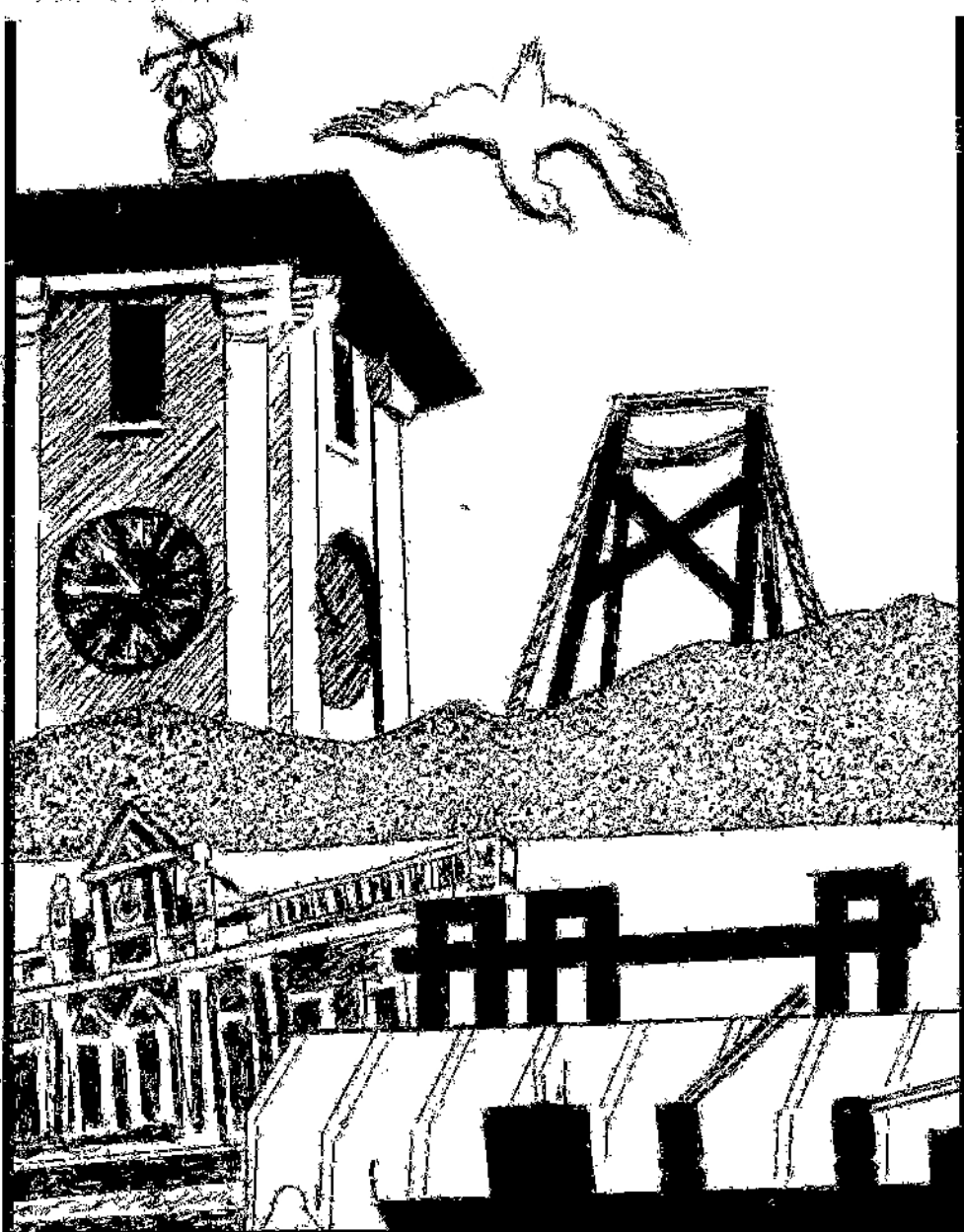


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 3

10 MAY 1999



Sponsor for May - Cedric Duncan

Editorial

Elsewhere in this issue is a notice advising registration for an update of a Classified Directory of Business and Services.

This is a worthwhile endeavour, in the interests of both business and the community. In particular I appeal to those persons with particular skills that could find a market in our town - please take the trouble to register!

The Snoektown Support Club is beginning to enjoy the beginnings of a gradual lift-off - we have a sponsor for the May issue - thank you Cedric Duncan. By the end of May, donations in the kitty should be sufficient to fund the June issue; in the meantime I shall be working on other funding possibilities.

Disturbing news regarding the crime prevention and policing facilities in Simon's Town. There is clearly an urgent need for more local community control of our security situation.

Finally, I draw attention to a very important meeting on Thursday 13th May at 17h30 at the Museum called by Andre Duraan, to or-

ganise a formal association representing the business community.

This is a very important step in the right direction, and all those involved in our community are urged to take the matter seriously and attend the meeting.

Reg Loxton, Editor
2 Chapel Road, 786 1750

Snoektown Calling Support Club

Sponsors: May, Cedric Duncan

Donations: Individuals to date R 140.00

George McCourt R 10.00

Anonymous R 10.00

Navy Week Sponsors R1500.00

Barbara Paynter R 100.00

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Down the Historical Mile

The chairman for SLAP called for a report on the event which Klasie got his throat cut; the report had to be factual with evidence from reliable witnesses: you see there were some weird and wonderful rumours going the rounds.

Piet Pompies obliged. You see Mr Chairman, it happened like this: Klasie had done a job for the Dok and we were enjoying the fruits of his labour. After a few dops, an argument started between Harold Hardekop and Wingnut Williams; it had to do with fishing in general, but in particular the spelling and origin of the words 'Alfkoort' (yellow tail) and 'Langano', the guy that buys the fish from the boats at the quayside.

Now it is important to know that both Harold and Wingnut are old experienced fishermen and it's important to get things right. As time went on the argument got rather hot and became personal, like when Wingnut called Harold a stupid moer-se-kind. At this insult, Harold boiled over - he said later that he didn't mind the insult to himself, but the insult to his mother was too much! Anyway, Harold pulled a knife out of his pocket - not much of a knife: the kind you use for slicing biltong. Then Harold screamed 'jou vark!' and lunged at Wingnut but, fortunately, missed completely; but unfortunately, with the follow-through caught Klasie a glancing blow on the neck. Harold explained later that it wasn't his aim that was bad but the miss was caused by the unevenness of the ground. Stoffel Boesman thought it was too much wine!

Anyway, Wingnut Williams took off at great speed in the direction of the station. Meanwhile Mientjie Boep-pens, who loves to dramatise everything, charges up to Jubilee Square, screaming that Klasie's throat had been cut clean through and all his blood was running out. In the meantime Wingnut was pounding down the road as fast as he could go, sure in his own mind that Harold was after him. But the steps he heard were Stoffel's, who was chasing after Wingnut to

give him the carrybag he'd left behind at the scene of the action.

Clearly Wingnut had in mind to jump into a train carriage and hide. But unfortunately there was no train in the station, so Wingnut jumped into a waiting taxi, which brought him back to Jubilee Square. But he needn't have worried because by that time Klasie had been taken to False Bay Hospital where his wound was stitched up and declared fit. Klasie was quite disappointed because he was hoping for a few days' free board and lodging. "That's the story, Meneer die Voorsitter - Harold slaan skoon mis en tref vir Klasie so 'n skrams hou teen die nek. Nothing very serious."

However, the argument was not resolved as regard Alfkoort and Langano. Stoffel undertook to find out the answer - so there you have it!

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Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

PROPERTY WATCH

No.12 May 1999

1. GENERAL

1.1. Property Rates Tax: As promised in the March issue of "Snoektown Calling", a report back on this matter follows. At various public meetings held throughout the South Peninsula municipal area recently, SPM officials explained, in great detail and with singular clarity, the decision not to implement the new land valuation system which had been previously presented to the public and informed those present about the interim system to be used from July 1999 and long-term solutions being developed for introduction in 2001. The basis of these proposals is both legislative and logistical and is rather too complex to be explained in detail here. Suffice it to say that fairness and equity have

been the aims behind the proposed rates calculations. However, ratepayers will be interested to know what the **BOTTOM LINE** is in terms of the proposed interim solution. Therefore, a short and, hopefully, easy to understand explanation and example of how your rates increases will be calculated for implementation in July this year follows:

1. This is applicable to the **OLD Simon's Town Municipal area ONLY.**

2. The indicated rates increase is **THEORETICAL** because **NO RATES INCREASE PERCENTAGE** has been decided upon, at this stage.

3. SPM's Interim System: Will include the charges for sewerage and refuse removal in the rates. Presently Simon's Town's charges for these services are separate from the property rates. It was established how much Simon's Town contributes to the SPM's **TOTAL Rates and Services bill** and how much

Pro Musica Divina

Simon's Town Pro Musica Divina continues it's concert series for the year on 5 June at St Francis Anglican Church Simon's Town. **The Decameron String Ensemble** will perform Vivaldi's Double Guitar Concerto and other pieces by Haydn and Scott Joplin. The concert commences at 7.30 pm. The tickets are R20.00 and are available once again at Simon's Town Pharmacy or by calling Dorothy on 786 2133.

Watch the local press for other exciting events this year. Arrangements are underway for a Christmas Concert and a provisional date of 11 December is being looked at. During July an intimate winter evening is planned in the Art Gallery (Albertyn Stables) featuring 2 classical guitars, a log fire and sherry. Thanks for your support and see you at the concerts!

It is not without reason that the **Salisbury Cathedral Choir** expressed the opinion that Simon's Town was the highlight of their tour of South Africa. They felt the warmth and genuine hospitality of their hosts and the full-to-capacity audience at St. Francis Church. Our thanks to Cherry Dille and the museum staff for opening their doors for the evening and for the ladies who provided and presented a delicious supper for the choir before the concert. A great deal of thanks also to the wardens of the St. Francis Church for allowing us the use of the church as a venue. Simon's Town is indeed a very special place and we are fortunate to have such wonderful people; patrons and venues. Some of the proceeds are going to the S.A. Navy Band Ocean View project which will establish a link between the choir and the young people of Ocean View in raising funds towards buying orchestral instruments for the school.

of the TOTAL Land only general valuation is apportioned to Simon's Town. This resulted in a calculation of the Index applicable to Simon's Town = -1.74%, which figure was published on a map of the SPM on page 11 in the "False Bay Echo" dated 22 April 1999. Applying this index to the EXISTING property valuations in Simon's Town results in a decrease in the CURRENT rates figures. The next rates increase percentage will be added to this to establish the actual percentage increase. Thus: 1998/99 Rates and Services + Index + percentage increase for next year = 1999/2000 increase.

Example for Simon's Town:

R12.4 million paid by Simon's Town. (1998/99 Rates and Services Income)
Apply the index of -1.74% = R12.19 million which should have been paid.
ADD the increase for 1999/2000 (pay 10% - REMEMBER, THIS IS THEORETICAL):
R12.19 mil + 10% = R13.41 million. (1999/2000 Rates and Services Income required from Simon's Town).

How the above applies to INDIVIDUAL Rate-payers follows:

1. Assume your present annual Rates and Services Charges total R2 400.00 (R200.00 per month). To check this you must refer to your rates assessment account for 1998/99. This indicates the annual rates for your property and two service charges for sewerage and refuse, plus VAT. On Page 2 of your monthly SPM account you will find the details of your account under the headings "Property Rates", "Water" and "Sundries". Under the "Property Rates" section the values of buildings and land are shown separately and, if you pay your rates monthly, the amount is shown in the "Total" column. Add to this figure the amount shown as "Monthly Increment - Services" in the "Total" column. Multiply the monthly amount by 12 to arrive at the annual TOTAL on which the interim rates formula will be applied.
2. Apply the index of -1.74% thus: R2 400.00 - 1.74% = R2 358.24.
3. ADD the (THEORETICAL 10%) increase

for 1999/2000 thus: R2 358.24 + 10% = R2 594.06. This amounts to R216.17 per month or an ACTUAL increase of 8.09%.

4. However, if a 15% increase in rates for 1999/2000 is adopted, the ACTUAL percentage increase for the above example is calculated thus: R2 358.24 + 15% = R2 711.98 ÷ 12 = R225.00 per month which amounts to an ACTUAL rates increase of 13%.

2. CURRENT APPLICATIONS

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

2.1. **Er 2293, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House:** Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. The municipality requested the applicant to provide further additional information which is still awaited. No closing date for objections and/or comments is available at this stage.


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2.2. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen:

Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and business and for subdivision into 9 portions. Despite our best efforts to obtain the most up-to-date information, some items manage to slip through the net. This one and the following one (Erf 4719) did just that. They were last reported on in March, but were not covered in the April "Property Watch" and the closing date for comments and/or objections was 9 April 1999. There were a few objections to this application which have been referred to the applicant for response.

2.3. Erf 4719, Welcome Glen: Application for rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 5 portions. Objections received were referred to the applicant whose response is awaited.

2.4. Erf 4595, Cairnside: Application to subdivide into two portions. The closing date for comments and/or objections was 10 February 1999. The applicant's responses to the objections are being processed by the SPM, at present.

2.5. Erf 267, Glencairn: Application to Rezone to General Residential. The application is being processed by the SPM and will to go to the Urban Planning Committee when the report is finalized.

2.6. Erf 3590, Simon's Town, (Quarry Road): Application for Rezoning and Scheme Departures. Appeals against the approval of this application have been submitted to the Provincial Government. The provincial premier will refer these appeals to the South Peninsula Municipality for comments before taking a final decision.

2.7. Erf No 967, Simon's Town (Highlands Development): Application for Scheme Departures. Final approval for the developer's application to build 7 housing units instead of the approved 8 units is awaited from the provincial government. An application to subdivide the property into seven portions to comply with the provisions of Section 9.1 of the Town Planning Scheme regulations is pending and cannot be processed by the municipality until approval for the 7 units is given. This Association has submitted an

objection to the proposed subdivisions on technical/legal grounds.

2.8. Erf 3234, Glencairn Heights: This application to subdivide the existing single residential property in Galiot Close into two erven has, apparently, been withdrawn.

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

2.10. Remainder of Erf 1907, Simon's Town: (off Rocklands Road in Murdock Valley South). This application to sub-divide into 6 erven has been processed by the SPM and no objections were received. Approval of this application appears pending.

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

2.12. Erf 250 and Erf 345, Glencairn: Ap-

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Arlette Smith



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plication for subdivision into 6 sites each 350 sqm in extent. The application is pending, at present, awaiting the finalization of the purchase of a portion of council land which was previously leased by the applicant.

2.13. Erf 2454, Glencairn: Application for Special Consent to Establish an Off Course Tote adjacent to the Glen Adinda Hotel, Glencairn. Details of this application are available at the Simon's Town public library. Although there is no closing date for public comments or objections, at this stage, the application is being processed through the various departments of the SPM at present. It is recommended that anyone wishing to comment or object should do so without delay.

3. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS

3.1. Portion of Erf 1399 and Portion of Seaforth Road, Simon's Town: (The old Seaforth Restaurant). The process of advertising for the redevelopment of the old restaurant is now expected to be completed during May. It has been confirmed that Council resolved that the adjudication panel for this development will include Councillors Lawrence (Chairman of Exco), Holderness and Meter, one member of the Simon's Town Architectural Advisory Committee, one member of the Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association and two SPM professional officials in an advisory capacity.

3.2. Simon's Town Station Development: The committee wrote to the developers with copies to the Architectural Advisory Committee and the Provincial Government stating the aspects of concern which it believes should receive attention and be clarified before it will give its support to this development. Despite the passage of nearly two months since these letters were sent, there has been no response from anyone. The matter has not been tabled for discussion at the last three monthly meetings of the AAC.

3.3. New Street Signage: At its last meeting on 7 April 1999 the AAC discussed this matter. It was decided to refer the proposed signage to the Traffic Engineering Depart-

ment for its comments about the safety aspects of the material from which the signs will be made and proposed method of hanging the signs.

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

3.5. Inquiry into the Building Survey and Land Use Development Directorates: The report was made available at all SPM libraries. This matter is being investigated and will be reported on in a future "Property Watch".

3.6. Peninsula Urban Edge Study: One copy of the Final Draft Urban Edge Report together with the background Technical report, both dated April 1999, is available at the Simon's Town public library and other SPM libraries. The closing date for public comment is 31 May 1999. This report is the culmination of a process of extensive consultation between the City of Cape Town, the SPM, SA National Parks, the Cape Metropolitan Council, the Provincial Government and various other stakeholders including the general public.

3.7. Cole Point Parking Area: The SPM has reported that the plans to upgrade this area are complete. The budget allows for resurfacing and re-demarcating the parking bays and a small amount of landscaping. The SPM does want to beautify this area, but the budget constraints do not allow for this, at this stage. It is expected that work on the upgrading will commence during this month and, hopefully, it will be completed within 2 months.

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

Chairman's Report

I am delighted to be able to report that there has been a dramatic turnaround in the payment of arrear subscriptions. This shows that our members care and are concerned as to what is happening in our town. We want to expand our membership base, not only to become more representative and more effective, but also to ensure that there is funding for Snoektown Calling. At the moment membership is approximately 350 out of probably some 4000 possible members. We want to increase membership to say 2000 with a subscription fee probably in the region of R40,00. This will mean we will be able to publish Snoektown Calling, to employ a secretary on a half day basis, to lease offices, to employ various "unemployed" to keep our town clean generally, to plant trees, to beautify the town etc. All this is in addition, of course, to what the Municipality does. Indeed we are investigating the possibility of following the example set in Cape Town where city improvement districts have been formed.

This means that a Section 21 Company is formed which becomes responsible to make the area safe, clean, attractive and user friendly. It includes an ability to deal with transportation, excess traffic, taxis, parking, homelessness and vagrancy and other similar issues.

It can be set up by making application for a particular area, i.e. the old Municipality of Simon's Town, by persons representing 25% of rateable property in number and value. The area and plan is approved for three years. Once the application has been made to the Council, a public meeting must be held and the plan must be advertised in local papers plus Gazettes. The Council then approves or refuses the application, or attaches conditions or the like. Thereafter the applicant must prove that 51% approve the plan and thereafter establish a management body being a Section 21 Company. The Council will thereafter charge a surcharge on rates and levies in accordance

with the budget plan initially proposed by the application, and these will be collected by the Council and paid monthly directly to the management body.

All these aspects will be discussed at our July AGM. In the meantime, to enable us to start a membership drive, we would like to appeal to members who are prepared to canvass door to door in the area in which they live to volunteer in this way. You will not only then get to know your neighbourhood, but also help to make the Association a stronger voice. Please feel free to ring us. Our numbers are up on the Community Notice Board (placed at Main and Union Streets), which has got all sorts of other interesting bits of information, as well as a suggestion box for your use.

Andrew Duncan, Chairman



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FROM R 12.50

88 ST. Georges Street
SIMON'S TOWN

Water Crisis - Simon's Town

My responses to the questions posed in your memo dated 31st March (some of which were discussed at the emergency meeting on 1st April, which you attended) are as follows:

1. "WHAT IS COUNCIL'S EMERGENCY OR BACKUP SYSTEM FOR WATER DELIVERY IN SIMON'S TOWN?"

The immediate emergency backup system is to make use of the Fire Brigade as occurred during the crisis. The Navy Fire Brigade also assisted which was also greatly appreciated.

Other factors affect the long term future supply of Simon's Town. Simon's Town relies to a large extent on the CMC's Brooklands Treatment Plant in Simon's Town for its potable water supply (approximately two-thirds). This supply is now running low - however with the current restrictions in place, should last for another two and a half months, according to the CMC. The CMC have been requested to construct the proposed Brooklands dam and to double the Treatment Plant capacity. A reply is expected shortly in this regard.

There is also a supplementary supply from a pipeline via Muizenberg (where there is a booster pump station to increase flow). This supplementary supply discharges into the Victoria reservoir from which it is boosted into the town's system to make up the remaining one-third of the supply necessary. Two new pumps have been installed in place of the single previous pump to ensure a full backup in the event of a pump failure.

A booster pump station on the line from Clovelly is also being considered. Funds are being motivated for on the 1999/2000 Capital Estimates.

2. "WHAT IS COUNCIL'S PLAN FOR INFORMING THE PUBLIC OF THE CRISIS?"

As discussed at the emergency meeting, the newspapers and radio stations were provided with a press release, "Water Restrictions" and

letters were hand delivered to the residents of Simon's Town and Noordhoek (where the reservoir at San Michel is usually the first to run dry). A subsequent news release update "Water Restrictions" went out and a number of radio interviews have occurred.

A ward feedback meeting was attended on 8th April where further information was supplied. Further feedback will be given at the next ward meeting.

3. "IF THE WATER SYSTEMS ARE IN SUCH A POOR STATE OF REPAIR, WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ADDRESS UPGRADING?"

Funds are being motivated for the 1999/2000 Capital and Operating Budgets.

4. "IF THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF STAFF, WHY SHOULD THE RESIDENTS BE PENALISED, AND CONSULTANTS NOT USED TIMEOUSLY?"

Consultants were appointed in December, and a final report is awaited by the end of July.

Staff are being trained to replace the staff who were involved in the Simon's Town area, where the network is complicated and contains 13 reservoirs. Operating manuals are being prepared.

An early warning reservoir level system is also being installed. Twice daily inspections have been carried out over the past couple of months i.e. during the heat wave.

The failure of the booster pump at Victoria reservoir occurred after the 2nd inspections, and, without a standby pump, the boosted supply into the town's system was no longer available. This resulted in other reservoirs running empty.

5. "WHY SHOULD RESIDENTS PAY THEIR WATER BILLS WHEN THEY ARE EITHER INACCURATE OR FOR A WATER SERVICE THAT IS ERRATIC AND OFTEN NON-EXISTENT?"

The billing irregularities that have occurred in the last few months stem from the com-

binning of all of the former administrations' data bases, each of which had their own way of calculating amounts due. While consultants are employed from time to time to help in this regard, this kind of change-over almost invariably contains risks of miscalculations due to incompatible programmes. Where water bills are inaccurate we do make every attempt to correct them as soon as possible.

Proposed national water supply regulations indicate that an interrupted supply should be restored within 48 hours. However, Simon's Town should have the same level of service as the rest of the Municipality in respect of water supply, and this forms part of the brief of the consultants.

6. The problems will be addressed within the restrictions of the budget.

7. "NO PUBLIC COMMUNICATION HAS BEEN ISSUED"

This has since been issued.

8. As a result of problems experienced with supply to the "deep South" areas of Fish Hoek, Kommetjie, Simon's Town and especially Noordhoek, it was recognised that a "Master Plan" for water supply would be necessary and is currently underway. (See 4.)

GENERAL

It is regrettable that the crisis occurred during Navy Week, the school holidays (both of which contributed to the crisis) and at the peak of a heatwave/dry period which is currently being regarded far in excess of a once in ten year event.

Water restrictions will have to continue for a while longer in Simon's Town, at least until the CMC dams are restored to safe levels by runoff from their catchments.

J. Koekemoer
Chief Executive Officer, SPM



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Valuation and Rating: Proposed Model: How it will affect Simon's Town?

Rates are a tax, and, unpopular though this may be, taxes collected in Simon's Town are used where required over the whole area.

The South Peninsula Municipality inherited 18 different valuation rolls when it was established in 1996. These rolls differed in date. Rates were therefore set at different levels and in some cases included charges for various services such as refuse and sewerage. In Simon's Town these were billed separately, which is the correct and sensible thing to do.

A site valuation process i.e. land only, was undertaken by the South Peninsula Municipality in an attempt to achieve uniformity. However, current and proposed legislation require valuation of both land (site) and improvements (buildings). Moreover, legislation requires a common metropolitan-wide system.

A model has been developed which uses the site valuation undertaken to determine the market value of properties as of 1997. This is then used to calculate the percentage shift in property value across an area. It is further proposed that services currently charged for separately in Simon's Town will for this financial year be included in the rates. In other words average property price increases in areas would be used in compiling the index by which rates and service charges would be levied. The basis for the distribution of rates will remain the existing valuation rolls. The difference is that the model distinguishes how much of an increase in rates will be paid.

Using Simon's Town as an example: add the rates and services income equalling R12.4 million per annum, subtract the 1997 land valuation to get the percentage shift which indicates a drop of 1.74%. The across the board rates-increase figure must then be added. Assuming a speculative 10% in-

crease in rates in the South Peninsula Municipality, Simon's Town households currently contributing R3393 p.a. would have an increase of R275 p.a. or R23 p.m, an increase of 8.09%.

Public comment has been invited on the model, which will be assessed this month and used to determine the rates for the 1999/2000 year, to be implemented from 1 July 1999. Tariffs for the year ahead must also be determined and here it must be remembered that bulk tariffs for water and refuse disposal are set by the Cape Metropolitan Council, and by the Cape Town City Council in respect of electricity charges.

Alderman (Mrs) N. Holderness
Ward Councillor, Ward 22,
South Peninsula Municipality

TRANSIT ACCEPTANCES cc

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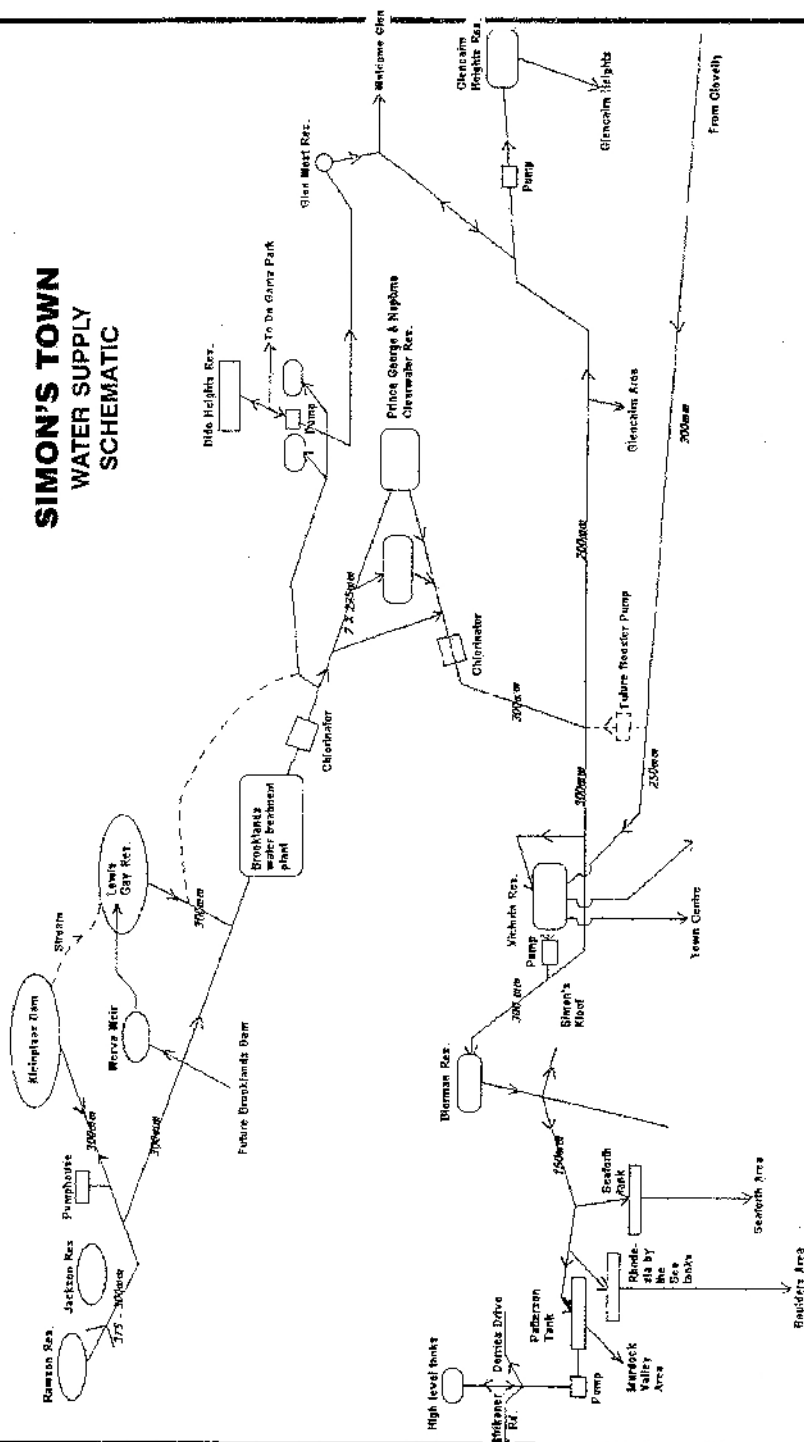
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SIMON'S TOWN

WATER SUPPLY SCHEMATIC



Election 1999: "Special Votes and Declaration Votes" Information for Voters

SPECIAL VOTES

Special Voters - that is registered voters who are physically infirm, disabled or pregnant may apply for a Special Vote using "Form VEC 1". This form may be obtained from the South Peninsula Municipal Offices at the Alphen Centre. Enquiries may be directed to telephone number 794 2493.

Special voters will be able to vote at certain prescribed venues, or if they are frail and unable to do this, a returning officer will call at their homes. The Returning Officer for the South Peninsula is Ms Di Phillips (Telephone 794 2493).

Form VEC 1 should be lodged with the Returning Officer only after the election has been Gazetted (probably mid-May 1999). Voting for this category of person will take place on 26th May, 31st May and 1st June.

DECLARATION VOTES

People entitled to Declaration Votes must be within South Africa and find that they, as a result of employment, business or study commitment or close family or personal traumas, will be unavoidably absent from the voting district in which they are registered, may apply to vote elsewhere by submitting an application form (Form VEC 4) which is obtainable from the Returning Officer at the Alphen Centre.

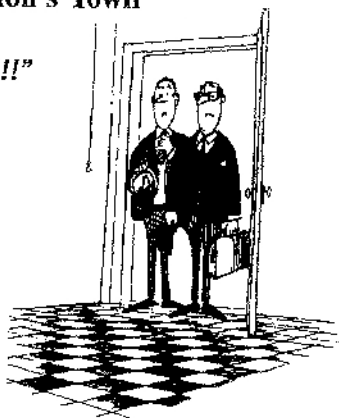
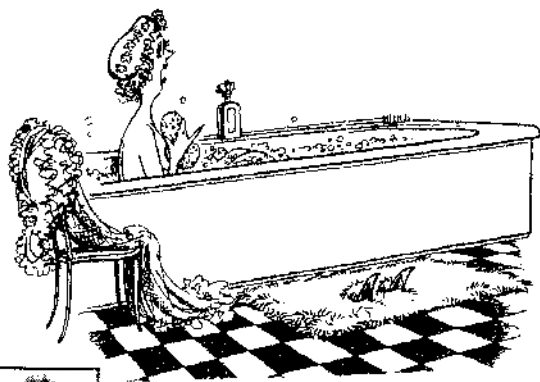
This application must be submitted to the Returning Officer, as soon as possible.

If the application is approved, a "Special Voting Certificate" (Form VEC 7) will be issued with voting instructions.

HEATHER LUNDERSTEDT ESTATES cc

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

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NSRI Station 10 Simon's Town - May 1999

It is most pleasing to learn that Station 10 has had positive results from our recruiting notices which were featured in this booklet and two local newspapers in recent times. Station Commander Chops Craig has intimated that nine new members have been inducted at Station 10 of late. Bravo Zulu to the intrepid volunteers! Many thanks to the editors for allowing the publication of notices.

Being an active crew member makes for an interesting life-style and unusual hours as I realised on telephoning Chops for some information. He had to interrupt our telephone conversation to turn down the heat on the stove. It was just after midday and he had already attended two call-outs and this was his first opportunity to make breakfast. He had been out to go to the assistance of a Gordon's Bay fishing boat which experienced battery failure and could not get started to return to harbour. On arriving it was evident that the spare battery would not get the motors going so the boat had to be towed into Simon's Town to affect repairs. Shortly after that it was reported that two canoeists were in trouble off Simon's Town's Long Beach, however, on arrival at the scene the canoeists had managed to get to the beach safely.

Not all call-outs end so happily. Two weeks ago the Station 10 Mobile 4x4 was called out to attend a lady diver who suffered a seizure at Windmill Beach. She was resuscitated on the way to hospital but sadly passed away the next day. However, about the same time a twelve meter yacht on her maiden voyage to Hout Bay, suffered a broken prop shaft. The passage had been attempted on a near windless day and the yachtsmen were unable to get anywhere without props. Fortunately their radio call was answered and "Caltex Star" was able to tow them to safety in Simon's Town. The crew were so grateful that they made a sizable donation to Station 10.

Thoughts of the fishing boat incident above bring to mind an event that occurred on board the S.A.S. Natal whilst patrolling off

the coast of the then South West Africa in the late 1960's. We were headed north, about 12 miles offshore on a warm cloudless afternoon, the alert Officer of the Watch saw, from the corner of his eye, a red flare off the in-shore horizon. The Captain, on being summoned, altered course inshore and soon encountered a small, gray, wooden fishing vessel lying at anchor under a sand cliff just outside the surf line. The ship was manoeuvred until a line could be passed and the trawler was hauled alongside. The skipper was overjoyed to see us as they had been in that position (roughly 200 miles north of Walvis Bay with only dessert for miles inland) for 10 days. They had a load of salted snoek on board, their water and food supplies were exhausted and the reason for their plight was a flat battery so the motor could not be started. The flare our Officer of the Watch had sighted was their last! Other flares fired at other vessels sighted had gone unheeded.



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Simon's Town

We took the six crew members on board where they showered and ate a hearty meal. They were provided with a replacement battery and they set off to the south for Walvis Bay in great spirits. It is amazing how an incident of this nature can rejuvenate a ship's company. Everyone was overjoyed that we had been able to save these fishermen's lives. On our return to Walvis Bay our battery was welcomed by the grateful crew. This is a job that motivates all in this rescue business. It is a joyful thing to know that you have given your best to assist others. If your efforts are in vain, it is better to have tried and failed than not to have tried at all.

Station Commander's Report

There were no call-outs to sea this month. The wave rider was on stand by last week and for the FPMC Easter regatta, Station 20 also assisted at the Naval Swim on March 27th. The mobil has had it's springs re-tensioned. Safe sailing in the winter season.

Yours Aye, Don Doherty

Station 10 & S.R.I. Support Committee

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Calling All Artists!

The alternative map of The Western Shore "Unity in diversity"

If you're wanting to produce a comprehensive colour guide of the western shore of False Bay, starting from The little white sands, in the north, all the way to the tip of Cape Point, the main emphasis of the map will be unique arts and crafts, restaurants, small bakeries, away stands, food cell that's completely different, all holistic, contemporary health practitioners, flower and herb gardens, reiki practitioners and clinics, it's asked to reflect on how to have well served, skills and talents on a guide map that will be in any place on a smaller scale.

If you have an idea that you can contribute to show you, it works for me. If you are working on offering something special to help build the community, on a daily basis, let me know.

I will be approaching the larger, more well known, well known places, to start a window in the alternative map, to become more well known. If any artists or organisations are willing to sponsor any of our new and coming artists in the map, well, any ideas, let me know, I would love to hear from you.

The shore has many hidden talents that is due to get the exposure necessary to be known. Few people can afford the more conventional advertising on offer. The hope is that as a community, we can find some form of unity, can support you to expose the many beautiful talents and individuals that the unique experience is both a local and international, it's a love and neighbour.

Those who would like to find out more are asked to contact us at 021-550-1143

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

As the prolonged summer carries on and winter approaches, our thoughts are turning to the newly coined "Secret Season" with its promise of cultural activity to encourage stressed Gautengers and others to relax in the Cape.

The "Secret Season" was introduced to some 150 Members of South Peninsula Tourism during a breakfast at Bertha's Restaurant, hosted by Cape Metropolitan Tourism. CEO Mr Rick Taylor outlined SPT's plans to promote the Cape Metro Area as an affordable winter holiday destination. Mr Taylor gave an inspiring audio-visual presentation which left his audience in a very positive frame of mind. Congratulations to Bertha's for a delightful breakfast and our thanks to CMT and South Peninsula Tourism for arranging an interesting and sociable function.

There has certainly been no shortage of excellent musical events in the deep south since the beginning of the year, with many more forthcoming attractions in the boiling pot.

George and Jenny Napier of Sans Tache Bed & Breakfast are to be congratulated on being finalists in the AA Annual Awards in the Best B & B category. They will be travelling to Durban to attend the Indaba National Travel show. We wish them good luck and hope to hear more about the show next month.

Sue has been working on a Food Route for visitors to the South Peninsula (Constantia to Cape Point). The Route indicates restaurants serving Cape cuisine, including local fish and shellfish.

Due to her research for this project, we ob-

Grassy Daisy



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Olea africana, Protea, Rhoicissus tomentosa, Streptelia reginae,
Thunbergia alata, Watsonia hybrids, Zantedeschia aethiopica.

(all of the above plants, plus more, are available at our store)

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tained a copy of Cape on a Plate, a restaurant guide written by Tony Jackman of The Argus. Visitors and residents are welcome to consult this very informative guide, at the Simon's Town Bureau off Jubilee Square.

Our bureau staff has now recovered from Easter and Navy Week including the 32 hour "dry run". (A new bucket without a hole in it has been purchased in case of future eventualities!)

One rather strange request was received recently at our bureau. It was for and art exhibition to be held in the Public Toilet next door!

**Best regards
Sue and Pat**

Simon's Town Police Community Forum

Simon's Town's Police 'bike squad' has been a resounding success. Initiated by the Forum and the business community, and with generous sponsorship from both individuals and business, the community have ensured safety within the C.B.D. The core business of Simon's Town is tourism, and both business and the Police Forum have invested money and effort into ensuring the safety of business and visitors.

The bike squad have also freed up police officers and vehicles to do patrols... this is a huge area, of 150 square kilometres. The station is under resourced, there are not enough vehicles, and the staff complement is at an all time low. Patrols of outlying areas have produced excellent results, crime rates fell.

The situation at present is not good. George Watton, our 'rent a cop' is on a training course, acquiring even more skills, and very importantly he will become part of the newly legalised form of community policing. Fact is, George cannot operate on his own, the assistance of the police is absolutely necessary.

Now for the problem... the powers whoever they may be have decided to re-deploy certain officers from the Simon's Town station for the project 'Good Hope'. They are out of the immediate area, manning road blocks and so on. Initially this was for a two week period... the period is now indeterminate.

We now have three bikes, all insured, equipment, cellphones, all donated... and all gathering dust. We also have a marked increase in crime, not only in the CBD, but across the entire area. To my mind, it makes absolutely no sense at all; because an area has succeeded in keeping crime to manageable levels, with minimum staff, but maximum community involvement, staff are removed. It is generally accepted that Simon's Town, with its attractions, is the powerhouse of tourism for the south. The community have accepted the responsibility for assistance to our pitifully understaffed police presence, and the result has been an excellent relationship between the local Police Service and the community.

Music
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Experience the uplifting and therapeutic sounds of the Sandawa Monochords, the Sitar and Tabla lovingly played by three talented musicians and artists:

Arnold Fischer - sandawa monochord
Naresh Chauhan - sitar
Moham Bhoola - tabla

A rare and touching performance designed to soothe and centre the soul in a safe and cosy environment.

R25.00 per head
Dinner optional R50.00 per head

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Booking essential: Limited seating

And then - some faceless higher authority decides otherwise. Without consultation the system was summarily trashed. We no longer have the manpower to continue with the bike squad's activities, sponsors of the scheme are understandably angry, and our local police are powerless. Meanwhile, crime is rising at an alarming rate. What do we as a community do? We pay the salaries, therefore we should call the shots. Who took this decision? Certainly not our local Police Service who are only too aware of the problems now facing this town. Answers? Who knows....perhaps if the community make enough noise someone may listen, and answer. The Forum will certainly be involved, but the Forum can only reflect the opinions of the community.

Pauline van Eck, Chairman

Classified Directory of Business and Services in Simon's Town

Readers will recall the publication of the Directory published in the May 1998, Vol 1 Issue 4. The Directory was well received, sufficiently so to justify publication of an updated version, scheduled to appear in the July issue.

Registration forms are available from Michelle (Tel: 786 1187) at the Crazy Daisy Garden Shop; registration fee is R30 and completed forms should reach Michelle not later than Monday 21st June 1999.

Persons who work from home are encouraged to register; there is a need for skilled services - there is a big market out there, so give it a go.

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Proposed Formation of a Representative Business Body for Simon's Town

As a relative newcomer to business in Simon's Town I am perturbed about the fact that there is no properly constituted body representing approximately 100 local businesses. I believe there was a 'Business Forum' at one stage. It apparently has not been functional for some time. One need not be a rocket scientist to realise that any business community needs a vibrant and active body with bargaining power to act in the interest of all members.

The recent cut in our water supply is a classic example where some businesses suffered financial loss due to alleged inefficiency and proper care by the Water Department of the South Peninsula Municipality. Other issues of common interest that can be addressed are inter alia:

1. The ongoing saga of parking
2. Lack of any traffic control and law enforcement in the CBD
3. Electricity supply and street lighting
4. Signs and signposting in the CBD
5. Safety and security by the SA Police Service and the fighting of crime in general

All these issues can, however, only be properly addressed by a business fraternity who stand united and speak with one strong voice, especially in view of the huge MEGACITY concept where we might find ourselves more lost and frustrated in the bureaucracy of Local Government.

I seriously propose that we all make a concerted effort to come to a meeting and elect a properly constituted body acting in terms of a Constitution (which I am prepared to help draw up).

The official name of this body can be debated at the first meeting which will be held at Simon's Town Museum on THURSDAY 13TH MAY AT 17H30.

Please make a serious effort to attend or send a representative. Remember, your par-

ticipation means a stronger bargaining power.

Andre Duraan

Jumble Fair

SATURDAY 5 JUNE 1999

Don't forget to visit the Museum's Jumble Fair on Saturday 5 June from 09h00 to 13h00. If you have any jumble or used clothing you would like to donate to the Museum we would be most grateful.

Should you wish to run a stall of your own either at a table or from the boot of your car, parking bays and stall sites are available at R20,00 each. For further information please contact us at the Museum 786-3046.

Cherry Dilley, Curator

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Simon's Town Museum News

"THE RESIDENCY" GHOSTS

"The Residency" which houses the Museum, has always been known for its ghostly sounds and sightings, especially during the period when the Magistrates and their families resided on the southern side of the building.

When Mr Stewart was Magistrate here from 1947 to 1955 his wife told of numerous incidents when they saw "a lady in a long bombazine dress." The late Mrs Mar-Gerrison, whilst helping Mrs Stewart prepare snacks in the kitchen one afternoon, confirmed meeting a young girl in the passage.

Recently the son of Magistrate Neethling (c1946) visited the Museum and in passing casually enquired whether the lady ghost was still in residence. The Neethling family had apparently frequently seen a lady sitting in their lounge.

Since the Museum took over the building the staff have always been conscious of a "presence" - doors open and no one comes through them, footsteps are regularly heard and on a number of occasions we have seen "someone" walking towards our office but no one appears. Frequently in the middle of a large function in the museum the lights will fail or the stove goes off and things are forever disappearing and re-appearing in strange places. As our ghost seems to be a female we refer to her as "Eleanor".

Just recently we have been very aware of "Eleanor's" presence. A three year old boy refused to go downstairs because of the "two ladies" down there. Also, in the Early History Room he met "a lady in a long dress".

Many visitors to the Museum have felt a tap on the shoulder and turned around to find no one there and some people have felt 'pushed' out of certain rooms.

We were recently approached by Mr Nunns of Fish Hoek requesting us to carry out an experiment to record the sounds absorbed by the walls of the building. We leave a

tape recorder running overnight in the cells or one of the other rooms so that when all is still and dark it will pick up any unusual noises.

The first exercise took place in a corner of the Punishment Cell (the original slavequarters built by the Dutch East India Company in 1777) and we were astounded at the distinct sound of footsteps on the stone floor, a rustling like someone shifting about followed by intermittent breathing. We could just picture some poor slave or prisoner huddled in the corner, moving his position on the hard stone floor.

The evening we left the tape recorder on in the room with the 'mystery' painting on the wall it was suddenly switched off and then on again - was that "Eleanor" wandering around or perhaps someone else visiting the Governor during his residence here or maybe a wounded sailor at the turn of the century

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when the time the building was used as a hospital?

People are so fascinated by our ghost-stories that we are now doing "Ghost Tours" for our visitors. We have also found a marked improvement in the behaviour of our school groups when told that they might receive a tap on the shoulder from a "ghostly" custodian.

Are you interested in ghosts - if so - please feel free to visit us and we'll gladly take you on one of our "Ghost Tours".

News from Naval Base, Simon's Town

Re-Naming of our Submarines

The proposal which the Navy made last year for re-naming the Daphne Class Submarines, has been approved by the Minister of Defence, Mr Joe Modise. The new names are SAS Spear, SAS Umkhonto and SAS Asasegaal, all traditional weapons of our

country and were announced by the Minister during the Defence Budget debate in parliament on 9th March.

The name changes are as follows:

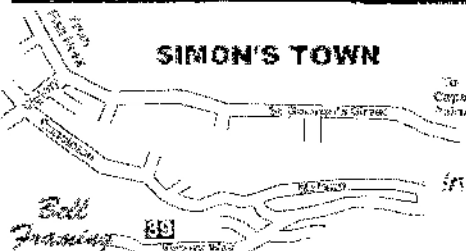
* SAS Maria van Riebeeck (MVR), re-named SAS Spear MVR was the first South African submarine, launched on 18 March 1969, which is recognised as the official birthday of our submarine service. It is therefore appropriate that the best known and oldest of traditional weapons, the 'spear' should be the name given to our first submarine.

* SAS Emily Hobhouse (EHV) re-named SAS Umkhonto. Umkhonto is both the Zulu and Xhosa word for spear, traditional weapon of war of both those peoples. In skilful hands this weapon could be hurled up to 65 metres with deadly effect. When ritted with firebrands, it was used to set fire to the thatched roofs of buildings. Zulu warriors carried two throwing spears and were not usually permitted to marry until they had proved themselves in combat by 'washing

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their spears in blood'. Thus, the name Umkhonto, is a fitting name for one of our submarines.

* **SAS Johanna van der Merwe (JVM)**, re-named **SAS Assegaai**. Shaka, the king and founder of the Zulu nation invented an assegaai with a heavy, broad blade and thick short handle, which was used so effectively in close quarters combat during the Zulu Wars. The name also has an earlier naval connection. During World War II HMS Assegaai was a Royal Navy shore establishment in Durban.

The new names of our submarines reflect the historical culture of the people of South Africa of which everyone in the South African Navy can be justifiably proud. The official re-naming of the submarines will take place on 19th May at the SA Naval Dockyard.

Guardians of our Seas

The Institute of Maritime Technology (IMT) was founded in 1975 to provide scientific

support to the SA Navy for carrying out its seaward military and Hydrographic service. Hence, the SA Navy has asked IMT to monitor the water in and around the Simon's Town Harbour in order to determine whether there are any changes in the water. They will also determine to what extent the changes are due to natural causes and/or naval activities.

According to Captain Derek Law of the SA Navy's Hydrographic Office, "When something goes wrong, the Navy is generally the scapegoat. . . . The last thing the Navy wants to do is poison the water."

Carl Wainman, an oceanographer at IMT, has established a team comprising of oceanographic students from the University of Cape Town and the Coastal Structure Management. This team will be responsible for the monitoring of the sea encompassing the area from Boulders Beach to Roman Rock Light to Glencairn Beach. Once the initial testing is completed, future tests can be run with an established baseline to compare with.

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The everpresent disease - Malaria

Worldwide, the incidence of malaria is increasing with reports of 300 - 500 million episodes occurring annually. Between 40 and 90 % of these can be ascribed to *Plasmodium falciparum* which claims between 1.5 - 3.5 millions lives per year. There are three types of malaria i.e. *Plasmodium malariae*; *P.vivax* and the deadly *P.falciparum*. Unfortunately the latter is the one prevalent in the countries of Southern Africa.

Malaria, is caused by the injection of sporozoites (the sexual phase of the parasite's life cycle) into the blood stream when an infected female *Anopheles* mosquito feeds on the unsuspecting human's blood. As part of the parasite's further life cycle, it invades the red blood cells. These cells are then severely damaged and in large numbers. After an incubation period of between 10 and 35 days, follows the symptoms of headache; nausea; low grade fever; painful muscles vomiting; weakness and chills. Convulsions may occur in children. Diarrhoea can often be a prominent symptom as well. The serious malaria (*P.falciparum*) have serious complications: malaria of the brain (delirium; convulsions and coma); severe anaemia; kidney failure and liver necrosis.

It remains a worry how many tourist still are ignorant about the dangers of malaria and how easy it is to prevent:

Personal protection measures - Visit endemic areas in years when rainfall is low; stay in well conditioned buildings and it is safer in the season between July and September. Remain indoors between dusk and dawn to prevent mosquito bites. Spray rooms with insecticides. Wear long sleeved shirts and long trousers after sunset when going outdoors - clothing preferably light in colour (dark colours attract mosquitoes). Use mosquito coils or pads in living areas at night. Apply pyrethroid insecticide to clothing and mosquito nets. Use insect repellent on exposed skin.

Prophylactic regimes are the only medical protection against the infection of this dangerous disease. A medical practitioner should be consulted - in order for him / her consider the patient's other medical history; other medication taken and allergies. The choices are limited to Mefloquine (the least resistance shown by the parasite and recommended mostly) e.g. Lariam or Meflam. In certain circumstances other regimes may be required i.e. Chloroquine and Proguanil (taken together) or Doxycycline.

Many Simon's Town inhabitants travel to Africa and Northern parts of South Africa (e.g. Kruger National Park) - please remember that malaria is not a disease to be taken lightly and all measures to prevent the infection should be adhered to.

Greetings in Health!

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The Night Sky - May 1999

A new Comet H 1991 H.I. is visible in the Southern Sky, lower than the Southern Cross at -68° (south), between Musca the Fly and Triangulum. Unfortunately it cannot be seen with the naked eye, at present, so binoculars must be used to find it. It has a distinct Coma and a Nucleus.

Recently two Minor Planets, or asteroids, have been found to have their own Moons or satellites. It was confirmed a few weeks ago that Asteroid Eugenia has its own Moon, first seen in 1983, but only confirmed in March 1999. The Moon orbits Eugenia in 4.7 days. During May nearly 50 Minor Planets are visible to those having suitable equipment. A 6" telescope is the smallest telescope required for this type of viewing. The Constellation of Scorpius, which we in the Southern Hemisphere associate with Winter, is now dominating the sky. This is followed by Sagittarius, the Archer, which is the centre of our Galaxy. The many questions asked in connection with these articles show where the interest lies.

Where do I get the information?

Star charts are available to anyone who wants to read them. The Astronomical Society of Southern Africa produces; "Astronomical Handbook for Southern Africa", for R20, from the Business Manager, Astronomical Society of Southern Africa, PO Box 9, Observatory 7935.

Some of the information I know from visual experience, other from notes I have made.

For example, there were two full Moons in both January and April this year. This will not happen again for 18 years and 11 days, when the nodes of the Moon's orbit return to the same relative positions. This is called a Saros, and is used to predict eclipses with great accuracy. Uranus and Neptune have been seen for the first time by several people, who took the trouble to find them in March. They are both in the Constellation of Capricorn, the Goat.

During May the red planet, Mars, is visible all night, and Venus is the evening 'star'. In the early morning on 1st May, Jupiter and Mercury will be in conjunction, while later in the

month Mercury and Saturn are in conjunction. Saturn, which is not very bright, will be found in Aries. The animals of the sky, called Zodiac, are of interest to many. The Sun, planets and the animals of the Zodiac pass along the Ecliptic. During a year the Sun appears to make a circuit of the sky passing through the 13 signs of the Zodiac. So many people miss Ophiuchus (December 1st - 31st). Ophiuchus is the Serpent Holder. Pluto is in Ophiuchus. The relative size of the objects seen in the sky seems to be a difficult concept for some. Using the scale of the Earth as a billiard ball 2" in diameter then the Sun is a sphere 18.5 feet in diameter, 650 yards from the Earth. The furthestmost planet, Pluto is 14 miles from the Sun on the same scale, and the nearest star + or - 4½ light years away, a pointer of the Southern Cross, would be 100,000 miles away. This model gives some conception of the immensity of the Solar System. Then we are a small part of the Galaxy!

Peter I. van Blommestein

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- Self Healing
- Visualization
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Street, Simon's Town**

Forthcoming Events May / June

1. SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

12 May

"TORONTO TO NEW ENGLAND"

A talk with slides by Audrey Road.

Time: 17:30 for 18:00

Price: \$5.00 per person

Complimentary glass of wine included

5 June

JUMBLIE FASH

Simon's Town Museum Grounds

09:00 to 13:00

Eng: 786 3046

2. THE MASONIC CLUB

Tel: 786 3927, 782 3917

Sat 22 May

Bingo R25 - 7:30 for 8pm

Fri 28 May

Music Evening - 7:00 for 7:30

Sun 30 May

Back in Time's Jam Trad Big Band

- 8:30pm

Dick Taylor is organising jazz and other music evenings. Contact Suak.

It's available for visitors to Simon's Town or Fish Hook. Contact 782 3917.

3. ANCHOR PLAYERS

Fri 21 May 7:30 for 8:00pm

Members Evening at

Simon's Town Theatre.

Acted/Rehearsed play reading of a new play "Anything But Lonely".

Director: Pat Drake

Strong cast.

New Members most welcome.

All invited to attend.

4. DATLANDS HOLIDAY VILLAGE

28 - 30 May

"DISCOVERING THE CHAKRAS"

An exploratory journey of Self-Empowerment. Energising weekend retreat incorporating yoga, healing, informative lectures and videos dedicated to the chakras.

maintenance of the chakras. Inspiring facilitators.

Sat 28 May

MUSIC FOR THE SOUL

A peaceful and relaxing concert in the Village Hall.

Time: 6pm Tickets R55.00

Booking essential.

For further information telephone

Datlands 786 1410

5. GLENCAIRN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Wed 19 May - 8pm

Annual General Meeting

Phoenix Lodge Hall

Glencairn Heights

6. PENSIONER'S MONTHLY SHOPPING COURTESY BUS.

To Pick Up from bus terminus at Ixig Crescent, Va Glencairn and Fish Hook to Sun Valley and return.

Thurs morning once a month.

For further details please

telephone: 786 3133

7. FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

Sat 15 May - 9:30am

Meeting place - Fisherman's Beach

ALIEN ERADICATION HACK & PLANTING OF INDIGENOUS SHRUBS.

8. MILLENNIUM PARTY

More news later on the big bash - watch this space!

Deadline for June edition:

Thursday 27 May 1999

Publication date Monday 7 June

Contact Pat Lockhead

Tel: 786 2436

Residuals: Trustees - Simon's Town (Simon's Town Public Association)