night, you may be seeing them with television cameras please do not be too concerned. Over the next year we are producing a one-hour television documentary on the African Penguin. We are also filming at some of the other offshore island colonies.

We appreciate your other love than or that from, but we would be very interested to hear your views and any amazing stories or experiences with the birds in nature, which you may have seen or heard about in your life.

For those who might be interested in seeing the types of work we do, we have recently produced for BBC television the first 11.11.11 wildlife film on the Cape Peninsula which includes the penguins. 'Mountains of the Sea' is a new video on the video of various other birds on the Peninsula and can be purchased from Penguin Pictures. Proceeds from the video are going to the WWF South Africa's Campaign 9500.

We hope you can help us.
Contact Trevor de Kock 734 5294.

Beach & Coastal Patrol - February

Since the closure in 1988 of the now underutilized Kleanum Road, I only recently revisited my favourite beach - Water's Edge - to complete this report. As expected, it was deserted, except for municipal workers responding to complaints of litter and help. Without vehicular access, they were forced to keep the help above the high tide mark and thereby exacerbate the situation. If only representatives had been there, the help would have been kept washed away by currents as in the past.

Many of us blame sewage outlets for the increased problems of help in recent years. It is more likely due to fluctuating climate cycles, whereby the resultant changes in land speed can accelerate upwelling of garbage in the Benguelé current. To a lesser extent, another cause is most probably the concentration of litter in False Bay through storm-water outlets and water table leakage.

We also blame the SA Navy for polluting Simon's Bay. However, scientists proved otherwise during a beachside public meeting at M1 on 14th December. What little pollutants exist are traces of heavy metals mainly confined to the seawater sediment, which is harmless when left undisturbed. Further, unfairly, the concentration levels were compared with SABS limits for food! The only other polluted area was found to be the yacht basin on account of its low flushing rate, but the level of local pollutants was low. Within acceptable values - even among the penguins at Boulders. However, the negligible pollution does not apply to our beaches. Of their considerable litter, 87 percent of glass and whopping 55 percent is plastic!

In my mind, the meeting's highlight was: addressed by R. Adams (CIC) who not only did he state the Navy's commitment to help

Rob, Suzanne,
Scott & Eva
Gosney

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Cells 082 252 1765

maintain good water quality. But a lot to remain close ties with the community. In the latest, the web run to his ward last year by arranging to help us clear up roads of litter.

While on the subject of litter, those local residents wishing to enjoy at Bond's group of its so-called "middle beach" will be pleased to know that SA National Parks was the area thoroughly clean. Furthermore, the 24 hour security extends to White Wall and the car park in Balaug Road. With the signalising station about to be converted into an education centre, Bond's intent on viewing the park will study only be allowed to enter Balaug Road. This will give swimmers more privacy and solve parking problems in future.

Those of us who have not been to Bond's for some time will be amazed at the changes. The first obvious boardwalk ending beachward of Fox Beach has now been supplemented by another ending on the beach's southern side. Together with the looking of

grass along White Wall, the management has ensured that the park is no longer neglected. Other improvements include the demolition of old structures and providing large sandy areas with a grassy area for planting indigenous shrubs. This has already happened in some patches with native grasses, that also vegetation can be gradually eradicated without causing soil erosion.

Although Bond's is better for the community with sports, the local economy is still SA National Parks get little credit for anything. Their good work in our region is most obvious in the water treatment area of River Valley and The Haven to Knappland Dam. Invasive vegetation - including the notoriously "fairy blue gum and pines" - is slowly being cleared. In time they will hopefully do the same for the slopes of Barrow and make us proud.

Beachcomber



Emerald Blue Promotions cc

134 St George's Street, St John's Town

Tel/Fax: 784-54541 Email: peangain@gem.co.za

TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, TRAFFIC, POLICE AND ESPECIALLY THE SANDY. ALL THOSE WHO SELFLESSLY GAVE THEIR TIME AND RISKED LIFE AND LIMB TO FIGHT THE FIRE... WORDS CAN NOT EXPRESS HOW THANKFUL WE ALL ARE TO ALL OF YOU.

TO MY TEAM: ON THE LITTLE RED BARKIE, WITH THE TANGLE OF FIRE HOSES, YOU GUYS HAVE A SPECIAL LITTLE PLACE IN MY HEART AND MIND.

Valentine special

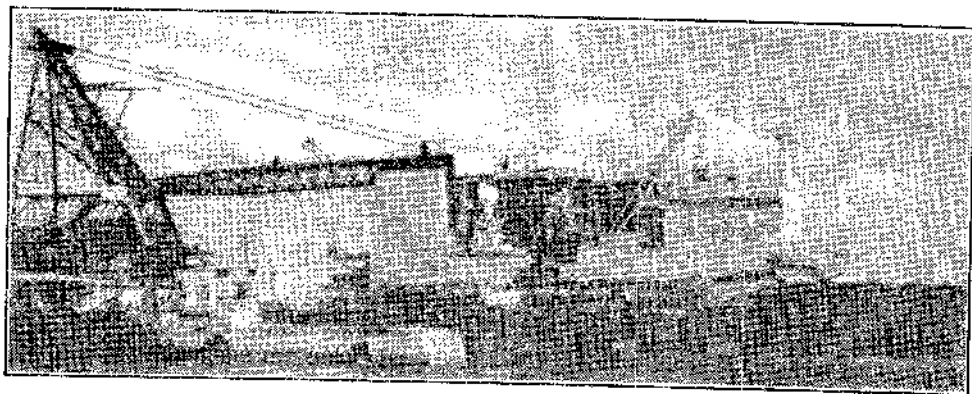
For a Unique card and gift to match and compliment that special someone in your life who deserves the best come and see us



Our Big Visitor "Castoro Otto"

My wife and I had the pleasure to visit the derrick / lay ship "Castoro Otto". Presently berthed in Simon's Town. Arriving on the bridge we were introduced to the master, a handsome friendly Italian, Captain Fabio Scotto. Our visit was arranged by Clive Reed from Eagle Freight and Luigi Martinelli from Saibos.

Resources. 26 vessels, the largest being the SAIPEM 700 heavy lift vessel, 14,000 tons lift-ability. The "Castoro Otto" laid the Mossagas 18" gasline (164,000 ft.) and relevant 3" service line with platform and accessories (47,607,000 US\$) in 120 fathoms 50 km offshore.



About the Company: Portuguese Company registered in Madeira (303,420,000 US\$ turnover,) 98,324 employees.

Company Ownership. 50 % SAIPEM - 1,942M US\$ turnover '98. 50 % BOUY GUES offshore - 991M US\$ turnover '98. SAIBOS Company assets 76M US\$.

Area of Operations: Exclusive rights for the offshore construction work in the South Atlantic Basin, Southern part of the African coast from Mauritius to Sudan The Atlantic coast of South America, Columbia to Argentina

Type of Activity: Turnkey projects including engineering, procurement, fabrication and installation of offshore platforms, submarine pipelines, and structures for the development and production of Hydrocarbons. Provision of Accommodation, diving support vessels and services. Shallow and deepwater activity 300 metres and more.

Crazy Daisy

**NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH
YOUR GARDEN ... NEED SOME
ASSISTANCE WITH PLANNING,
DESIGN AND PLANTING?**

 **OUR LANDSCAPING TEAM
CAN TURN YOUR GARDEN
INTO A SHOW PIECE
ALMOST OVER NIGHT.** 

No job too **BIG** or too **SMALL**

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**COASTAL AND WATER WISE
GARDENS ARE OUR
SPECIALITY**

CASTORO OTTO

Hull Type: Self propelled ship shape.
Length: 191.4m (o.a.) Breadth: 35m
Draught: 10m.

Displacement: 59,200 tons Max. 38,800 min.
Propulsion: Two variable pitch propellers in
steerable Kort nozzles 8000 HP. Bow thruster
with variable pitch - 1200 HP.

Speed: 8 Knots - 16,500 n.m.

Mooring System: 12 x 20 tons anchors, ca-
ble 3" diameter x 3,000 metres.

Pipe laying: Working ramp on centre line
(upto 60"), 5 x welding Stations, 1 x X-Ray
station, 1 x field coating station.

Stinger. (abt. Extension) 1st section 51 me-
tres, 2nd section 46 metres.

Pipe handling: 2 x longitudinal conveyers fed
independently to work Stations. 1 x gantry
crane (port side), 2 crawler cranes, (Star-
board side) supply conveyers.

Lifting capacity: Rotating main crane on
pedestal. Boom extends 90m and has 3 sets
of hooks. Main hook x 1 lifts 2,400 tons at
39.6 metres. Aux. Hooks x 2 lift 500T at 70
metres. Whip hook x 1 lift 100T at 84 me-
tres. Gantry crane 75T at 17m. Whip hook
x 1 lift 100T at 84 metres. Crawler crane 165T
at 5m.

Engines: Main 5 x 4 800 H.P.

Generators: 5 x 4 200 KVA each.

Accommodation: Fully air-conditioned for
339 persons.

Helideck: For Sikorsky S61.

Communication: Radio (VHF-HF), teletype,
Radar, fax, meta chart receiver, satellite.
Other: On board facilities include dedicated
recreation areas, boardroom. Fully
equipped hospital 4 beds, Separate operat-
ing theatre, x-ray, dental and consulting
rooms plus fully equipped laboratory.

The crew works a 28 day rotation system.
A fully operational crew 339 including Mas-
ter, 4 x Deck, 4 x Engineer officers and full
time Doctor. Crew made up of mostly Ital-
ian and French, but also 23 other national-
ities are found on board. Working language
Italian / French, official language English.

The Captain stated that at least 1M watt of

power is required whilst alongside, but can-
not be provided otherwise Snoekie would
have to be lit by candles. Therefore unfor-
tunately generators have to be run to pro-
vide essential services, e.g. work places,
kitchens, radios, computers, hospital, fire
fighting and pumps etc.

The Captain is very impressed with Cape
Town, especially Simon's Town and its sur-
rounds (before the Fire, I'm sure) and the
friendly people. The plan is to remain in
Snoekie for 8-10 months, except if a con-
tract is awarded. We tried to guestimate a
figure of how many jobs for locals and how
much money would be spent in Snoekie -
materials, restaurants, shops etc - Difficult -
agreed lots of both!

Captain Fabio expressed his wish to be in-
volved and assist the local community if
possible and that they might be partaking
in the Fleet Pulling Regatta, provide their
Helideck for SAN BAND performances, be

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open to visitors. S.A. Navy requires exit.

Well, all I can say is 'Welcome to Simon's Town' and thank you and your crew and many thanks to Olive Hoag for Eagle Freight'.

Saddy, once again the usual comparisons have been at it again. Their knives are out for the S.A. Navy too much noise, too much pig and shed. Issues level test, were conducted and it was found that noise on Humankind Drive have a much higher noise level than the ship's generators. (See People's Post dated 25th January 2000 - Page 15)

It is well known that 'out of towners' who are offered to retire to Simon's Town believe that they are now in a 'blissy little village'. NOT TRUE. The Navy and its associated activities (noise), gun barges etc. have kept them since. (Much Navy noise). (Fact, Royal Navy (noise) : 1955 - 1957. @ A.Navy (noise)

to date. So let's get logical and realistic. Agreed, residents do have rights, but please remember Simon's Town is the Navy, always has been, always will be. Logic dictates.

Thank you once again Captain Fairs for your friendliness and hospitality and our gratitude for running a very clean ship even during a maintenance period.

Blackie Swart
(Resident since 1962)

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"Fishy Tales" - 7

As mentioned in my December tale, I would need corroborate on marine algae - the "primary producer". It will be the last by publication in this series, unless I get some positive feedback by phone at 782-1888. How else can I know that these articles on our coastal environment are of any interest to readers, when even Friends of Simon's Town Coastal Line don't get the support they well deserve?

Thanks to Prof. Charles Gifford of the UCT Zoology Department for his conducted exploration of Simon's Town rock pools some time ago. At least the aforementioned friends now know which of our seaweed species are edible. He once told me a red tide toxin on algae, but most people regard algae - and particularly the giant kelp - as a nuisance. This is due to its value as a fertilizer among other commercial uses. More important, kelp forests are the nursery of

many fish and their young - including gobies - and the home of several invertebrate species.

Seaweeds are zoologically classified in three divisions according to colour. In our region, Chlorophyta covers at least 10 species of green algae. Phaeophyta - Red Growth and Rhodophyta - the most common - are of red. We also have no less than six species of brownish algae. These algae provide the diversity of marine vegetation. Together with corals, sea squirts and sponges, they form magnificent underwater "gardens" in many parts of False Bay. Let us therefore support the dive operators, who are doing a great job in helping to promote Simon's Town.

Depending on the popularity of this column, I would next submit an already written article to explain why toddlers should dig in rock pools inhabited by invertebrates when the sun is shining up. I would then take a break

SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

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Please telephone Simon's Town Museum to book 785-0046.

Tickets may be purchased at Simon's Town Museum.

from marine biology by switching to botany and entomology. The subject - again, already written - is a local fly with a tongue up to 90 millimetres in length, which is solely responsible for pollinating an exclusive "guild" of long-tubed indigenous flowers.

Bevan Pank

Simon's Town Bush Fire: 19 January 2000

I am most grateful to you for affording me this opportunity of thanking everyone who assisted during the devastating bush fire in Simon's Town on 19 January 2000 for their magnificent help and support. It was heartening that so many volunteers came forward and worked so well together. They played a key role in ensuring that no lives were lost

and that the damage to property was not greater.

Many house owners have asked whether they can express their gratitude for the help they received by making donations to the SA Navy and to the families who lost their homes. Donations may be made to The SA Navy Fund (Fire Fund), Standard Bank of SA Ltd., Van der Walt St Branch, branch code 01-01-45 and account number 011 891 661. Copies of the deposit slip, indicating that they are for the Fire Fund may be faxed to (012)339-4286.

The public can also contribute to the Central Fund in support of all the victims of these fires. The Premier's Fund, ABSA Bank, Adderly St Branch, branch code 63200500 and account number 4050798093.

**Rear Admiral E.M. Green
Flag Officer Fleet**

Duncan Bates

Professional Land Surveyor

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Well, here we are in February 2002 after the MILLENNIUM PARTY, after the FIRE - and we're still here!

The party was great with a heart-warming community spirit prevailing. We have had many complimentary comments passed on to us: A very good job, especially at night. The music was good, the food was good, the volunteers well behaved, bins were emptied regularly and the police were wonderful. We had been told by Gary, it was the most singing party in Cape Town, including party-goers with him came from the V&A Waterfront. At a very much lower price too!

We even managed to get fireworks at the last minute. This was due to the generosity of certain SIMON'S TOWN people. We wish to say a big THANKYOU to: Dr Reg Linton, Barry Hunt, Dan Dillay, Cedric Duncan, Ken Ennor-Smith, Quayside Lodge, Simon's Town Publicity, to Arndien Siefert of Starline Travel for traveling to Paarden Eiland to purchase the fireworks and to WO Jannie Engelbrecht and WO Jacques Røye for the spectacular pyrotechnical show-extended from the Bull-rose.

We would also like to extend our thanks to Capt Du Pisnie and the SAG some of whom were away on holiday and came back specially to assist in making the party safe. It was a pleasure to have you with us.

The complete Financial Statement for the Party appears elsewhere in this edition.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the people whose homes and all their possessions in the fire. To the Navy who had buildings damaged, to the Kary-Band who had their rehearsal room destroyed along with some instruments and to the families of the Na-

val houses on Gable Hill, two of which were completely destroyed and one badly damaged.

Many of us had to be awakened, wondering at the time to what we were destined. That is where we were to learn. Personally, I realised the wisdom of my feelings must have been for the duration and one just did what was necessary at the time - maybe others also felt this way!

I was one of the fortunate ones. The word "Miracle" has been used to describe many close escapes.

One of the good things to come out of the bad, was the community spirit. Neighbours have given unstintingly to the people who have lost. I heard of one little boy who was devastated by the loss of all his toys. Toys

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just arrived from many sources.

The Thanksgiving Service on Jubilee Square, Sunday 31 January, with the Exhibition of fire photographs in the Town Hall afterwards, was excellent. Congratulations to Cllr Nikki Holderness for arranging this. As one of my neighbours remarked, it gave "closure" to a terrifying experience.

The exhibition has now been moved to Simon's Town Museum, where it can be viewed by anyone who missed it. There are some remarkable photographs on display by both the Cape Argus and by local amateur photographers.

Would anyone like to swap homes, July to September? An Austrian couple (both

teachers) are offering their home in Salzburg in exchange for a home in the South Peninsula. (Please contact Sue).

Sadly this will be the last time I will write this column for Snoektown, as I will be retiring at the end of February. I have enjoyed writing the column tremendously. Every month I would sit in front of a blank word processor waiting for inspiration to strike, but once started, I found the words flowed. This must happen to any column writer!

My nearly five years with Simon's Town Publicity and later Peninsula Tourism have been a tremendous experience and have provided invaluable insight in the ways of my fellow man!

Best regards
Pat Lochhead

Simon's Town Pro Musica Divina

The year 2000 has come and the activities of Simon's Town Pro Musica Divina has resumed in full swing. Thanks to a full house (despite a very hot evening) and the membership of our members (only 20 this far) we had the opportunity to create a very special Christmas concert on 16 December last year. A full orchestra and wonderful soloists made it a memorable evening.

This year we kick off with a concert on 27 February in St. Francis Church at 7.00 pm., preceded by a picnic in the grounds of Admiralty House. Alibas of London consisting of Alexandra Bass (flute) and Richard Hand (guitar) will perform with a baroque orchestra directed by well known South-African cellist - Annari van der Westhuizen. They will perform Vivaldi's guitar concerto in D maj. and the Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 by J.S. Bach. Tickets will be R 70.00 and all proceeds will go to financial aid of the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra - currently running into difficulties. Book at the Simon's Town Pharmacy 786-2133. Members of the music society will receive a discount of R 35.00.

A concert is also planned in aid of the Simon's Town High School. The plans are for it to be a "gala" evening with a supper included and there will also be an auction of pieces of art. Dates proposed are 20 or 27 May and it will be at the school's facilities. Please watch the local press for further details, since this promises to be a great opportunity to hear excellent music as well as contribute to the education of our local youth.

As soon as the evening temperatures drop, we will commence with the music appreciation courses. Dr. Beryl Ensor-Smith (Ph.D. in music) have worked hard and produced a very interesting series of lectures. Watch the Snoek Town Calling for dates and venue.

Enquire about our membership club and see what your contribution can give you for one year and the difference it can make to Cape Town musical talent.

Simon's Town Museum News

February 2000

The Board of Trustees and Staff would like to convey to all Snoektown readers, the best of wishes for the year 2000

OPEN AIR CONCERT ON JUBILEE SQUARE : SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2000 at 18h00.

Don't miss the Museum's **Annual Open Air Concert** featuring the Band of the South African Navy combined with the Pipes and Drums of the Cape Town Highlanders' Regiment.

Wine, Malt and Cool Drinks will be available before and after the performance on Jubilee Square as well as various food stalls.

Any profit we make is always shared with other Simon's Town Charities.

Tickets at R15,00 each are available at the Museum – Telephone 786-3046.

A TALK WITH SLIDES ON THE HISTORY OF SIMON'S TOWN and ABLE SEAMAN 'JUST NUISANCE.

Every Friday morning at 10h00 the Chairman of Simon's Town Historical Society, Terry Korsten, presents a Talk with Slides on the History of the Town and the famous Great Dane "Just Nuisance."

If you would like to know more about the area or if you have visitors who may be interested you are welcome to attend.

We ask a donation of **R7,50** per person for both talks.

We look forward to welcoming you !

Cherry Dilley
Curator



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Simon's Town Historical Society

One of Simon's Town Historical Society's projects for 1999 / 2000 was the complete restoration of the De Waal / Burggraaff vault in the Anglican section of the Old Burial Ground off Runciman Drive. This vault has the date 1868 on the front. The restoration was required because the corrugated flat roof was badly corroded exposing the coffins inside. The plaster on the walls was coming away exposing large areas of sun baked bricks which were crumbling.

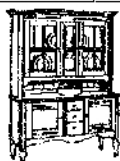
On 14th October 1999 the roof was removed in the presence of family, society and Museum members. It was sad to find so much rubbish and debris in the vault plus rocks that had fallen on one or two of the coffins. The restoring builder Mr Charles Flanagan subsequently removed the rubbish and tidied the inside of the vault. There were five coffins in the vault. The vault has now received a new roof and a large amount of brickwork has been replaced and the entire vault has been

replastered. At the same time Mr Flanagan carried out much needed repairs to a Russian Sailor's grave in another section of the Old Burial Ground, much to the delight of the Russian Consulate in Cape Town.

The Simon's Town Historical Society has for some time been very concerned about the fate and condition of Palace Barracks (the beautiful historical building opposite the railway station). We expressed our concern as far back as 1998 in an article published in 'Snoektown Calling'. To date nothing has taken place to address the future of this building except that it no longer belongs to the SA Navy and therefore they are no longer responsible for its upkeep. They do, however, carry out sporadic inspections to flush out undesirables who enter the buildings and cause untold damage.

The Society together with Cnr Holderness, Navy, National Monuments Council repre-

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sentatives and Museum staff recently carried out an inspection of the property to assess damage and deterioration of the buildings. What we saw on the occasion was very disheartening. It was then decided that various approaches would again be made to the owners - Public Works Department concerning the eventual outcome of the property. It was also decided that some effort be made in cleaning up the garden to show a presence on the property. This was achieved the following Sunday when members of the above - mentioned inspection party gathered on the property for a clean-up.

Public Works Department has since informed me that authority to dispose of the building has been passed but this could take some time to achieve. In the meantime I am aware of a Simon's Town business man's interest in the property and until it is sold, it will continue to deteriorate and be vandalised.

Terry Korsten
Chairman

Simon's Town Historical Society

Simon's Town School News

The school year has started with a real bang at Simon's Town School this year. We have a record number of learners (476) in the High School and the biggest matric class in the history of the school (78)

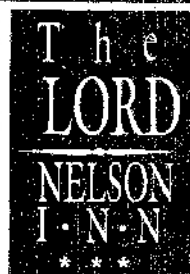
Last year we had a highly successful year as far as our matrics went. 93% Of our matrics passed their exams and those who were unsuccessful have all been granted supplementary exams. This includes those who missed examinations due to illness. We wish these five students the best of luck in their supplementaries. A special word of congratulations also needs to go to Nicola Berry who obtained an 'A' aggregate. The aim of the matrics for this year is to obtain a 100% pass rate and we wish them all the luck.

Andrew Newton - World Famous Hypnotist

The well known and highly acclaimed magician and hypnotist, Andrew Newton, will be presenting a show in the school hall on Saturday 19 February, in order to raise funds for the school. Please contact the school if you wish to purchase tickets.

A plea for assistance

Most of the readers are aware of the plight of the Simon's Town residents who live in the informal settlement at Red Hill. About 25 children from this settlement attend Simon's Town School. The school has been approached by a group of mothers who have appealed to us to provide accomodation and care for these children on the premises during the week, in an enviroment more condusive to studying and learning (Red Hill has no water born sewerage, electricity, safe playing areas, sports facilities etc.). We are currently investigating the possibility of extending our hostel to accomodate these



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children. This will now cost only R50.00 which will be needed for the extensions and extra water supply. We will also be needing beds, cupboards, crockery etc. Any resident who might be prepared to help either financially or by donating is asked to please contact the school. It is certainly a fabulous way to help a group of Loden privileged children to get a better chance in life.

Computer courses

This year we are starting to offer various computer courses as part of our adult education project. The courses that we are offering are the acclaimed International Qualification A+ Computer Technician, Microsoft Office and Windows 95. These courses are not only for adults and learners from grade 10 are welcome. The A+ will be covering all aspects of computer hardware and the installation of software. The first A+ course will be starting on the 15 February and will be held from 6-8 pm on Tuesdays and Thurs-

days.

Any queries can forwarded to Andre Erasmus at Tel 786 1 055 974 and 7855813 (H).

Cooking Courses

A basic cooking course in Home Cooking will also be offered as part of our adult education programme in the school. An 11 day, weekly lesson are planned still out of R125 (Not including ingredients). Contact Miss Klossop at the school for further details.



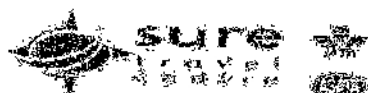
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The enlarged P (not for ladies or any children under 45 years of age).

Does the following seem familiar? Going to pass water is a mission. What used to be such a day-to-day "episode" has turned against you. Firstly, you are awakened 3-4 times per night to pass urine. When you get to the loo, it usually takes a while to relax before anything happens and then when you are ready to walk away from your "job" - you literally "spring a leak". The stream that used to sound like Niagra Falls at night (and wake up the whole household) now seem like hardly worthwhile the effort. You also cannot pass a toilet without passing in for a visit. Sound familiar? And you are male (roughly older than 45 years of age)- it could be that you are suffering due to an enlarged prostate.

Mostly the enlargement is due to BPH (Benign Prostate Hypertrophy) a non-cancerous condition where the prostate is enlarged around the ureter (outlet pipe of the bladder) at the point of leaving the bladder, which leads to "obstruction. There are basically two treatment modalities available for this condition i.e. surgery (a rebore procedure - sounds like fun doesn't it) or some drugs newly available. These decisions need to be made by your doctor in conjunction with a urologist (obviously consulting you as well).

Unfortunately, the other reason for your problems could be prostate cancer. The incidence of this possibility varies all over the world. In Japan it is roughly 3/100 000 deaths and in countries like Norway 25/100 000. It seems that the link with a higher rate of prostate cancer is correlated with the high intake of animal fat (incidentally the same correlation with breast cancer).

If you present with above mentioned complaints, your doctor would investigate you for the possibility of cancer. That is the easy

diagnosis - however many patients (if not most) do not have any of these symptoms and present totally different, mostly with other symptoms due to the spread of prostate cancer.

The answer is: do not be caught out! Women go for regular Pap smears and breast examinations. Your car goes for a regular check. Why do you neglect yourself and through that prevent the early diagnosis of a very treatable condition (if found early).

Next time you visit your doctor for that BP check or ingrown toe-nail, ask about the PSA blood test and if you are suffering with the above mentioned symptoms, do not be shy to discuss them - chances are that he has them as well or will in the future.

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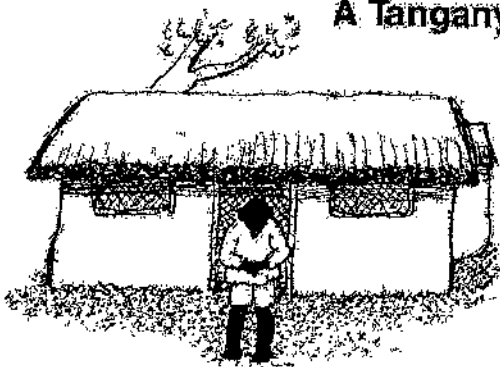
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Namanga
Southern Province
Tanganyika Territory

November 16 1945

The day I left South Africa there were tearful exhortations to write often; but dear Dorothy, always practical, called out "be sure to keep a diary". So this is a tentative beginning to the Chronicle of My Life.

There weren't many passengers aboard the flight from Durban; most disembarked at Lourenço Marques. There was also a young mother with her baby. The pilot had a real bristly RAF moustache. We landed for the night at Lumbo, where an affable official waved aside my visa, refused to examine my luggage, and offered Portuguese beer: "very good, very cold, very strong". After a hectic, knuckle-biting ride from the airport in a down-at-heels station wagon we arrived at the hotel. I was shown to a tiny bedroom which boasted a washbasin; the "mexida" tap was bone dry; the "sala" produced an aggressive cockroach.

Dinner was sedate: crew, me, officials and their sombriously dressed wives. Then, dinner having arrived at the coffee stage, wives suddenly vanished, various blonde ladies entered the dining room, which altered its character and became the scene of revelry.

THE BIG FIRE WEDNESDAY 19 JANUARY 2000

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FIRE TAKEN AND MOUNTED BY
THE RESIDENTS OF SIMON'S TOWN
AND EXHIBITED AT THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE

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Court Road, Simon's Town

Opening Times

Monday to Friday	09h00 to 16h00
Saturdays	10h00 to 16h00
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I said goodnight and retired to what I hoped would be a sleep sans cockroaches.

Called at 7am, I went down to breakfast and found a crew of very unwell men. I offered them my Eno's which they accepted with listless gratitude. But by 7.30 they were all spruced up and ready to go - but my worries were beginning. What if I didn't recognise my husband after an absence of seven months? What if he no longer fancied being married? The RAF-type pilot kept coming through and saying "you look wizard, Mrs L. Not to worry". In the event, when we came down at Lindi, there was just one welcoming person: long, lean and looking as nervous as I felt.

We spent the night at a crummy hotel known locally as the Dysentery Arms. The people having their sundowners were so sad-looking: faded women in suntop dresses that showed too much of their guanine-yellow skin; red-faced, swimmy-eyed men with premature potbellies. Even the many flies seemed listless - but that could have been the result of paddling around in the pools of spilled beer on the table tops.

Early next morning we began the hundred-mile trek to the camp in Namanga. Most of the way we were stuck behind an Abyssinian convoy of huge Fiat trucks (ample time to view the endless sisal plantations) while ochre dust swirled into the Landrover + powdered hair, skin and clothes.

When we arrived at my new home, Sailor's personal boy emerged from the darkish interior of the banda, bowed and said "Jambo, Bwana. Jambo Memsab". I remembered to say "Jambo Filippi. Habari gani?" which means "what news?" It's like saying "how are you?" when you meet someone. Inside the banda I met Biesbak, glossy black except for the little brown smudge above each eye, who viewed me with suspicion from under a table; and Sheba, perched on top of a cupboard, blue eyes crossed, brown ears pulled back - not exactly a habari gani sort of greeting. She is a "welcoming" gift - in lieu, Sailor says, of a bouquet of roses. Biesbak is the canine apple of Sailor's eye.

The banda consists of two smallish mud-and-wattle rooms joined by a kind of breeze-way. The walls waver from the straight and the thatched roof is open to the gaze. Little lizards called geckos flit in and out of the grass webbing. The doors and windows are mosquito-netted frames - no locks or bars. There is scant privacy and no protection from what lurks outside at night. Two days after we arrived here Sailor (everyone calls him by that name and I must get used to it) went up to Nairobi to meet an old friend; each afternoon our nearest neighbours, Archie and Alf - bachelors devoted to pink gins, letters home and bridge - call in briefly to see whether I'm "A-one okay".

November 23

"n Boer maak 'n plan". Yesterday I tore a strip from a sheet to fit the mosquito netted door frame, and made a kind of scenic panel, using lipstick, brown and black shoe polish, blue ink and the green stain from mushed - up leaves. This lends a comforting sense of invisibility.



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Simon's Town Millennium Party Statement of Account

Due to the resounding success of Simon's Town's Millennium Party, the committee is able to make the following donations

1. NSRI Station 10, Simon's Town	R2500
2. Happy Valley Home, Simon's Town	R1000
3. Simon's Town School	R1500
4. Snoektown Calling	R1500
5. False Bay Voluntary Ambulance Service	R1000
6. Simon's Town Community Police Forum	R1000
7. Simon's Town Business Forum	R 500
8. Simon's Town Museum Development Fund	R2500
9. Red Hill Pre-Primary School	R 500

In light of the devastating fires which ravaged the Southern Peninsula, we also dedicate R2000 to the Disaster Fund.

Three thousand and three tickets were sold, with guesstimates of 4000 people attending the party. Despite the rain, which definitely did not put a damper on the festivities, the report back from all sources was glowing. People from as far afield as Bellville, Sea Point and Melkos attended the party.

The support of South Peninsula Municipality and the Simon's Town Police was vital to the success of the party. The "fireworks" display by the Navy certainly added the spice in heralding in the New Millennium.

Using this success as a springboard, Party 2000 (which will in actual fact be the start of the New Millennium), promises to be even better!

(See below for budget)

Budget: Simon's Town Millennium Party:

Expenditure			Income:		
	DJ	12000		Tickets @ R30	90100
	Posters	200		Stalls	500
	Tickets	2841,22		Bar	700
	Toilets	2532			
	Security	5700			
	Donations: Cleaners	1150			
	NSRI	2500			
	Voluntary Ambulance	1000			
	Happy Valley Home	1000			
	Snoektown Calling	1500			
	Simon's Town Pub.	12000			
	Police Forum	1000			
	Simon's Town Party	25000			
	Simon's Town Museum	2500			
	ST Business Forum	500			
	Peninsula Tourism	12000			
	Red Hill Pre-Primary	500			
	Simon's Town School	1500			
	Disaster Fund	2000			
Total		85423	Total		91300

The Night Sky February 2000

The total Eclipse of the Moon on January 21st began at 04hrs 02mins., for those who were up and about. The Moon entered the Umbra at 05hrs. 01 mins, and totality began at 06hrs 04 mins. Unfortunately the Moon set before the middle of the Eclipse at 06hrs 44min., but here at Simon's Town clouds obscured most of the Eclipse.

An Eclipse of the Moon can only occur at Full Moon, but an Eclipse of the Sun is at the New Moon. On July 16th, there will be a second Eclipse of the Moon at 12hrs 46mins., at a more convenient time of most people. The night sky still has the brilliant constellation of Orion in a conspicuous position for the next two months. The nebula, M42, in the sword is a fascinating sight using binoculars, which I am pleased, has been observed and reported to me. When viewed with a telescope the famous Trapezium can easily be seen, where new stars are being formed.

The Planets. Jupiter and Saturn still dominate the evening sky and set in the early morning. On the 11th Jupiter will be 4° North of the Moon, and on the 12th Saturn will be 3° North of it. Four of the 16 moons of Jupiter, Io; Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto, are all easily seen with binoculars; as they are on a straight line with the planet's equator, it is not difficult to find them. Mars is still a bright planet in the west at sunset and is travelling from Aquarius to Pices. Jupiter, Saturn and Mars are coming closer together this month.

Venus is a very bright morning planet. It is 2° from the waning Moon on the 2nd. At Magnitude -4 it is a spectacular sight if viewed before 4:30am. As there has only been one report of it being seen, not many see the pre-dawn light over the Hottentot-Holland Mountains, at this time of the year. In December it was mentioned that the pre-dawn sight of Venus, before twilight at 4:30

am. was worth getting up early to see. I have been asked why the word twilight was used. Song writers and poets usually associate twilight with the evening, but astronomically there is both evening and morning twilight. Magnitude on the 14th to + 0.8 on the 20th. Neptune, Magnitude 8 is ½ ° North of Venus on the 22nd.

Uranus, Magnitude 6 is close to Venus on March 4th.

The Moon. New Moon is on the 5th, First Quarter on the 13th, Full Moon on the 19th. Last Quarter is on the 27th. There is a close encounter with bright Venus on the 2nd. The waxing Moon is near to Mars on the 8th, Jupiter on the 10th, and Saturn on the 11th. At this time of the year the Milky Way has many interesting stars and constellations visible at a convenient time in the early evening before midnight. Volans the Flying Fish is easily found as it is close to the Large Magellanic Cloud, not far from the very bright Canopus in the South. Delta Volantis, a 4th Magnitude star is 700 times brighter than our Sun, but it is very far from us. South of Volans is the constellation of Octans. Sigma Octans was our South Pole Star, but it has moved rapidly away from this position due to the Precession of the Equinoxes. Its new position is clearly shown on the new star atlases Epoch 2000. If a star chart or atlas is being purchased, remember to see that it is for Epoch 2000, otherwise the data will be obsolete. Recently I was shown a new Norton's 2000 Epoch Atlas, a Christmas present, an excellent choice.

On the 4th October 1582 the Gregorian Calendar was introduced in Roman Catholic countries with its Leap years every 4th year. There are also Leap Centuries, when the Century is divisible by 400. The last time it happened was in 1600. "The mean value for the year used in the reform itself, which is our calendar year today, is slightly more accurate at 365 days 5 hours 49 minutes and 12.5 seconds, a year that runs on 26 seconds slower than the true year." The Calendar by D.E. Duncan. Unfortunately, the



De Kock Estates

Simon's Town

ACCREDITED AGENTS FOR ABSA BANK EST. 1981

WHETHER YOU WANT TO SELL
OR BUY OR LET A PROPERTY IN
SIMON'S TOWN PLEASE PHONE
ONE OF OUR RESIDENT AGENTS

NORMAN HENDRY

786-1259 (office)

Cell: 082 793 3706

PETER VON MALTITZ

786-1259 (office)

Cell: 082 927 6322

WE LIVE IN SIMON'S TOWN AND WE
SERVE SIMON'S TOWN

"WE CARE"

Doctor who did all the final calculations, and who influenced Pope Gregory iii to use them, is not remembered. His name is Aloysius Lilius.

"On the 24th February 1582, the 80 year old Pope Gregory iii sat down at the table which is still preserved at Mondragone and signed the bull that would make this the last year of Julius Caesar's Calendar" The Calendar. He also made the year start on January 1st, as Julius Caesar had done, as this was not a general practice at this time. The bull was to be put into effect on October 4th, 1582.

Greater detail of astronomical events may be obtained from the Handbook of the Astronomical Society for the year 2000, which is obtainable from The Astronomical Society of South Africa, PO Box 9, Observatory 7938.

Peter I. van Blommestein

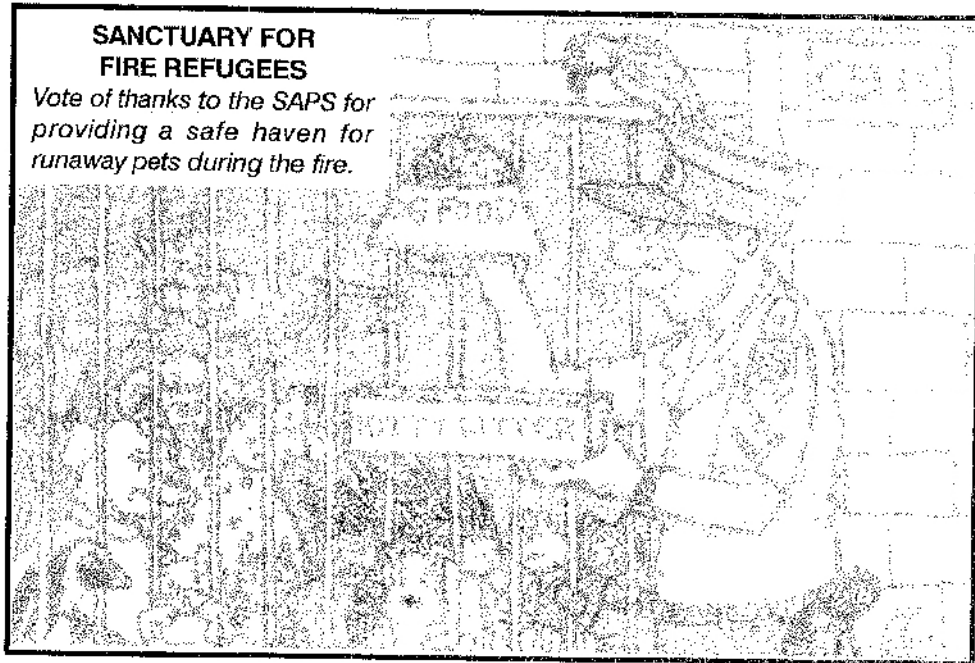
Glencairn Fire

The weather hot and thru the haze
The hills, once green, were now ablaze.
The flames leapt high
The trees once green were set to die
a sight most terrible to see.
A fearsome thing for you, for me.
For just beyond the awesome flame
our houses stood, but now fair game.
For fires know no boundaries,
- a group of roving foundries -
We stood below our houses white
as all of us prepared to fight
that a homeless day was near.
How now we prayed for counter wind
to blow in from the seas, rescind
what at the moment seemed
most certain
to leave us with a blazing curtain
bent on destroying all below
a war against a human foe.

Neville H. Romain

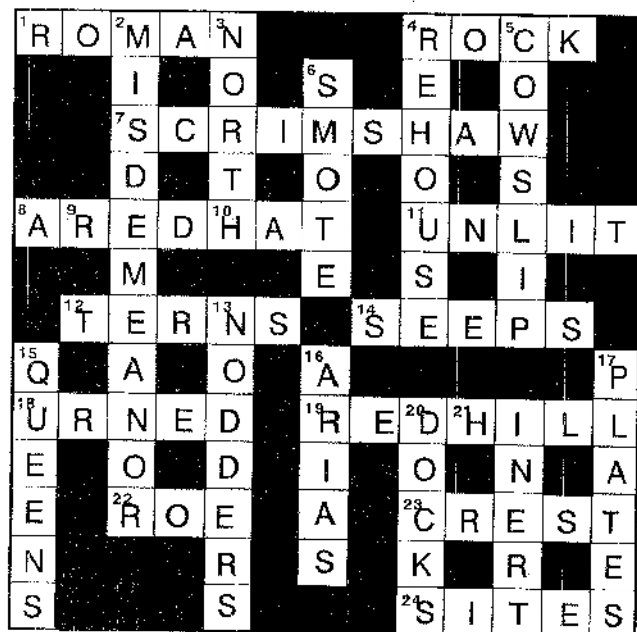
SANCTUARY FOR FIRE REFUGEES

*Vote of thanks to the SAPS for
providing a safe haven for
runaway pets during the fire.*



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Congratulations to Marianne Murray for winning our last Crossword Puzzle (No. 3). Hope you enjoy your prize from Café Pescado.

APPLICATION FORM

TO: The Treasurer
Simon's Town Ratepayers' & Residents' Association
P O Box 47, SIMON'S TOWN 7995

Please enrol me as an Ordinary Member of your Association. I agree to abide by the terms of the Association's Constitution.

MEMBERSHIP R50,00 per household.

SIGNED: DATE

NAME AND ADDRESS (in block letters please)

..... Telephone No:

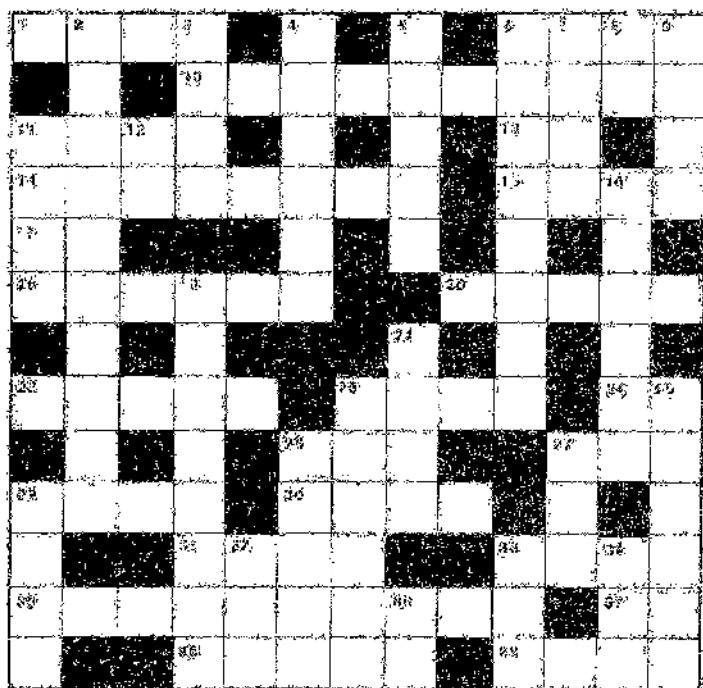
Email Address:

I am available to help with the big cleanup and can offer the following additional services / implements.

NB. For your convenience, subscriptions can be handed in at St. Georges Jewellers, 122 St George's Street, Simon's Town, in a sealed envelope addressed to our Association.

CROSSWORD

P U Z Z L E 4



ACROSS

1. Oyst. oyster
2. Baby carriage
10. Cause of change
11. Mental conception
13. Bluster, rant
14. Watchman of New York, perhaps
15. Tiny
17. Ro
18. Old smelt
20. Rooster
23. Oatmeal
25. Self-righteous person
26. District of Columbia (abbr.)
28. Haddock
29. Usual
32. Shortly

20. Sea eagle
21. As good as possible (abbr.)
22. Preparing for publication
25. Saint Nicholas
27. Sister - Partner
30. Used (abbr.)
32. Longish

DOWN

2. Walker
3. Ministry, rip-ro
4. Syllable
5. Washed jacket
6. Production books
7. Tied charge

8. Symbol for Alsatian
9. Bloom
11. 200 degrees, more or less
12. Unit of measurement in printing
16. Word used in Japanese
19. A point
21. Brown, tough to
23. Sole of shoe, etc.
24. Old French word
26. After
27. Offer
28. As well
31. Based
33. Extraordinary person (abbr.)
34. Author - Fleming
36. Symbol for Argon

PRIZE: \$100 voucher valid at Oak & Fernards

Name: _____ Tel. No. _____

- Entries in plain envelope addressed to Sneektown Calling Crossword Puzzle and delivered to Simon's Town Bot's Store before Wednesday 1 March
- First correct entry drawn will be the prize winner
- Result and solution in the following issue of Sneektown Calling.

Forthcoming Events February / March

1. SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

Tel: 786 3046

Wed 22 Mar

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF THE FALKLANDS ISLAND WAR

A talk with slides by Gavin Eyre,
Royal Engineers Commando.
R10 per person includes
a complimentary glass of wine or
fruit juice.
5.30 for 6pm

WALKING TOURS of

"The Historic Mile"

10h00 Every Tues & Sat
Ph Bobbie 786 3189 (Tues)
Ph Audrey 786 1805 (Sat)

2. THE MASONIC CLUB

Tel: 786 2126 / 782 7191

Fri 18 Feb

BINGO & SUPPER

R25

Sun 27 Feb, 11.30am

BRUNCH

R25 - Booking essential

Sat 11 Mar

MONTHLY DANCE

R10

Fri 17 Mar

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT

Stuffed potatoes

No charge

3. FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

Wed 16 Feb, 7.30 pm

TALK & SLIDE SHOW

"Hot Air or Cold Facts"

by Dr Debora Hudson, Department

of Environmental & Geographical
Science, UCT.

Simon's Town Museum Hall

Sat 19 Feb, 9.00 am

MARINE EXCURSION with
Prof C Griffiths, Marine Biology
Section, UCT

Venue: Glencairn Station,
Simon's Town

(Remember - Slip-proof footwear!!!)

Sun 5 Mar, 9.30 am

MORNING WALK ON ELSIE'S PEAK

Venue: In front of Shop 7-11
Glencairn, from where we will go to
the final parking area.
(This walk was previously advertised
for 12 March, but owing to the
Argus Cycle Race on that day,
traffic conditions will be difficult in
this area)

4. PENSIONER'S FREE MONTHLY SHOPPING BUS

To Pick 'n Pay from Murdock Valley
(Ixia Cres bus terminus), then via
Glencairn and Fish Hoek to Sun
Valley and return.

For dates, times and pick up points,
please telephone
786 3137.

Deadline for March edition:

Thursday 2 March

Publication date Monday 13 March.

Contact Pat Lochhead,

Tel: 786 2436

Peninsula Tourism - Simon's Town
(Simon's Town Publicity Association)