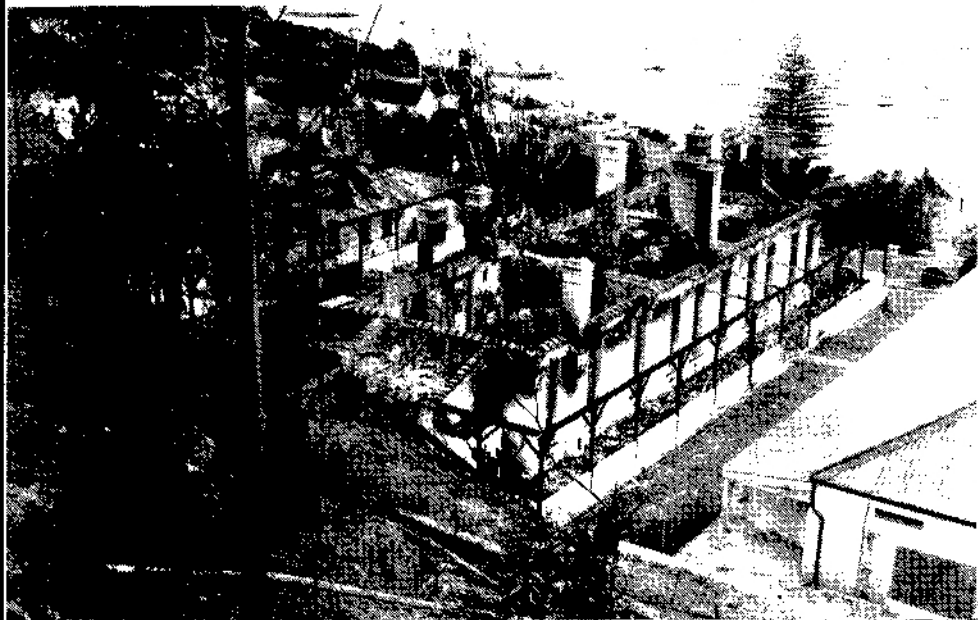


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 12

13 MARCH 2000



Sponsor for March - Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

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

Chairman:	Andrew Duncan	786 1583
Vice-Chairman:	Bruce Parker	786 2955
Secretary:	Verena Hinsch	782 7806
Property:	Bruce Parker	786 2955
Environment:	Juliet Bass	786 2362
Development Planning:	Tony Robinson	786 1222
SPM Liaison:	Neil Grant	786 1491
Fund-Raising & Membership:	Cedric Duncan	786 2538
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Editorial

We have a controversy in our town. It concerns the noise and disturbance from activities in the Naval Dockyard, and which appears to be a cause of discomfort to some members of the community. It is hoped that in the very near future our Ratepayers and Residents Association will convene a special meeting to examine and debate this issue - it is their responsibility to do so.

In the meantime two opposing, or contrasting points of view are published in this issue. Read them carefully and ponder with discretion. Is there a compromise in our midst to bring wisdom to bear? As a matter of course, essential to establish a balanced profile of the affected area.

Such a profile would need to be statistically acceptable and reliable - say at least 100 - full-time recording stations over a period of

at least 24 months; the time needed to demonstrate all the zig and zag of season and Dockyard activity. And who would pay for all of this?

Ultimately the decision is political, whereas the SA Navy is the unwilling executor of the Minister's brief. So let the Minister speak. We need to know: Is the Dockyard an industrial area and whether the desirable parameters of SA operations?

Finally, I bring to your attention the Gala Concert being organised to raise urgently-needed funds for our School - details are given elsewhere in this issue.

Dr Rug Linton, Editor
2 Chapel Road
786 1759



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Down the Historical Mile

Meneer die Voorsitter, ek stel die vraag, announced Stoffel Boesman; at this time of year we should review the results of our proposals made the previous year. For instance:

1. The extra postbox in Union Avenue, for the convenience of the older Simonites, who have difficulty with the steep slope and awkward steps to the new Post Office down Wharf Street, and 2. Moving the traffic lights away from the present dangerous location at the entrance to Jubilee Square and 3. Those red stripes; we still don't know what they are supposed to be.

Meneer di Voorsitter, said Stoffel, on all accounts, no progress whatsoever. Zilch, niekies. Dis 'n skande, Meneer, that an important association like SLAP should be totally ignored - after all we have meetings, we pass resolutions, and then nothing. The Chairman was cornered and didn't know what to do, but he was aware of the fact that Stoffel might be angling for the prestigious post of Chairman.

Piet Pompies whispered into the Chairman's ear, and after a minute of silence - to give the impression that he was giving the matter deep and serious thought - the Chairman announced that a sub-committee be formed to go into the matters and report back at the next meeting: Piet Pompies, Mientjie Boep-pens and Clara Fijnbosch. Clearly, our Chairman was learning the tricks of the trade: when in doubt, set up a sub-committee and forget about it.

Mientjie Boep-pens reported on the proceeding of the interim meeting of the Rate-payers Association. You see, Mientjie - being the self-appointed Mayoress of Simon's Town - felt it her duty and responsibility to attend such community gatherings. Well, said Mientjie, I don't know what was going on. The people grouped themselves into

seven scrums, each one with a referee who kept score on a sheet of paper. They were all shouting so loud that nobody could hear a thing.

The SLAP meeting ended with confusion and perplexity - the Chairman walked away shaking his head.

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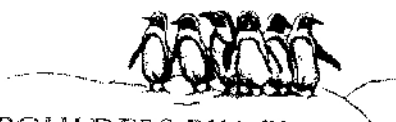
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Chairman's Report

We held a very exciting half-yearly General Meeting on Monday 28th February 2000. The format was completely different in that after the formal opening and brief report back by myself, the approximately 120 people present divided into 7 working groups to discuss what their main concerns were in the management of the village; what should be done about these and who would be able to assist the committee in actioning these solutions. Thanks to Sharon Bosma for leading us through the process. It was fascinating to see how uniform the primary concerns were and indeed, to a large extent, were those on which the committee has concentrated. The following, in random order, were the critical concerns:

- Road, pavement, gutter and stormwater drain maintenance and repair is poor
- quality and supply of drinking water
- lack of law enforcement, especially with respect to traffic control. Stronger punishment of offenders.
- SPM indifference to our requests and representations. Communication and liaison with the SPM.
- we need to be a Voice in the megacity
- Disaster management and contingency plans need to be in place to deal with fire, mudslides, alien clearing, for example. Reconsider Civil Defence.
- Rehabilitation and protection of the mountainside
- Care for the environment (includes refuse collection, cleaning, and pollution)
- Development and over-development: the need for a macro-study to ensure that development is planned and controlled, and that the town's infrastructure can cope with the planned development e.g. traffic, parking, road maintenance, pavement and verge upkeep, cleansing, water supply, environmental issues.
- Public toilets are 'not lekker'
- Limit penguin numbers
- Better supervision of SPM workers.

As agreed at the meeting a follow-up date for further discussions has been set for 19.30 on the 4th April 2000. The venue is still to be finalised and everybody will be advised by a notice on the community noticeboard.

We have obtained regular water reports on both drinking water and seawater from the SPM. We have prepared a summary of the situation insofar as drinking water is concerned which is set out below

The summary of critical Drinking Water quality parameters, 12 October 1999 to 3 February 2000 is shown in the block on the following page (page 5).

Insofar as seawater is concerned the level of faecal coliforms at Seaforth was 5000 per 100ml against the legal limit of 100 (for 80% of results) or 2000 (for 95% of results) on 9th February, 2000. Hopefully because a penguin or more had been busy shortly before the test was taken!

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Sample Point Location	Total coli/100 ml	Residual Chlorine; mg/l
	Standard: 95% nil	Standard: 0.2 – 0.4
Da Gama Park	1 out of 8 positive, e.g. only 88.5% Nil	1 out of 1 sample reported: 0.0 mg/l (far too low)
Simon's Town Admin Building	2 out of 9 positive, e.g. only 78% nil	2 results reported: 0.04 and 0.06 mg/l (both too low)
Seaforth Public Toilet	4 out of 10 positive, e.g. only 60% nil	3 results reported: 0.01, 0.01 and 0.0 mg/l (all too low)
Millers Point, Caravan Park	6 out of 9 positive, e.g. only 33% nil	3 results reported: 0.07, 0.03 and 0.0 mg/l (all too low)
Simon's Town, municipal yard	3 out of 9 positive, e.g. only 67% nil	2 results reported: 0.31 and 0.01 (one ok, one too low)

As a result of numerous complaints about noise from the crane ship a joint delegation of members of STOP and this Association saw the Harbour Master on 4th February. His attitude was that if there was any noise it was within the limits and he knew of no one in the area that had complained. A survey was then undertaken by STOP and it was found that 120 people complained that it seriously affected them. A further meeting then took place with the flag officer commanding Simon's Town who reiterated that the Navy's tests showed that it was within limits but that he would do whatever he could to find a way to lessen the noise. While attempts have been made to abate the noise, there is clearly still a problem as evidenced by the letter published in this edition by STOP. The Association has called on the SPM to undertake appropriate noise level tests so as to establish definitively whether the noise regulations are being complied

with and they have agreed to do so.

As you will note from the list of concerns, communication with the SPM and its ability to maintain, repair and provide core service facilities is of great concern to all residents. I have recently received a response to a letter I wrote to Mr Deon Kruse, the Chairman of EXCO SPM, some two and half months after first writing to him. His response is on the Notice Board and I will reply to him shortly.

The Committee has experienced some Changes over the last few months. Please refer to the inside cover for details of our committee members. Our thanks to Sharon Bosma, Joachim Zimmer and George Bowes who have resigned for various personal reasons for their contributions.

We have tried to be careful and proactive in protecting the interests of our ratepayers.

Our concern is that despite our vigilance and our efforts to keep Simon's Town's community informed and advised of current development proposals, our efforts are sometimes greeted with apathy. However, our recent workshop has clearly shown how much the community is to become involved in their club affairs and we shall be building on this enthusiasm to bring for our town and its community.

Your continued interest and involvement in what happens is vital to strengthen this community's role and to ensure that the relevant authorities do hear and listen to what our community wants.

Andrew Duncan

Snoektown Calling Supporters' Club

1. Individuals

Mr & Mrs Mike Sijmmerdal	R100.00
BE Paynter	R25.00
Anonymous (11)	R25.00
JA Allen	R25.00
Ann & Watwick Neill	R25.00
Robert W. Jones	R25.00

2. Association

Simon's Town Historical Society	R200.00
S.T. Ratepayers and Resident Ass.	R50.00

3. Corporate

Nil

Cheques should be made out to Snoektown Calling and handed in at the Simon's Town Bottle Store or post to 2 Chapel Road, Simon's Town 7875.

Please do not make donations via the Ratepayers Association. This only creates confusion.

SNOEKTOWN CALLING NOTICE BOARD

We would like to introduce a permanent classified section into the Snoektown calling for individuals and companies that would like to advertise goods and services, classified style.

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Ward Councillor's Report

1. Marine Oils property: Tiger Oats have appointed consultants to assess the site's potential and to determine the environmental rehabilitation requirements, prior to putting it on the market. This 6ha. site is potentially the biggest development opportunity in Simon's Town for many years. The site is currently zoned industrial. I am aware that many people have welcomed the closure of the factory which has been in operation since 1942 but it must be remembered that more than 400 people worked there and jobs in this area are limited.

2. Flood Alleviation Measures: The experience of last year's fire in Glencairn and Fish Hoek and the subsequent damage caused by uncontrolled runoff from the mountain slopes led to an urgent assessment of the areas most likely to be adversely affected in the winter rains this year, subsequent to the fires of January. A proactive approach to

attempt to provide protection to property and municipal infrastructure has been adopted.

It is proposed to provide protection by identifying problem areas and protecting them from the effects of mountain runoff by the following means:

*Slope stabilisation by using either silt curtains, straw stabilisation, hydro-mulch and possibly environmentally approved revegetation or combinations of these as appropriate.

*Gully erosion prevention by using sand bags, gabions or geofabric cut-off walls and stilling basins.

*Flow deflection by using geofabric, gabion or sand bag berms to deviate expected runoff around problem sites or properties.

Problem areas across the SPM have been assessed and prioritised on the basis of the potential damage using surveys of catchment size, fire intensity, expected increased runoff, expected sand silt load, potential



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damage to properties and infrastructure in flow paths. At the same time residents are invited to report any areas they consider to be at risk. A team of officials has been set up to deal with the programme of work and consultants VKE appointed to drive the rehabilitation. The Roads and Drainage Department are urgently attending to stormwater drainage system clearance.

Aerial photography of the whole SPM area is currently being undertaken. GIS mapping is also being done to assist in the proper planning for the future.

Operation "Ukuvuka" is an initiative driven by the Department of Water Affairs and private enterprise which will deal with the appropriate methods of rehabilitation of the mountain by planting of fynbos and other measures. These are of course medium to long term operations and essential to prevent future disasters as so recently experienced. The Urban Edge Study commis-

sioned by the Cape Metropolitan Council which has been going on for some years is now of critical importance for future planning and development on our mountain slopes.

All these studies and activities will also be supported by comprehensive legislation requiring landowners to clear their properties of invasive alien vegetation. Ironically government authorities are often the worst offenders in this respect. Repeated requests to Public Works Department to clear property it is responsible for has led nowhere in the past. Concerted and co-ordinated efforts will be required to rehabilitate and maintain the Peninsula's mountain slopes and natural areas - we all need to accept responsibility to achieve this.

Alderman (Mrs) Nicki Holderness Ward
Councillor: Ward 22:
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National Sea Rescue Institute - Station 10 Simon's Town March 2000

It seems that after the terrible upheaval in our community during and after the ordeal of the runaway fires nature has given a respite to all the gallant volunteer firefighters and every one else that was involved in helping a stunned community. All has been very quiet as far as Station 10 and Sea Rescue is concerned and even our Station Mobile has had little work of late.

Recently "Spirit of Free Masonry" was called out to the area of Monwabisi where two swimmers were in difficulty and the lifesavers called out the N.S.R.I. Along with the two Gordon's Bay Sea Rescue craft a search was carried out for one of the swimmers after the lifesavers had retrieved one of the swimmers, whom, they eventually resuscitated. Alas the second swimmer could not be found and the search was abandoned.

Perusal of my records shows that March last year was also a very quiet time for Station 10. Perhaps this is the rest period after the holiday season.

By all accounts Station 10 crews are generally very pleased with the new rescue craft although there are aspects that will take getting used to. In calm weather the vessel is very fast over the ground and can easily reach 40 knots which is a good 10 knots faster than the previous vessel, which makes all the difference in reaching a casualty as fast as possible. Apparently in heavier seas the vessel is inclined to bounce about a lot more and is therefore tiring on the crews. The boat has more cabin space as well as more open deck space aft which both help in making operations easier. We can only hope that all crew members will adjust to the new boat and will enjoy to operate in her.

February has been a quiet month for the Support Committee who did not have their monthly meeting for various reasons but chiefly due to illness of some members. No doubt this month it will be back to business as usual with a concerted effort at devising new methods of raising much needed funds. This is always a very vexing matter for any committee and leads to much head scratching and concentrated thought. It is no easy matter to come up with fresh ideas when there are so many institutions that need funds. All we ask of all you readers out there is when we do ask please think kindly of us because our cause is just and we are trying to keep alive an institution that is devoted to the saving of life at sea.

Would that we could help the flood victims of Mozambique!

*Yours Aye
Don Dollery*

Member Station 10 Support Committee

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Beach & Coastal Patrol

Since the closure to traffic of the new unpaved Kingsport Road, I only recently revisited my favorite beach - Water's Edge - to compile this report. As expected, it was deserted, except for municipal workers engaged to complete an eroded walk. Without vehicular access, they were forced to help the kids above the high tide mark and thereby exacerbate the situation. If only complainants had been more patient, the help would have been both washed away by waves as in the past.

Many of us blame sewage outfalls for the increased presence of kelp in recent years. It is more likely due to fluctuating climatic cycles, whereby the resultant changes in wind speed can accelerate upwelling of nutrients in the Benguela current. To a lesser extent, another cause is that probably the concentration of nutrients entering Balise Bay through stormwater outfalls and water-fault seepage.

We also blame the SA Navy for polluting Simpson's Bay. However, scientists proven otherwise during a feedback public meeting at IMT on 14th December. What little pollutants exist are traces of heavy metal mainly confined to the dockyard sediments, which are hazardous when left undisturbed. Rather unfairly, the concentration levels were compared with SAHS 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 faecal coliform was well within acceptable values - even giving its pedigree of fluctuations. However, the negligibility of it on duccoral always apply to our beaches. Of their considerable litter at times, 27 percent glass and a whopping 56 percent is plastic!

To my mind, the meeting's highlight was an address by Lt. Adm. J.E. Louw. Not only did he state the Navy's commitment to help maintain good water quality, but also to remain close ties with the community. In the latter, he was true to his word last year by

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arranging to help us clear our roads of litter. While on the subject of litter, those local residents wishing to swim at Boulders proper or its so-called "middle beach" will be pleased to know that SA National Parks keep the area scrupulously clean. Furthermore, the 24 hour security extends to Willis Walk and the car park in Bellevue Road. With the degaussing station about to be converted into an education centre, tourists intent on viewing the penguins will shortly only be allowed to enter Boulders via Kleintuin Road. This will give swimmers more privacy and less parking problems in future.

Those of us who have not been to Boulders for some time will be amazed at the changes. The first elevated boardwalk ending northward of Foxy Beach has now been supplemented by another ending on the beach's southern side. Together with the locking of gates along Willis Walk, this arrangement has ensured that the penguins are no longer disturbed. Other improvements include the demolition of old structures and covering large sandy areas with wood chips in preparation for planting indigenous shrubs. This has already happened in some patches with such good results, that alien vegetation can be gradually eradicated without causing soil erosion.

Although Boulders benefits the community with spin-offs like tourist accommodation, SA National Parks get little credit for anything. Their good work in our region was most obvious in the water catchment areas of Klaver Valley and from Pine Haven to the Kleinplaas Dam, which were being cleared of invasive alien vegetation. This included the thirsty and highly combustible eucalyptus, hakea and rooikrans. They also planned to gradually clear the slopes above Simon's Town. Unfortunately, the recent fires came too soon, but the fynbos will hopefully soon recover. I therefore wish those residents who lost so much to likewise have a speedy recovery.

Beachcomber

"Fishy Tales" - 8

Since only two readers gave me feedback on this column, it will now cease to exist. I am therefore advising those respondents that my promised article on the long-tongued pollinator fly will feature in the June edition of "Earthyear".

Other articles of mine on the marine scene will soon appear in "Divestyle" magazine. These will be illustrated by superb colour photographs from Prof. Griffiths of the UCT Zoology Department.

Bevan Pank



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Simon's Town

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February was an extremely busy month at the Bureau with 1203 visitors (half of whom came from Britain and Germany). These and other refugees from the harsh Northern hemisphere winter were reveling in the Cape sunshine, although one group mentioned their recent unplanned "African adventure" - being hurriedly evacuated from the flooded Kruger Park.

After the devastating fire in January, emergency accommodation had to be found for a Dido Valley family, who lost their home and possessions. Sincere thanks to our members Diana Deeks of Sandbanks and Chris and Jill Newton of Penguin Place for making their homes available at very moderate rentals.. As one member of the family said one positive aspect of the terrible fire was that they got to know so many members of the Simon's Town community and were

overwhelmed with offers of help.

Several of our overseas visitors commented on how much they'd enjoyed the Navy Band/ Cape Town Highlanders concert held on Jubilee Square on 13th February. Congratulations to Cherry Dilley of the Simon's Town Museum for organizing this enjoyable event.

Sue assisted the producer of an e-tv programme for children by arranging for local residents to be interviewed. Among those who will appear are Cllr. Holderness, Mr. J. Kader, Patty Davidson of Amlay House, Irene Toerien and Helen Mathers of the S.T. Museum and Mr. Cotton (trek fishing at Long Beach.)

Another V.I.P. was Miranda the Great Dane, who was interviewed next to Just Nuisance



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statue with the young grand-daughter of her owner Mr. Livingstone.

Inevitably the Navy became involved and with the able assistance of Lts. Linda Hendricks and S. Moodley, it was arranged that when the film crew arrived on Friday 25th February, a squad of Naval trainees would run across Jubilee Square chanting their marching songs. In addition as the film crew sailed past the Diving School with a party of school children, some of the Naval divers dived into the sea. A very warm vote of thanks is due to Dave Hurwitz and Captain Harry of the "Spirit of Just Nuisance" for giving a free trip on their boat to about 40 children, teachers and a few parents from the Simon's Town School.

The programme will appear in the second week in April and Bureau staff will contact all involved when more precise details are obtained.

The month ended on a high note on Sunday 27th February when the Spier steam-en-

gine puffed into Simon's Town carrying VIPs and tourists who received a great welcome from an enthusiastic crowd including Scottish Pipers and Fred the Great Dane with his Naval Dog Handler. The outing was a great success despite a howling South-Easter. Peninsula Tourism staff are grateful to Mr. And Mrs. R.Cassim of Navigators for donating cool drinks and providing reasonably-priced food for the group of voluntary tour guides who accompanied the visitors. Between 12 noon and 14.00 hrs the train departed on another journey from Simon's Town to Plumstead and back (stopping at Muizenberg). From April Spier hopes to run the steam train from Cape Town to Simon's Town on the last Sunday of every month. The Simon's Town to Plumstead and back trip will also be a regular feature. Tickets will be available at Peninsula Tourism Offices.

Finally on the 29th February, a host of members and staff of Peninsula Tourism attended a special function held at Oatlands to say



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farewell to Pat Lochhead, who is retiring. Cathy Alberts C.E.O. of Peninsula Tourism and Peter Fewell, Chairman of Simon's Town Publicity Association paid tribute to Pat for her exceptional hard work and dedicated service over the last five years. She leaves with the best wishes of her many friends, who are delighted that she'll be remaining in Simon's Town. Thank you Pat for the fine example you set and for teaching your fellow staff members so much. You will be sorely missed by all.

Charley Richardson and her splendid team as well as Lee and Annabel deserve our warmest thanks for producing such a special party. Thank you so much to our gifted artist Estelle Byrne for lurking around the office trying to sketch Pat unobserved and producing a wonderful farewell card. A bouquet too to George and Jenny Napier for organizing the financial side.

*Regards to all,
Sue Sturman*

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Ph. Heidi at 082 739 2430 for more information, or register at 66 St. Georges Street, Simon's Town.

St. Luke's Hospice False Bay

Sincere thanks to the general public who supported our stalls at the December Hospital fair. Our income totalled R3163.88 and we gave a donation to False Bay Hospital. The raffle winners were: Charmaine McQueen of Peers Village, Gladys Limbrick of Simon's Town and E. Lemann of Fish Hoek.

Our Container shop re-opened on 11 January and trading continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 09:30 & 12:30.

Special News

We have taken over the outhouses adjacent to the Fish Hoek ARP & P offices from the local nursing services and presently a team of able friends and volunteers are involved in "operation face-lift" and hopefully the container team expect to open our village shop in late April - Saturday trading 09:00 to 12:30 - when good quality clothing and bric-a-brac will be available at amazingly competitive prices. Call Margaret Collet on 786-1362 for further information.



CUTTY SARK LANE SIMON'S TOWN

Restaurant & Bar

Internet Connection

Tel 786-3798

Specials Prawns

LM Queen Prawns & rice or chips

R30.00

Smoked Spare Ribs,

300 grams & chips R25.00

Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

PROPERTY WATCH No 19
March 2000

1. CURRENT APPLICATIONS.

Only one new application has been submitted since the last Property Watch report in the February edition of "Snoektown 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. Erven 2472 and 2473 Simon's Town (off Cotton Road): Application for rezoning (to build a private road), subdivision (into six erven) and departures (in respect of building lines). The applicants are proposing to build four townhouses on four new subdivisions and to subdivide the remainder into two erven, one for each of the two existing houses on the prop-

erty. It is unknown when the application will be advertised as the SPM's Land Use Development Department has asked for more details, but it will be advertised in the local press and notices will be sent to the abutting owners. Details will be available at the municipal offices in Fish Hoek.

1.2. Erf 60, Simon's Town (Glencairn): Land Use departure application on behalf of the Waldorf Schools. The departure application is to build a primary school comprising 8 classrooms to accommodate approximately 200 scholars plus staff members on 9000 sqm of this erf below the expressway near the Gordon Haines Childrens' camp. This application has been advertised and the closing date is 9 March 2000.

1.3. Proposed lease of Portion of Municipal Land abutting Erf 457, Simon's Town: Application from the Golden Arrow Bus Company for the renewal of the lease of this portion of

HEATHER LUNDERSTEDT ESTATES cc

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



"I'm sure you'll be dying to explore the garden"

THE AGENCY WITH THE "DIFFERENT" APPROACH



municipal land giving access to their bus depot near Redhill Road. The SPM's official response to this Association's query about the proposed rental was dated 2 February 2000 and stated that because the land is to be used for access purposes only, the annual rental has been discounted and is a tariff charge rather than a market related rental.

1.4. Erf 2406, Simon's Town (Boulders National Park): Old Degaussing Station. Application by the South African National Parks to convert the existing building into a visitors' centre. The SPM referred this to the Provincial premier whose approval is still awaited.

1.5. Erf 2930, Simon's Town (Erica Road, Murdock Valley): Proposed Alienation or Lease of portion of this municipal land. Two adjoining owners' objections were forwarded to the applicant for response which is still awaited. These objectors have also expressed a desire to purchase this erf. The Property Manager has been asked to make a decision about this.

1.6. Erf 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. This application was pending to allow time to resolve the traffic and parking problems which had been raised in the SPM's report. A traffic impact study, received from the applicant, has been referred to the SPM's Spatial and Transport Planning division for comment before a revised report is prepared for the Urban and Environmental Services committee. Regarding the notice issued on 5 January 2000 to cease all illegal activities (restaurant and the shop) within 40 days, it appears that the notice was actually signed by the owner on 10 January so the period for compliance only commenced then. When asked what had happened after the 40 days had expired on 18 February, the response was that nothing had been done, to date, but that the Land Use inspector for this region would be attending to the matter, as soon as possible.

1.7. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen:

Happy Valley Home

Tel: 786-5087

We can supply:

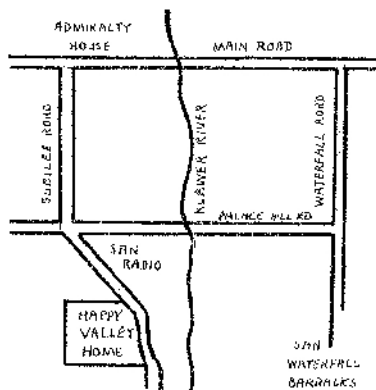
Special potting soil mix at R10 a bag of 10 litres, mass approx. 10 kg (give or take 1,5kg) varying according to moisture content. Product is sold by volume. Specially formulated for Simon's Town and Glencairn region by Dr Reg Loxton.

- Matrix of Kaolinite
- Good quality compost admixture
- pH modified to Neutral
- Excellent water retention properties
- 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.

If you have problems with sandy soils, this is the soil for you.

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Give us a call - we need your support.

Application for rezoning from un-determined use to single residential and local-
nets and for subdivision into 2 portions. This
was not approved and a new application was
submitted which is still being processed.

1.8. Ert 4718, Wellesley Glen: Application for
rezoning from undetermined use to single resi-
dential and for subdivision into 5 portions. This
is awaiting final approval by the premier.

1.9. Ert 4895, Cairnslee: Application to subdi-
vide into two portions was not approved and
the applicant has appealed against this deci-
sion to the Provincial premier. The premier's
decision is still awaited.

1.10. Ert 267, Clifton: Application to Re-
zone to General Residential. The rezoning
was not approved, but the applicant may ap-
ply for approval to have a 2nd dwelling. A new
application is still awaited.

1.11. Lot No 987, Stron's Town (Highlands
Development): Application for Scheme Devel-
opment. For Application was approved. The la-
ter to objections, apparently there were only two

submitting them of their rights of appeal was
dated 25 February 2000. This means that the
final date by which appeals must be lodged with
the Provincial Premier is Thursday, 16 March
2000. It must be noted that appeals may only
be submitted by objections who received the let-
ter.

1.12. Ert 256 and Ert 348, Glencairn: Appli-
cation for subdivision into 6 sites each 350 sqm
in extent. The only objection raised concerned
about the retaining wall to be erected on the
Hooker Way side of the property and this mat-
ter will be considered by the relevant regula-
tory departments when all the officials are avail-
able.

1.13. Ert 4837, Stron's Town (Glenwill
Street): Application to sub-divide this property
into 2 portions. A previous application to sub-
divide this property was approved in about
1992, but because it was not implemented it
lapsed. The applicant appears to have ap-
pealed to the National Monuments Commis-
sion to reconsider their objections because in

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



BERTHA'S
Southern Peninsula

1000 SPANISH CENTRE, 1 WILKINSON, STRON'S TOWN VIC 3208

a letter to the applicant's land surveyor, dated 4 February 2000, the NMC indicated that it would NOT object to the subdivision provided certain conditions are met and that the design of the new structures and the landscaping must be approved by the AAC.

1.14. **En 4880, Simon's Town:** 158 Hopkirk Way, Glencairn. Application to subdivide into two erven. This property is zoned as single residential. One objection was referred to the applicant for response which has been received and a report is being prepared for the Urban and Environmental Services committee,

which will be an attraction to visitors and tourists and will contribute to the upgrading of the area surrounding the building.

2.6. **Quarndock Restaurant - Renewal of Lease:** The leasee's have applied to renew their existing lease for a further 3 years from 1 November 2001 to 31 October 2004. This option is in terms of their existing lease with the SPM.

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

2. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS:

2.1. **Portion of En 1399 and Portion of Seaford Road, Simon's Town:** (The old Seaford Restaurant). The present situation is that the lease agreement has been drafted and is being checked by the SPM prior to it being sent to the recommended tenderer for his comments before it is signed.

2.2. **Waldschützbrand Farm (CPM1404):** Application for Land Use Departure for the Establishment of a Restaurant and Tea Garden, an African Arts and Crafts Market and Overnight Accommodation. A number of objections were received which have been referred to the applicant for his response. The applicant has been informed to appoint an independent consultant to do an environmental impact assessment (EIA) and to obtain the necessary approvals from Cape Nature Conservation.

2.3. **Existing Municipal Offices in Simon's Town:** No final decisions have been taken by the SPM in regard to these buildings.

2.4. **Consolidated and Amended Town Planning and Zoning Scheme Regulations for Sirdell's Town and Fish Hoek:** These are now available for public scrutiny and comments must be submitted before 10 March 2000. A public meeting was held on 6 March at which the SPM's Chief Town Planner explained the implications of these new regulations.

2.5. **Albion's Cottages:** Tenders for the lease of this building were invited to be submitted by 3 March 2000. Tenders were required to submit details of intended use of the premises

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Wednesday	9 am to 4 pm
Sunday	11 am to 5 pm

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Moorpark Valley, Simonstown**

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URGENT NOTICE TO RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS

REGISTER AS A VOTER
FOR THE FORTHCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

OFFICIALS FROM THE IFC AND HOME AFFAIRS WILL BE IN FISH HOOK
ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 FROM 8:00 am TO 1:00pm
(OUTSIDE THE FISH HOOK LIBRARY)

TO ASSIST WITH APPLICATIONS FOR YOUR BAR-CODED ID BOOKS
AND TO REGISTER VOTERS FOR THE
FORTHCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

- Voters who need Bar-Coded ID books can apply by bringing their passport photographs and B.S. 01.
- Voters who are not registered can apply.
- Voters who are registered and have changed their address can re-register.

BRING YOUR ID BOOK WITH YOU!
MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED!!!

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Scott & Eva
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A Concerned Simonite Reviews the Role of the SA Navy in the Simon's Town Community

Having grown up in Simon's Town and being actively involved in my community for the past 30 years, I am very concerned that a group of relative newcomers to our area, who call themselves the S.T.O.P. group, are trying to drum up support from residents to curtail activities in the Naval Dockyard.

Nations of the world but especially the Royal and South African Navies have used the facilities of Simon's Town for over 200 years. The completion of the Dockyard with drydocking and engineering facilities in 1913 transformed our town from a fishing village with a packet slip in the West Dockyard and an exposed anchorage for sailing ships in Simon's Bay into a thriving industrial complex unequalled in the Southern Hemisphere.

Through two World Wars and the cold war

period the Dockyard employed thousands of personnel, many of whom worked on a 24 hour basis. In the late sixties and early seventies, but Town was small a market town, with the forced removal of nearly ten thousand residents and simultaneously the closure of most of our hotels, establishments due to the implementation of the star rating system. The Municipality with loss of rates and the enormous costs of implementing the new pumped sewage system was beginning to make grudgingly fish stock and other sea side resorts open to a prospective buyer. Don't go to Simon's Town (they have the highest rates in South Africa).

The relative expansion of the Dockyard and engineering facilities put further strain on the Town's efforts, as roads, recreation, waste disposal and filtration etc had to be done during



Emerald Blue Promotions cc

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Your eye stop printing and graphic design house has the following on offer this month:

Personalised calling cards for individuals.

We now stock a large variety of decorative papers and boards for all occasions and printing needs!

GIVEAWAY

GIVEAWAY

GIVEAWAY

Send your name and address on a postcard to the above address and you could be in the to win perfect stationery to the value of R500.00.

Draw takes place on the 31st March.

ally upgraded for our biggest customer the Navy. After many meetings in Pretoria and with the full support of Naval Headquarters the Treasury approved a grant, in lieu of rates, for all Dockyard and Naval property in the Municipal area. We were the only Town in South Africa to receive this grant at the time. The Navy also paid for their refuse collection, a toilet levy for every toilet in their buildings, water and other miscellaneous levies. Due to the almost regular annual water shortages experienced by the Town, since the early 1800's, the Council laid and the Navy paid for, the permanent pipeline to Clovelly in the early 1980's, thus giving the Town its first ever assured water supply to be managed by the Municipality.

I do not know the latest figures but until fairly recently the Navy paid approximately 70% of the total rates income, bought approx 70% of the water produced and paid 60% of the total sewage charges levied. For many years in the eighties, the Navy paid their accounts up front and the interest alone, earned for the period before due date, was in excess of all other rates income in the Municipal area.

The Council's revolving fund grew enormously and we were able to upgrade services, road, reticulation, Jubilee Square etc. Due to the fact that we were financially independent the Council sold to developers, at a nominal price, all vacant land ie Simon's Kloof, Ricketts Garden, Ricketts Terrace etc for development which had to be in keeping with Historic Mile and the general ambience of South Africa's third oldest settlement. One of the Council's sales points to encourage developers in what is an extremely costly area of the Peninsula to service, was that we had a good infrastructure with modern facilities capable of servicing a modern Dockyard and also a garrison type Town that had a record of safety and security for its residents due to the presence of the SA Navy.

The retrenchments, financial cut backs by the Navy and general under utilisation of the

Dockyard has been of great concern to all of us old Simonites and the warning bells are starting to ring, our beloved Town might die again. Retired persons could not afford to pay for the high costs of running Simon's Town without a major contributor like the Dockyard.

Over the past years we have been very happy with the more user friendly attitude of the new regime and our Dockyard is once again a busy port generating income, creating jobs and generally ensuring that Simon's Town remains a strategic link between East and West, continues to grow and play its role as a modern port in the Southern Hemisphere catering for Naval and commercial fleets.

Harry Dilley
former Mayor and MP Simon's Town

Crazy Daisy

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

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**COASTAL AND WATER WISE
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Simon's Town Opposes Pollution

For Employment and Environmental Protection

We understand that you have been briefed by the Navy on the problem of the noise emanating from the vessel Castoro Otto, and feel you should be aware of the concerns of over a hundred households in central Simon's Town who constitute the majority of non-naval residents in the affected area.

When the vessel first arrived people, horrified by the noise at night, were assured by the environmental officer of the SA Navy that the Castoro Otto would be connecting to "shore power" once she was berthed in her final position, and would not then need to operate her noisy generators.

With much relief we waited for a return to our normal peaceful, quiet nights. When nothing happened, we made enquiries only to be told that it was not possible as the vessel needed far more power than could be supplied. This indicates an oversight in not establishing the vessel's power requirements and the noise of her generator. The law requires that precautionary measures must be taken to the satisfaction of the local authority, in this case the SPM, prior to the ship's entry if she is likely to be a noise nuisance. This, as we understand, was not done.

We all know Simon's Town is a naval harbour, and do not oppose the entry of commercial vessels, as we realise the economic benefits of using the harbour's spare facilities. During the four years in which this has been done, this is only the second time that we have objected. The first, the grit blasting incident, was a long and bitter experience which was finally resolved when the SABS proved, after significant expenditure and lengthy argument, that we were justified.

The master of the Castoro Otto told us that there are less than twenty crew on board and the ship will not undergo any significant repairs, and is laying-up here while waiting for employment, an indefinite period which could be longer than the ten months to which the Navy are committed. We do not believe that there will be much of an employment benefit to the local community during her stay.

During the past twelve years over 800 new houses and apartments have been built or extensively renovated in Simon's Town with a high proportion of them in the central area. This is almost a doubling of the numbers of homes in our village in this short period of our long history. This involved a capital expenditure in excess of R400 million. The annual expenditure by these "new settlers" mainly in the local area is estimated at about R50 million, a huge economic and long-term employment benefit for the area.

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- General Maintenance
- Managing Agents

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PO Box 568
Simon's Town
7995

TEL/FAX: 786-1567

It is time that residents were appreciated for their contribution to the local community, and not constantly accused of denying the poor employment, on the rare occasion that they criticise a dock yard activity that threatens environmental standards.

Our dispute is not with the local naval management, but with the faceless bureaucracy in Pretoria who determine policy oblivious of the rights of Simon's Town residents.

We do live in an environmentally protected residential area, as proclaimed in 1992, and are therefore entitled to the consequent benefits. One of which is to be able to sleep at night, not disturbed by a continual drone, which periodically rises to sound like a helicopter.

Please support STOP in its campaigning, not to drive the Castoro Otto from the harbour, but to silence its generator at night.

Peter Whitfield and Jan Ankerman

News from Simon's Town Naval Base

Saturday 18 March

Event: Navy Week Gala Ball

Venue: Naval Base Wardroom

Time: 19:30 for 20:00

Wednesday 22 March

Event: Fleet Pulling Regatta,

Open to the Public.

Venue: Navy Harbour, Simon's Town

Time: 07:30

Thursday 23 March

Event: Navy Ban Concert (Navy East Yard closed to the public for preparation and setting up purposes)

Venue: Dry Dock, East Yard

Time: 20:00

All events will take place in the Naval East Yard, Simon's Town.

www.simonstown.com

A brand new community site describing Simon's Town, it's history and it's beauty.

- Free 'smalls' adverts for the community
- Free accommodation listings
- Free estate agency listings
- Free web designs for your estate agency or accommodation business i.e. put www.simonstown.com/yourbusiness on your business cards
- Listed with the world's leading search engines

Low charges for hosting of websites, links to other websites and 'banner' adverts.

Email: info@simonstown.com for more information

Friday 24 March

Event: Right of Entry to Simon's Town
Parade and Official Opening.
Venue: Parade leads spectators down
Main Road to Arena for the Official
Opening.
Time: 09:00

Event: Static displays in Shed 3 / Craft
Festival in Transport Shed. Beer
Tavern open on SAS OTQ.
Venue: Transport Shed and SAS OTQ
Time: 09:00 to 17:00

Event: Tug Ballat
Venue: Outer Basin
Time: 09:30 to 10:00

Event: Ships open to the Public
Venue: Navy Harbour
Time: 10:00 to 18:00

Event: Tug Boat and other boat rides.
Venue: Naval Harbour - K Berth
Time: 10:00 to 16:00

Event: Submarine Simulator
Demonstrations
Venue: Submarine School
Time: 10:00 to 18:00
Event: Rope Work Training
Time: 10:00 to 16:00

Event: Gun Run Display
Venue: Arena
Time: 10:00 to 10:30

Event: Diving Demonstration by
Navy Divers
Venue: Harbour Outer basin
Time: 10:30 to 11:00

Event: Dog Show
Venue: Arena
Time: 11:00 to 11:30

Event: Nile Demonstration on OTQ
Venue: SAS OTQ
Time: 11:30 to 12:00

Event: Noon Gun and Changing
of the Guard
Venue: Arena
Time: 12:00 to 12:30

Event: Navy Band Lunch Hour Concert
Venue: Arena
Time: 12:30 to 13:30

Event: Harbour Patrol Boat Demonstration
Venue: Harbour Outer Basin.
Time: 13:30 to 13:45

Event: Diving Demonstration by
Navy Divers
Venue: Harbour Outer Basin
Time: 14:00 to 14:30

Event: Jackstay Demonstration
Venue: Arena
Time: 14:30 to 15:00

Event: Precision Drill
Venue: Arena
Time: 15:10 to 15:30

Event: Gun Run Display
Venue: Arena
Time: 16:00 to 16:30

Reflexology Foot Massage

Patsy Scott
Tel: 782-5976

**Also Monday
mornings at
Simon's Town
Pharmacy
Tel: 786-2133**

Event: Dog Show
Venue: Arena
Time: 16:30 to 17:00

Event: Harbour Patrol Boat Demonstration
Venue: Harbour Outer Basin
Time: 17:00 to 17:30

Event: Retreat Ceremony
Venue: Arena
Time: 18:00 to 18:20

Event: Night Gunnery Shoot
Venue: Lower North Battery
Time: 20:30

Event: East Yard Gates Close
Time: 21:00

Saturday 25 March

Event: Gates open
Venue: East Yard "Hole in the Wall"
and Martello
Time: 09:00

Event: Static displays and Craft Market,
Beer Tavern open on SAS OTQ
Venue: Shed 3 and Transport Shed,
Dockyard, SAS OTQ
Time: 09:00 to 17:00

Event: Ships open to the Public
Venue: Navy Harbour
Time: 09:00 to 18:00

Event: Tug boats and other boat rides
Venue: Navy Harbour
Time: 09:00 to 16:00

Event: Submarine Simulator
Demonstrations
Venue: Submarine School
Time: 09:00 to 18:00

Event: Gun Run Demonstration
Venue: Arena
Time: 09:45 to 10:15

Event: Bear Tent open at Seven Seas Club
Venue: Seven Seas
Time: 10:00 till late

D u n c a n B a t e s

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CELL: 082 490 9033
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MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS OF
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Event: Junior Power Boat Races

Venue: Submarine Basin

Time: 10:00 to 16:00

Event: Rope work training

Time: 10:00 to 16:00

Event: Static line and free fall parachutes
(paper plate competition)

Venue: Outer basin and arena

Time: 10:30 to 11:30

Event: Jensen Trophy Swim

Venue: Synchro lift

Time: 10:15

Event: Dog Show

Venue: Arena

Time: 11:30 to 12:00

Event: Noon Gun and Changing of
the Guard/Precision Drill

Venue: Arena

Time: 12:00 to 12:30

Event: Navy Band Lunch Hour Concert

Venue: Arena

Time: 12:30 to 13:30

Event: Harbour Patrol Boat Demonstration

Venue: Harbour Outer Basin

Time: 13:30 to 13:45

Event: Fast Roping and Cargo Slings

Venue: Outer Basin

Time: 14:00 to 15:00

Event: Diving Demonstration by
Navy Divers

Venue: Outer Basin

Time: 15:00 to 15:30

Event: Anything that floats

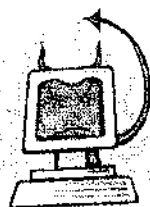
Venue: Submarine Basin

Time: 15:00 to 16:00

Event: Gun Run Demonstration

Venue: Arena

Time: 16:00 to 16:30



For all of you who think, "I'll never get anywhere with this ----- computer.

For all those people out there who are sick of reading the following: 'Girl Friday, blah, blah, blah computer literacy essential'

Are you getting frustrated while everyone else is overtaking you on the superhighway?

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So, from switching on the computer to knowing your way around the net. From R250.00 per application (5 sessions) Evenings and weekends.

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Event: Mock Air Attack and Sea Rescue Demonstration

Venue: Simon's Bay

Time: 10:00 to 17:15

Event: Jackstay Demonstration

Venue: Arena

Time: 17:00 to 17:30

Event: Retreat Ceremony

Venue: Arena

Time: 18:00 to 18:15

Event: Folk Dancers and Caribbean Dancers

Venue: Arena

Time: 18:30 to 19:15

Event: Drum Mediation

Venue: Arena

Time: 19:15 to 19:45

Event: Fire Works Display

Venue: Harbour

Time: 21:00

Sunday 26 March

Event: Gates Open

Time: 08:00

Event: Static Displays, Craft Market and Beer Tasted open

Venue: Shed 5 Transport Shop and SAT CTR

Time: 09:30 to 18:00

Event: Ships open to the Public

Venue: Navy Harbour

Time: 09:00 to 18:00

Event: Jug rides and roller boat rides

Venue: Navy Harbour

Time: 09:30 to 16:50

Event: Submarine Simulator Demonstration

Venue: Submarine Simulator

Time: 09:30 to 16:30

Event: Jackstay Demonstration Diving Demo

Venue: Arena and Outer Harb

Time: 09:30 to 17:00

Event: Power Boat Racing

Venue: Prince Bay

Time: 10:00 to 18:30

Event: Horse Work Training

Time: 10:00 to 18:00

Event: Gun Run Demonstration

Venue: Arena

Time: 10:00 to 18:00

Event: Static and aerial firefighting

Venue: Canal Basin and Arena

Time: 10:00 to 17:30

Event: Dog Show

Venue: Arena

Time: 11:30 to 12:00

Event: Tug Race

Venue: Outer Harb

Time: 12:30 to 13:30

Event: Navy Band Lunch Hour Concert

Venue: Arena

Time: 12:30 to 13:30



58 St George's St

Simon's Town

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Open daily for Breakfast,
Lunch and Dinner
Normal Pub Hours

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

*"Now well worth
a visit"*

Event: Harbour Patrol Boat demonstration
Venue: Harbour Outer Basin
Time: 13:30 to 13:45

Event: Fast Roping and Cargo Slinging
Venue: Outer Basin
Time: 14:00 to 15:00

Event: Dog Show
Venue: Arena
Time: 15:00 to 15:30

Event: Nile Demonstration
Venue: SAS OTQ
Time: 15:30 to 16:00

Event: Gun Run Demonstration
Venue: Arena
Time: 16:00 to 16:30

Program is subject to change.

Simon's Town Museum

**"The Spirit of Just Nuisance"
and
The Great Dane Rescue Scheme**
W.O. 058011580005

invites you to
'JUST NUISANCE DAY'

SATURDAY 1 APRIL 2000 11h00
commencing at

09h00 Metrorail's "Just Nuisance Train"
leaves Cape Town for Simon's Town
Museum. Tickets for the day R40,00
adults / R35,00 children.

10h15 Arrive at SIMON'S TOWN
MUSEUM where refreshments will
be served prior to

11h00 A Parade of Great Danes which will
leave the Museum led by the Old
Apostolic Church Band from
Ocean View in a procession to the
Statue of AB Just Nuisance on
Jubilee Square

11h15 A Birthday commemoration and
tribute will take place at Just
Nuisance's Statue.

11h30 The Great Dane Parade will proceed
to the Town Jetty for the Judging
of the "Just Like Nuisance"
competition.

12h00 "The Spirit of Just Nuisance" will
take you on a free ride around the
Bay and into the Naval Dockyard.

14h30 The Just Nuisance Train departs for
the return journey to Cape Town.

Entrance for Great Dane Owners will be
R10,00 each

For train tickets or further information
please contact Simon's Town Museum Tel-
ephone 786-3046/Fax 786-2391.



112 St. George's Street, Simon's Town

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Simon's Town School News

So far, this term has been an incredibly busy one. We have had our senior athletics day which was a great success, the Andrew Newton show was staged and was enjoyed by all, our computer adult training started with a class of 15 students and of course our academic year started this term. This year we are aiming for a 100% pass rate in matric.

One of our staff members, Cecelia Peters, celebrated her 20th year working at Simon's Town School, on the 1 March. During this period she has seen 8 principals come and go. She started working at the school on the 1 March 1980, and from that time has only been off sick twice.

Duens Bakery has embarked on a project to help underprivileged schools in the Cape

Town area. The result of this project will enable one underprivileged school being granted an upgrade to the amount of R250 000. The schools in False Bay have been joined with an underprivileged school for the purpose of this project. All the schools have to do is collect Duens bread bags. The group of schools that collect the most bags, will enable the underprivileged school in that group to get the upgrade. This is a very good cause and we would greatly appreciate all persons living in the False Bay area, to collect these bags and either drop them off at the school or send them with one of the learners.

We are having a special evening on the 17 March. This is the evening of our 'Afrikaanse Kultuuraand'. The evening will feature Afrikaans poetry, music and a variety of Afrikaans food. This evening is going to be a highlight of the year so be sure to join us. Please phone 786 1056 to book your seat, before 13 March.

*Learn to take better photographs with....
.....Erich E. Heinze*

**A TWO-DAY COURSE DESIGNED SO BEGINNERS WILL
BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEIR CAMERA**

LEARN:.....TO MASTER THE CONTROLS OF THE CAMERA

..... HOW A LIGHT METER REALLY WORKS

..... HOW TO COMPOSE PHOTOGRAPHS

..... THE FACTS OF LIGHT

..... HOW TO **MAKE IMAGES**

INSTEAD OF **TAKING SNAPS**

YOU'LL FIND ME AT THE KODAK EXPRESS IN SIMON'S TOWN (OPP. JUBILEE SQUARE)

TELEPHONE 021 786 1177

ALSO 5-DAY COURSE ON

'THE COMPLETE ART OF BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY'



Another event coming up is our yearly 'Fun Walk'. This will take place on the 14 April and all learners and parents are free to join. The Junior Primary will walk from the school to the beach opposite Froggy Pond and back. The Primary section will walk from the school to Millers Point and back and the High school to Cape Point and back. Learners are to be given sponsorship forms (donations only) and all proceeds will go towards upgrading the cloakrooms of the school.

The first A+ Computer technician course is well on its way, and will finish at the end of this term. The next 2 courses will be starting on the 8th and 10th April respectively. One will run on Saturday mornings, and the other on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The cost of the course is R2000. Those wishing to enrol for either one can contact Andre Erasmus at the school at tel: 786 1056.

Andre Erasmus



Simon's Town Pharmacy

102 St George's Street
P O Box 152
Simon's Town 7995

Tel 786-2133
Fax 786-1151

Cell 082 658 3106
Emergency Tel 786-1723
e-mail: linkstp@iafrica.com

Patricia J Inygs

B Pharm MPS

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from March.
Please come in
between 09.00 & 12.00
on Wednesdays.**

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Simon's Town School Gala Concert

In aid of the Hotel-Keeping and Catering School

Venue: School Assembly Hall

Date: Saturday 20 May

Time: 19:00

Performance: School Choir - 50 Strong,
Cape Town Orchestra of 25 Musicians -
Strings and Wind

Bookings: School Office Tel. 786-1056
Publicity Ass Tel. 786-2436

Booking opens Wednesday 12 April. Seating for 700 at R30 per seat.

Special Dinner

Seating 70 - 80. Four course meal. Auction of selected wines & spirits. R150 per seat for concert and dinner. Jacket & Tie "mini-mum", Black tie for the brave.

This promises to be a really posh affair. This fund-raising effort needs your full support.

Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group

Newsletter

Attendance at hacks over the last three months as follows: Saturdays: 8,4,5 Sundays: 6,3,3 Tuesdays: 3,4,2 Special hacks(Redhill & Elsie's Peak): 6,6,6,5,5.

Saturday Hacks

Date: 01/04/00

Venue: *Elsie's Peak*. Meet at top of Golconda Road, Glencairn Heights

Time: 14:30 to 17:00

Sunday Hacks

Date: 19/03/00 16/04/00

Venue: *Cairn Ridge*. Meet on De Villier's Way, off Glen Road, Glencairn

Time: 08:00 to 12:00

Wednesday Hacks

Date: 21/03/00 16/03/00

Venue: Douglas River. Meet at far end of Douglas Drive, Scroggy Ford.

Time: 08:00 to 12:00

Special Hacks - Saturdays

Date: 25/03/00 05/04/00 22/04/00

Venue: Cape Ridge. Meet at De Villiers Way off Glen Road, Gansbaai.

Time: 08:30 to 12:00

Convenor for all hacks: Peter Selter, 706 1620

Weeks - 1 (Scrubbing)

(Weather permitting. Warm and waterproof clothing though. Beater on all weeks. Bring picnic lunch)

Sunday 20/03/00

Walk to Ploegfontein: Meet at main gate, Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.

Cost: R20 per person and minimum R20 per car.

Time: 08:30

Sunday 20/04/00

Walk to Glikkies, de Houtboom: Meet at main gate, Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.

Cost: R20 per person and minimum R20 per car.

Time: 08:30

Afternoon walks are about 5-6 hours long, including tea and lunch stops.

Midnight walks

Monday 20/03/00

Walk to Klerksfontein: Meet at Klerksfontein, Cape of Good Hope.

Time: 18:00

Duration of night walks are about 3 hours. Bring a picnic supper along.

For further information regarding these walks contact Peter Selter on 706 1620.

Flowers on Blais Peak and Brekood Ridge since the the last year continue to germinate. The last 3 months have shown us 2 *Watsonia* species, *Teleschites*, *Delos*, 2 *Conium* species, several *Ruellia* species, *Diuris*, *Mercurialis*, *Delos*, *Erigeron*, *Urtica*, *Urtica*, *Polygonum*, *Polygonum*, *Lepidolobos*, *Lepidolobos*, *Conium* and the queen of them all, *Agave* - the list is endless.

Due to the late onset of bush fires, hacking and walking trips are currently low. The fire on Redhill plateau was particularly welcome, coming so soon (6 years) after the last one. Regeneration of certain plant species is unlikely to be good.

In other areas, indigenous trees, wild olive, *Mayanum*, wild peach etc., have suffered greatly. The Waterfall area to Strydom's Town has been badly affected. However, other areas will have benefited - Groot Ridge in particular. Start looking now.

Welcome donations were received from Wirt Terry and Ben and Loris Schmidt. A special thank-you goes to John Treason, Michael Selter, Carol Linde and Frances Chanler for their extremely generous donations.

Important events recently were:

1. The Green Trust Award to Redhill Conservation Group, mainly for creating Private Nature Reserve and "Hacking with Pinches" and the Cape Times Centenary Award to Alice and Jeremy G. outages for creating a Private Nature Reserve and involving the local community in afforestation.

2. Estate Byrne's exhibition of watercolour paintings of nearby Blais Peak fynbos - well worth the effort to attend.

3. Pupils of Strydom's Town High School, one each from Junior and Senior sections, received book prizes for best and most original in environmental issues.

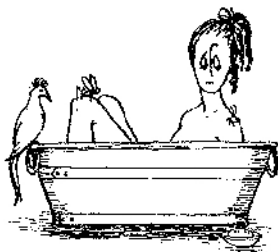
Peter Selter

A Tanganyika Journal (2)

Namanga, T.T.

November 31

I am becoming used to this lean-to, almost open air bathroom, built on to the bedroom - though I constantly have a feeling that I Am Not Alone. Sailor says when the rains come I'll be able to stand in the G1 long (official parlance for galvanised iron, long) and take a shower, because the water sluicing through the thatch will come straight down into the bath. The round G1 tub is for laundry.



My beautiful white brocade dressing gown has a permanent red border around the hem, from the dust that scuffs up as I walk across the dirt floor. Filippi washed the seersucker dress I arrived in, and ironed it carefully until

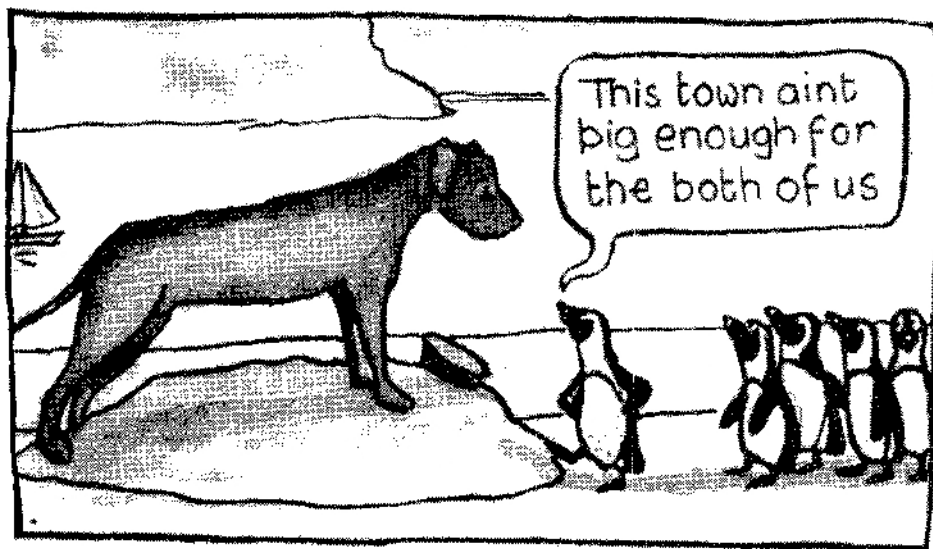
no single wrinkle was left; it would now fit an elephant, with room to spare. The iron is quite a weird contraption which uses a load of charcoal for heat; Filippi swings it backwards and forward from time to time, to keep the charcoal glowing.

December 10

Sailor has been going out each morning at what he calls sparrow - twit, and returning after 3 'o clock, exhausted and sweaty, but pleased because his contour banks are shaping up according to plan, "Filippi! Towa bafu," he calls as he wrestles off his boots, and I hand him a beer - tolerably cold because the bottle has been nestling in a bag which is made of layers of hessian (Sailors design, my execution), which is kept wet and hung in the shade.

However there's a fly in the ointment: Perrin - Browne, an ex-Cavalry something or other, presently in charge of this agricultural scheme. He considers himself to be above such pleb trifles as conservation and contour banks, P - B stated that his watu would walk

THE FOXY FLIPPER GANG



where he bloody-well wanted them to walk.

Yesterday we saw the results of that pig-headed, high-handed attitude. The rains have come, and we watched as the torrent swept down the watu's path breaking through the banks and bringing total ruin. I have never seen a grown man weep. It must have been raindrops coursing down Sailor's cheeks as he looked helplessly at the need-less destruction of his painstaking labours.

Sailor has been having a difficult time with P - B; every few days he comes up against some new stumbling block. The problem may be resentment; this man knows nothing whatever about agriculture and landuse, about growing groundnuts or any other crop - he wouldn't even know how to cut a trace. And here's this upstart Colonial, a University graduate, by gad, showing him up. There are quite a few square pegs in this Overseas Food Corporation; an ex-butcher in charge of workshops - and so on. Totally unqualified men placed in responsible positions.

The Night Sky

We are entering a two and a half year period of great sun spot activity, which is associated with either very heavy rains, or drought, so prepare for floods this winter. The abnormal sun spot activity occurs in eleven year cycles, the peak will be reached between 2000 and 2002, with a prediction of between 100 and 150 sun spots a day. The figure of 150 was reached last month. Associated with this is the possibility of seeing an aurora during this period.

At the beginning of the year sunrise was at 5:38am and sunset at 8pm but on 1 March sunrise was at 6:33am and on 30 March it will be at 6:58am. The Equinox is on 20 March, so from the 21st daylight will be shorter than night time. In the middle of winter the sun only rises at 7:53am.

The Moon

There was a new moon on 6 March, first



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"WE CARE"

quarter will be on 13 March, full moon 20 March and the last quarter on the 28th. During February the moon was far from the Earth at apogee at a distance of 407 000km. On 15 March it comes close to the Earth at perigee at 357 000km. The size of the moon can vary week by week. Defraction may be an additional cause for it to appear larger when it is near the horizon.

The Planets

Mercury is low in the east before sunrise at magnitude 1. It is easy to find as it is 2½° above the brilliant Venus. Mercury is 100 times dimmer than the jewel of the morning sky.

Venus is a wonderful sight in the early morning at magnitude -4 and is worth getting up early before sunrise to see. From next month it will become dimmer, as the planets move apart.

On 4 March Uranus will be ½° from Venus and the same distance from the thin crescent Moon. Mars in Aries at magnitude 1.2 is visible in the West after sunset and will be 5° north of the moon on the 8 March.

Jupiter is still very bright at magnitude -2.2, is moving closer to Saturn, magnitude +0.4 and the new moon on the 7th.

At the end of the month on the 31 March, Saturn, Jupiter and Mars draw closer together and will be found near the Pleiades, the 7 sisters, this is only 10° from the bright star Aldebaran, the eye of Taurus the Bull. This conjunction of the planets Mars, Jupiter and Saturn becomes tightest on 6 April, then they move apart, some becoming morning objects later in the year. Uranus and Neptune remain in Capricorn for the whole year.

Mars, which is half the size of the Earth has a year of 687 days. Jupiter, the largest planet, is more than twice as massive as all the other planets put together, with an equatorial diameter of 142 800km and takes 11.86 Earth years to orbit the Sun.

Saturn, the second largest planet with a di-

ameter of 119 300km, takes 29.5 years. The very bright morning planet, Venus has a diameter of 12 100km, which is close to the Earth's 12 756km.

Why the two inner most planets Mercury and Venus have no moons, has never been explained to me, whereas the other planets, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto each have from one to eighteen moons. On the 13 March 1781 William Herschel discovered the new planet Uranus using the 7 foot telescope he had made. "No new planet had been discovered in historic times so Herchel's achievement was therefore absolutely unique". (A short History of Astronomy by A Berry.)

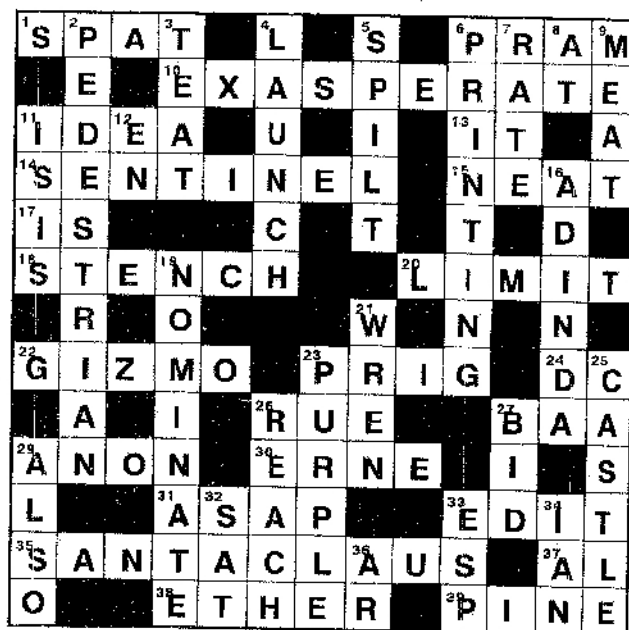
Herschel wished to use his discoverer's right by calling the planet after his patron King George III, Georgium Sidus, However this name was not accepted by Continental astronomers, so the name "Herschel" was proposed, also without success. Eventually the name Uranus was accepted. As a result of his discovery, Herschel was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and received an appointment as royal astronomer with a salary of £200 per annum. There was already an Astronomer Royal, Maskelyne, who was violently against the use of Harrison's clocks in the calculation of Longitude. Maskelyne recommended to the Admiralty a Longitude method base on the use of his Luner Table, which was accurate to ½ a degree.

This method of calculating Longitude was not accurate enough for use by the Admiralty, but as Maskelyne, the Astronomer royal, was in charge of the committee set up by the King to investigate accurate methods of calculating Longitude. He opposed methods suggested by others, as he wished to be awarded himself with the £40 000 as the successful candidate. John Harrison was awarded £1000 after 20 years work on designing and making his accurate chronometers and £8 750 in his old age just before he died on 24 March 1776 exactly 83 years to the day after his birth in 1693.

Peter van Blommestein

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Congratulations to Malcolm London for winning our last Crossword Puzzle (No. 4). 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

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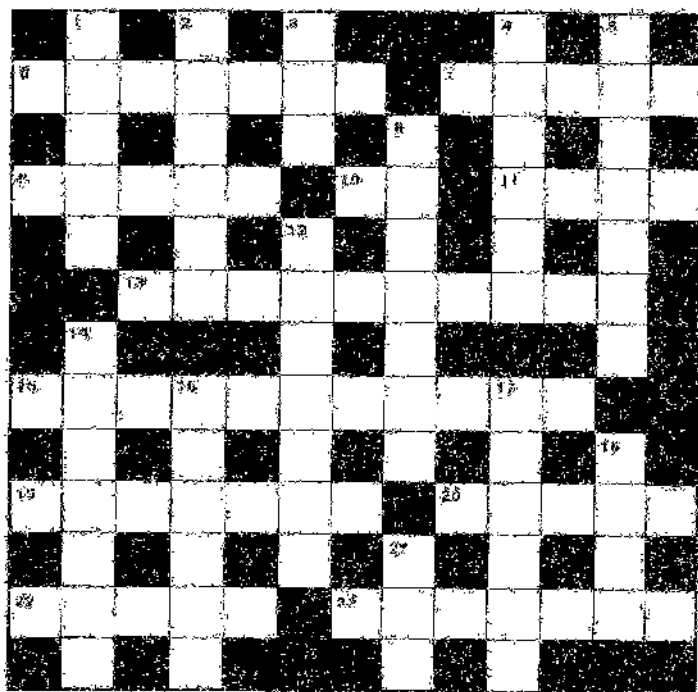
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CROSSWORD

P U Z Z L E 5



Across

5. Short-thumbed African monkey
7. Guiding lights
9. Angus contestants need this lever
10. Exist
11. Ancient Peruvian civilization
12. Extremely frightened
13. Reput
19. Claims
21. Raw vegetable mix
22. Drink empty
23. Local nonlegion heroes

Down

1. Product of bees
2. Revolve
3. Slicks caused by heavy rain
4. Look: Lady's Peak is a hotelier's delight
6. Spanish for fish
8. Is this entity that possesses of a local street
12. Lawn game
14. Sea
16. Picturesque
17. Cowering
18. Is this tree point which was observed near
21. Family

PRIZE: £25 voucher valid at Oat's Pizzeria

Name: Tel. No:

- Entries in plain envelope addressed to Snowdon Calling Crossword Puzzle and delivered to Snowdon Calling Bottle Store before Wednesday 29 March.
- First correct entry drawn will be the prize winner.
- Result and solution in the following issue of Snowdon Calling.

Forthcoming Events March / April

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 6.00pm

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10h00 Every Tues & Sat

Ph Bobbie 786 3189 (Tues)

Ph Audrey 786 1805 (Sat)

2. THE MASONIC CLUB

Tel: 786 2126 / 782 7191

Fri 17 Mar

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT

Stuffed potatoes

No charge

3. FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

Enquiries Ph. 786 3890.

All welcome.

Wed 15 March 7.30pm

Venue: S.T. Museum Hall

Illustrated talk by Yves Lechanteur
"False Bay Reef fishes - past and
present lessons to be learnt."

Sat 18 March 9.30pm

Venue: South end of Watsonia
Drive, Murdock Valley

Alien vegetation hack with SAVE

Tues 18 April 7.30pm

Venue: S.T. Museum Hall

Simon's Town Friends of the
Coastline AGM

Speaker: Ms Kim Wright of Dolphin
Action and Protection Group.

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.

5. OATLANDS HOLIDAY VILLAGE

Limited seating. Booking essential.

Wed 22 March 7.00pm

A JOURNEY INTO SOUND

Linda Muller and the magical world
of gongs. Donation / comp. basis.

Sat 25 March Workshop 3 - 5pm

MUSIC FOR THE SOUL

Arnold Fischer and therapeutic
sounds of the sandawa
monochords.

Sat 1 and Sun 2 April

Workshop 8.30am - 4.30pm

AFRICAN MAGIC

Katherine Lee and the Wisdom of
Ancient African Culture.

6. FISH HOEK SENIOR HIGH

SCHOOL - Terry Hepworth Hall

Fish Hoek Friends of Music present

CAPE TOWN CITY BALLET

in
extracts from their classical &
modern repertoire. Tickets R20
(R10 for children). Book at
AP Jones early to avoid
disappointment. 8.00pm.

Deadline for April edition:

Friday 31 March

Publication date Monday 10 April.

Contact Sue Sturman

Tel: 786 5798 or 786 2436

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