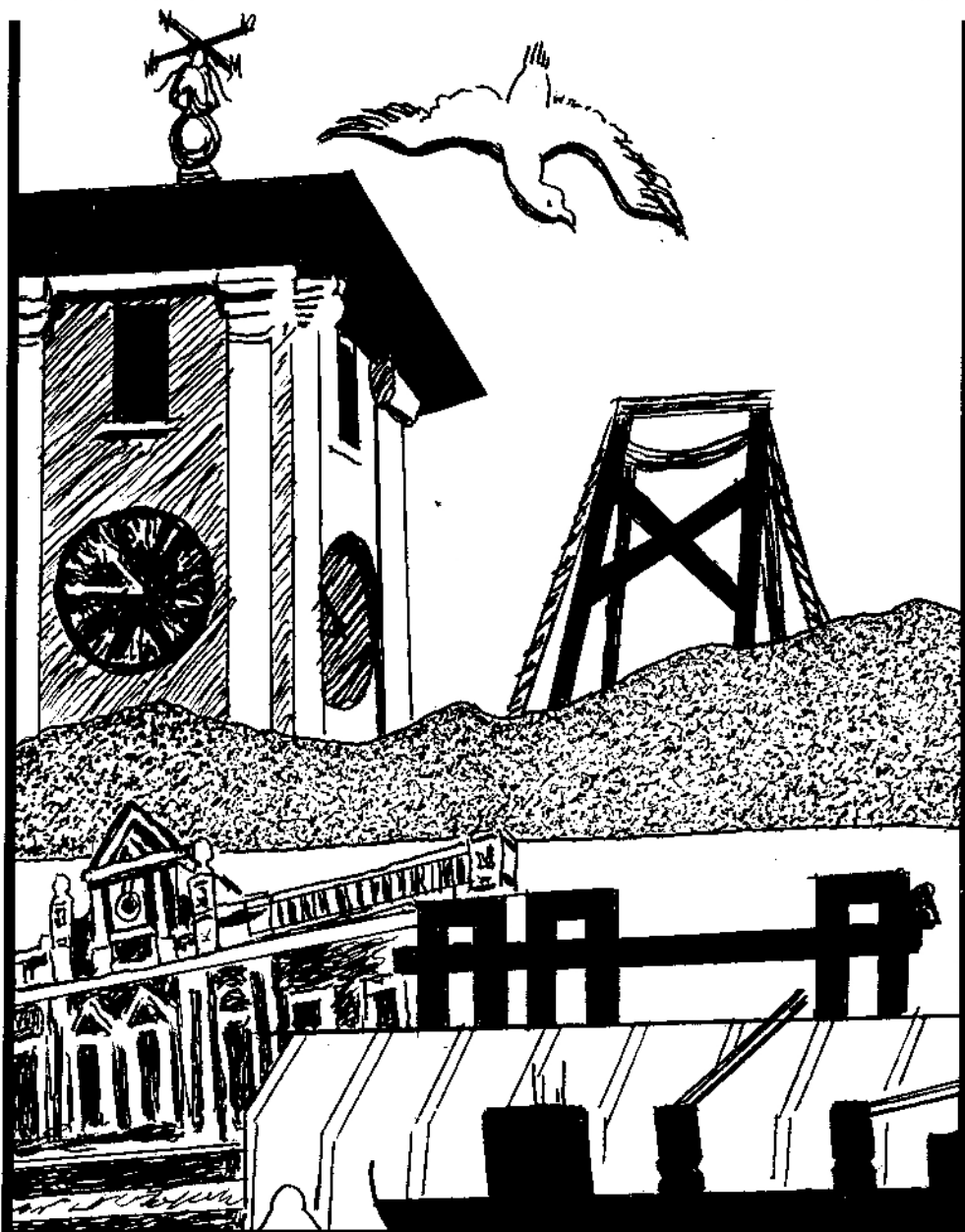


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 5

5 JULY 1999



July Sponsor - Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

Editorial

Kindly take note of further details of the annual Simon's Town Art Show, given elsewhere in this issue. End October is the scheduled date: this is an important community function and your support is essential.

There is also an update on the "Snoektown Calling Supporters Club", including a statement of accounts for June. Donations, which are gratefully received, continue to roll in, but clearly not enough to cover costs. In recent issues it will be seen that at least half of the space is taken up with affairs directly related to Ratepayers & Residents Association! So what should our plans be for the future of this important community publication?

Speaking of this Association: remember the very important AGM scheduled for Wednesday 21 July. Very important matters need to be debated, and critical decisions will have to be made as regards the future of Simon's Town. If you care, be there.

Finally, and with deep regret, I record the passing away of two people of importance in our community: Elizabeth Biggs, one-time Curator of our Museum and also very active in the Historical Society, and Raymond Cader, a true Simonite and dedicated member of the community.

Reg Loxton, Editor
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Down the Historical Mile

The June meeting of SLAP took some days to get organised - what with all the rain and cold at night it wasn't a "lekker" time for anything formal like a meeting. It should be remembered that members of SLAP are generally open-air guys and winter is a real problem for most of our folk. Anyway, we make do as best we can!

Now the Chairman tabled a letter from Felix, all about littering, and he signs himself "Litter Bugger". Everyone had some strong comment to make, in particular Mientjie Boep-pens, who resented the implications that members of SLAP were vagrants, street children etc. After all, wasn't she herself, Mientjie, a potential candidate for Mayor of Simon's Town? Ay nee! meneer die Voorsitter, dis 'n skandiel!

Piet Pompies, who was regarded as the spokesman on the "Keep Simon's Town Clean Campaign", summarized the consensus of the meeting: Felix was on the right track in general, but in particular, he was lost. No sire - forming groups like Boy Scout teams, to charge around cleaning up was doomed to failure. Follow the Dok's idea and adopt one or more streets and pay a few bucks now and again to keep the place clean. It has been reported that the Dok is investing in a spray pump and muti to control the weeds. That's the way to go Felix, forget about the Boy Scout effort. There are plenty of SLAP members who would welcome the odd clean-up job now and then.

Piet reported that there were other folk helping with the "Keep Simon's Town Clean" campaign: a couple of ladies at Boulders Beach, one lady at Windmill Beach, one OB who patrolled Red Hill Road; and it is said that Bobby Johnson is checking out Pishoek steps. SLAP felt very strongly that there should be more refuse bins about. Ja Meneer, if there is not bin nearby, you chuck it on the deck!

Clara Fijnbosch reported on Aunt Constance Nienaber's attendance at the last Pro Musica concert in St Francis Church. She said she was most impressed with the music and the behaviour of the audience - really perfect, and not an applause out of place. But, ag siestag! the Hall was only half-full. Footitog, the performance deserved better. Come one, the gentle folk of Simon's Town: let us support our cultural events!

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Matters affecting Simon's Town Residents and Ratepayers

1. REFUSE COLLECTION

The current separate charge for refuse collection will not be levied in the next financial year, i.e. from 1 July 1989. Further investigation is being undertaken regarding a pilot project in Simon's Town on recycling. This will have to involve some financial re-arranging so as to give people an incentive to participate.

Trade refuse agreements are to be drawn up with all businesses, as some businesses generate more refuse than others. Please note that some public houses and bed and breakfast facilities may also require a trade agreement.

2. TARIFFS

Tariffs for all aspects of municipal services have been increased. These will be available at the library. These increases are for public consumption before implementation but I do believe the public participation in this process is not sufficient and a better system must be developed. Focus is always placed on the rates increases but tariffs affect many aspects of our lives e.g. installing pipe apparatus.

3. STORM DAMAGE

The application to the CMC for financial assistance to cover the cost of the remedial work necessary after the storm damage of April 1988 has been successful and R1.3 million has been allocated. It must be remembered that the SPM also had to carry the fire-fighting costs of more than R200,000. There are capital works which need to be undertaken to improve existing drainage systems in Glenamain Heights and further funding will be applied for.

4. NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS (PM 827/1988)

These have been published by the Minister of Environmental Affairs under section 25 of

the Environmental Conservation Act (No. 73 of 1989).

The regulations differentiate between two specific categories of noise namely "noise nuisance" and "disturbing noise".

Disturbing noise refers to noise which exceeds a specific ambient sound level and requires measurement by means of specialised equipment. In terms of regulation 5, disturbing noise is prohibited.

Noise nuisance is defined as "any sound which disturbs or impairs or may disturb or impair the convenience or power of any person". Clearly the latter category will not require specialised measurements but rather specific complaints by individuals. Regulation 5 prohibits specific activities when they cause a noise nuisance. The list includes, inter alia, noise nuisance caused by animals, construction work, televisions, loudspeakers etcetera. The majority of the existing by-laws and regulations which pertain to noise require specific decibel readings and as in many cases complaints did not lead to prosecution as equipment was not always available or the cases, although disruptive to individuals, did not have a sufficiently high decibel reading. By creating two categories of noise the regulations allow for prosecution for a wider range of infringements and testing equipment is not always required. It must however be kept in mind that complaints will need to give statements regarding the nuisance created and may also be required to testify in court.

All local authorities are required to apply the Noise Regulations but they have far-reaching implications and there is some overlapping with other legislation which needs to be investigated. Various sections of the local authority will be involved in implementation and new administrative procedures put in place in order to apply and enforce the Regulations effectively. It is recommended that noise be reported on to Council with

three months.

5. THE ARCHITECTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This advisory body was set up by the former Simon's Town Council in 1987 to assist Council in the conservation of the urban fabric of the town. Urban conservation is a statutory obligation for a local authority. The central portion of the town was declared a Special Zone, i.e. one of special architectural or historic interest, in 1993 [P.N. 565/1993]. I quote from the proclamation:

8.9.1.1 The purpose of these conditions is to ensure that the central area of Simon's Town will retain its particular character and atmosphere by the preservation of external appearances of all buildings in the area and the control of the designs of alterations or of new buildings, decoration thereof and the erection of signs, to ensure that a satisfactory harmony is achieved in external appearances.

8.9.1.3 Any new building or alterations to buildings shall be permitted only if the Council is satisfied that such work is in respect of design, style and decoration in conformity with the general atmosphere and character of the appearances of buildings in the area..... The Council's decision as to the acceptability of the plans shall be final.

8.9.1.4 The Council may engage professional architectural consultants to assist in assessing the acceptability of any plan submitted.

The AAC consists of professional members who volunteer their services without charge, together with representatives of the Simon's Town Historical Society and the Simon's Town Ratepayers and Residents' Association. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month and any person who wishes to discuss their plan with the committee is welcome to attend. Special meetings can be arranged.

The AAC makes recommendations on plans to the Council. It has also been required by the Council and the Premier in terms of ap-

provals for a specific project to comment on proposals outside of the Special Zone. Any person whose plans have not been recommended by the AAC may appeal to Council and there have been occasions where Council has approved such plans. Obviously this prerogative is not lightly or frivolously exercised. The SPM does not have an urban conservation unit as Cape Town City Council has, so it relies on the invaluable contribution of outside expertise, not only in Simon's Town but also in the other urban conservation areas in its jurisdiction.

The AAC is currently reviewing the original guidelines for development in the Special Zone. These will be available soon. It must also be remembered that certain townships such as Simonskloof and King Edward's Rest have their own sets of guidelines which have to be respected.

In the declaration of the central portion of Simon's Town, that is from the station to Belmont Road, as a Special Zone, there was

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a recognition of an architectural form which reflected the history and culture of the town. Much was destroyed by the arbitrary action of the state in implementing the Group Areas Act and demolishing numbers of historic homes of the dispossessed. Everyone who now is fortunate enough to live in this special area should ask these questions: will my building enhance or detract from the surroundings and will it benefit the historic area?

The function of the AAC is to assist Council in the promotion of integrated growth and development which uses the scale and design forms and architectural language which relate to the life of the community and the ambience of Simon's Town.

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

Friends of the Simon's Town Library

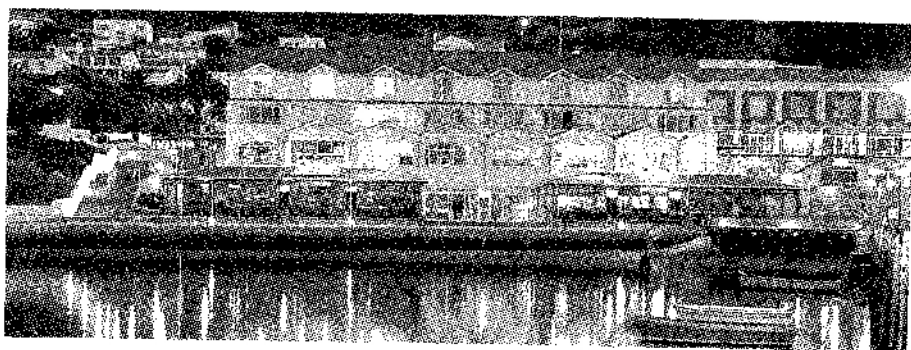
The Food Sale held on 5 June at the museum netted an amount of R600. Once again we would like to give grateful thanks to all those who so very cheerfully and generously donated in cash and kind to this event.

We would also like to thank Cookie Eddles for her very generous donation of a toy Clown for the purpose of a raffle. This has been won by Mr P B Hill and the amount realised was R170 giving a total amount for the June effort of R770.

Thank you Friends for you continued support.

Bobby van Vuuren (Convenor)

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Chairman's Report

As was set out in last "Snoek Town Calling", the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be taking place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21 July. The Agenda follows at the foot of this report. The purpose of the meeting is so that you can air your views, concerns and ideas.

The half-yearly meeting was well attended and a variety of subjects were discussed. Those present completed a "Priorities" questionnaire. Top of the issues was crime, followed by drinking water, then land use and maintenance of roads. Have they changed? What was apparent to all concerned was that unless our community looked after itself no one else would. To achieve this, we need a vibrant Resident and Ratepayers' Association supported by all, or a substantial majority of local citizens. The Association, with some 350 members cannot be called "representative". Nevertheless the committee has been pro-active and effective on behalf of

Ratepayers in every possible way.

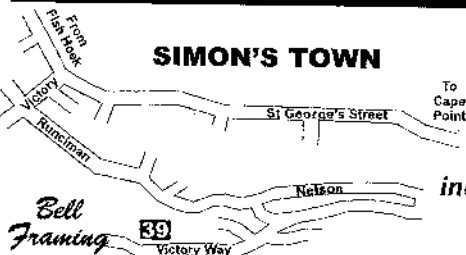
At the meeting we will be discussing and arranging a new membership drive and I would ask that anyone who is willing to assist should volunteer as soon as possible or at the meeting. We also need assistance both on the committee and on sub-committees to look after the numerous portfolios which the committee operates. A new committee will be elected at the meeting. We want to know how we can do a better job for the community and need your views and help in this regard.

Members of the committee recently attended a two-day strategy workshop to identify how it could become more effective and what its real focus should be. I will report briefly in this regard at the Annual General Meeting, but in essence the committee is there to bring to the notice of the Municipality through our Councillor or directly to officials, any problem areas which exist, or im-

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provements that can be brought about, relating to the management of Civic matters within Simon's Town. This is a fairly broad spectrum. The more focussed the Association is, the more it will be able to achieve its goals. We do not want to interfere with other bodies' capabilities and interests such as The Historical Society or Friends of the Coastline, etc. We have to arrange an office to do this; a filing system; portfolio committees to deal with Coastal Management reports, Urban Edge planning, Tourism, Integrated development and so on. The list is ENDLESS. In this vein we spent time with Navy officials and have agreed on ways to beautify the town including the removal of barbed wire in various areas. We have discussed the planting of trees along the entrance to Simon's Town along the pavement leading to the station. The Municipality will happily plant trees but need residents to volunteer to water the trees from time to time. Can you help in this regard?

On environmental affairs, the committee's portfolio is particularly active having met with and spoken to Marine Oil as to whether or not they will close down the factory, how to transform this area and the recent oil spill. We also thoroughly investigated the real causes for the recent water supply failure and made plain our concerns to municipal officials.

We are concerned to assist the Municipality in every way possible to keep Simon's Town clean and are planning a clean-up operation from Murdoch Valley through to the entrance to Simon's Town using unemployed locals! Can you help or lend us your gardener for the day! While the Bottle and Newspaper Container Banks are well used by residents, other articles are left dumped close by or carelessly placed in the banks so that the area is awash in glass and bits of paper. If you want garden refuse or vegetation removed, the Municipality will remove it at a quoted cost on being telephoned at 7861115. Use or lose this service. Do not dump the refuse at the first available vacant plot! If you see someone doing this, phone the municipality or us.

We will also discuss the formation of a Sec-

tion 21 Company at the meeting to take over or supplement Municipal services in keeping Simon's Town a clean, safe and peaceful sanctuary.

Andrew Duncan

As always, we can only do this with your assistance and support. Please complete the attached application form for membership and become a member.

Please enrol me as a Member of your Association. I agree to abide by the terms of the Association's Constitution. Herewith R50.00 for the year 2000 subscription fee due as at July 1999).

- I am the registered owner or the legal representative of a registered company, owning rateable property in Ward 22 (Simon's Town).
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OR: Post it to PO Box 47, Simon's Town, 7995

OR: I want to become involved and offer my services as follows (i.e. professional; typing; gardening or whatever)

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Hi-Lights from the Simon's Town Business Association 2nd Meeting

10th June 1999

Parking - After a meeting with Admiral Louw and a tour of the West yard it was determined that there is no parking available inside the navy grounds in this area. Admiral Louw was extremely co-operative and willing to assist but needs all available space to accommodate the proposed increase in navy personnel planned for the coming year. It was suggested that all members of the association be invited to put forward some innovative solutions to the parking problem to see if a solution could be reached.

Some suggestions were:

- Park and ride system from the Station to Jubilee Square
- Electric car "shongololo train" to collect



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passengers from outside Simon's Town, a possible route to be via the West yard and back down St. George's Street, thereby providing a tourist attraction as well as a solution to the parking problem

- The same system could run from Cole Point, down the main road and back
- Ferry from the Quayside wharf to Long Beach

Community Patrol Officers - The question of joining the City Community Patrol Board was raised. Further investigation into this aspect to be undertaken before making a final decision. Methods of fundraising to supplement police salaries were discussed. Suggested that a "services noticeboard" be erected in a prominent position in the Main Street for small businesses to advertise their goods and services at a small cost per month. Also suggested that a small charge be levied for advertising posters displayed in main street shops and premises.

ATM Fraud - It was noted that ABSA Bank had fitted a screen around its ATM for client

protection. To date no response had been received from the other major banks. It was agreed that Captour would be approached to provide warning notices in different languages for visitors regarding ATM fraud.

Telkom charges - Support to be given to the efforts by local business people to pressurise Telkom to drop its charges for unanswered calls.

Festive season - To promote and attract tourists/business to our CBD and to foster a community spirit it was decided that a "Best Festive Season Shop Window Display" competition will be held during December - leading up to the Millennium. We anticipate this becoming an annual event and a floating trophy for the winner plus a prize to be awarded. It is hoped to achieve a stunning display of lights and decorations in each shop in the main street each evening to focus attention of our village.

Finance - The monthly membership fee of R25 to be due as from 1.6.99. Members are asked to please remit this amount to Dorothy at Link Pharmacy as soon as possible.



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We are in the midst of the very slack season for visitors, but a very busy season with every thing else, but nevertheless, we are getting visitors, mainly South Africans, plus a few overseas visitors. These are the ones who are discovering the joys of the "Secret Season" with delight and still wear their T-shirts and shorts (while we locals are sporting a couple of layers and our polo necks!)

Your Simon's Town Bureau has now been brought up to date with Internet and our e-mail address is: Snoektown@yebo.co.za. At present, this is causing the writer some consternation, as not yet having received instructions, the old familiar screen is playing hard to get!

Report on the Waitron's Race, Sue, who thoroughly enjoyed organising it, says:

"Despite miserable wet weather, the Waitron's Race held on 29 May in Kalk Bay, was a great success. The Silver Tray for the fastest service in the south was won in a storming finish by the team runner from Francois of Fish Hoek, with a very elegantly dressed runner from Cobbs of Scarborough in second place. A number of restaurants donated prizes and we would like to thank Boulders Beach Guest House, Francois, Harbour House, Timeless Way, Cobbs, Chezis and the Brass Bell, for their generosity."

The "Enchanted Evenings" organised by the Masque Theatre Fund Raising Committee, in association with Peninsula Tourism, were a delight to watch and most successful. Lieske Bester who directed the series with Peninsula Tourism's Coleen Van Staden, her Project Manager, fully intend to repeat and extend the venture next year. Incidentally, Coleen, who was also one of the artists taking part on the last evening, gave a delightful performance in true cabaret style.

Next, on the theatre scene, is the hilarious

farce "Rumors", written by the master of human comedy, Neil Simon. This will be a South African premiere presented by Anchor Players. Replete with silly asses, pretty ladies, lashings of cross purposes and guaranteed to have you laughing in the aisles. It is a show for ALL so take your family and friends, but DON'T MISS IT! Booking as usual at the Publicity Bureau and venue - Simonsberg Theatre. Wonderful to have Anchor's two Naval actors back on the boards, Dave Chaston and Andrew Blake. (Please turn to back page for the details)

One of our members, Wayne Milne of Take Two Tours, related a baboon story to us, (which you may have read in The Echo), of an American woman who got out of the passenger seat of their hired car, to direct her husband into a parking bay. Unfortunately, she left a bag of food on her seat. In jumped a baboon attracted by the possibility of lunch and when her husband turned round, he discovered his wife had "turned into a baboon"! As another of our American visitors suggested, after experiencing a close encounter, the "Don't feed the baboons" notices, should be changed to "Don't carry food!" As he said, "I wasn't feeding them, they helped themselves!"

Enjoy the Secret Season!

Sue and Pat

Simon's Town Museum News

Special School Holiday Activity for Children

SHADOW THE FRIENDLY CHEETA

As part of the **Cheetah Outreach Programme**, 'SHADOW', a live and friendly

Cheetah will be visiting Simon's Town Museum on :

Monday 5 July 1999 at 10.00 am
 Wednesday 7 July 1999 at 10.00 am
 Friday 9 July 1999 at 10.00 am

Annie Beckhelling will present a talk with slides, after which visitors are invited to view (and stroke if you wish) this beautiful cheetah.

We will be asking for a donation of R5,00 per person which amount will be shared between the Cheetah Outreach Programme and Simon's Town Museum's Education Programme.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING ALL OUR LOCAL CHILDREN, PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS TO SIMON'S TOWN'S FIRST WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE !

Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

Donations June

1. Individuals

Total to date	R2805.00
Shamus & Maria Drum	200.00
Andrew & Marie-Ann Leslie	100.00
Wilfred & Doreen Nussey	50.00
Elizabeth & Arthur Davey	100.00
Hans & Fritz Strauss	150.00

2. Associations

Total to date	R4900.00
Friends of ST Coastline	50.00

3. Corporate

Ulli Bleibaum c.c.	200.00
Simon's Town Pharmacy	250.00

Statement for June 1999

Printing (inc. VAT) 2755 copies	7063.99
Post Office Distrib. charge	620.00
	7683.99
Less advertising revenue	2250.00
Under-recovery	(R5433.99)

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News from Naval Base, Simon's Town

OIL RIG IN FALSE BAY

An oil rig may moor off Millers Point for approximately 2-3 months. Should the oil rig moor in False Bay, no drilling for oil or heavy maintenance will take place. These are merely rumours and are unfounded. In addition, the rig will not carry any heavy fuel on board. More details will be made available once the arrival of the oil rig has been confirmed.

ATLASUR IV - THE SA NAVY'S SOUTH AMERICAN DEPLOYMENT

As mentioned in a previous edition of Snoektown Calling, Task Group 19.2 set sail for South America and Exercise ATLASUR IV on 19 April 1999. As the exercise name indicates, it was the fourth exercise of its kind to be held to date - the last was hosted by South Africa in 1997 during the SA Navy's 75th anniversary year. The South African task group consisted of the combat support ship SAS DRAKENSBERG accompanied by the strike craft SAS RENE SETHREN and SAS ADAM KOK.

The exercise took place from 3-7 May in Brazilian exercise areas. Navies from South Africa, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil participated. Over 600 sailors from the four countries took part with the South African contingent alone numbering well over 270. The exercise included the following evolutions/individual exercises:

- * Low fly air attacks on the task group
- * Towing exercises with foreign ships
- * Tactical manoeuvres
- * Communication exercises
- * Replenishment at sea

The reason for combined exercises became apparent as different navies' procedures - especially those used during seamanship evolutions - often differ. Once again, how

ever, the interoperability between the navies of these different countries was evident, resulting in the successful completion of the exercise programme.

This was further proved when the SA Navy experienced a medical emergency during the exercise. A rating on board SAS RENE SETHREN was taken ill during a low flyer attack exercise. It became imperative that he be airlifted to a hospital as soon as possible. With the help of the SA Air Force Oryx helicopter carried on board SAS DRAKENSBERG, supported by the Brazilian Navy, this was done in record time. The rating soon recovered and was discharged from hospital and returned home shortly afterwards.

Highlights of the trip for the ships' companies was the visit to beautiful Buenos Aires



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Simon's Town

and participation in the Argentine Navy day, followed by a visit to Montevideo.

Unfortunately, due to weather conditions, the planned visit to the island of Tristan da Cunha was cancelled and the Task Group arrived back with due pomp and ceremony in Simon's Town on 1 June - just in time for the elections. The exercise, according to the Task Group Commander Rear Admiral (JG) Jan Rabe, was a great success. "We were able to reach all our objectives including the training of personnel," he said. "Three officers were awarded their Bridge watchkeeping certificates, one Ocean Navigation certificate was awarded and three Grade C helicopter control officers were qualified." The next exercise, Exercise ATLASUR V, is scheduled to take place in South Africa in 2001.

Lt Lisa Hendricks

Classified Directory of Business in Simon's Town

The response has been good but nowhere near the potential; therefore it has been deemed advisable to postpone publication to the August edition of Snoektown Calling. Business is not good at this time of the year, so the general feeling of apathy is a factor in an attitude of doing nothing.

The Directory will be published as a centre fold, in a contrasting colour, in our magazine; extra copies will be made available for distribution to tourists. For instance, all the restaurants will be together, simplifying the choice of location of a desired eating place, and so on. Furthermore, I would like to include all those special marketable skills which could operate from home - come on, folks, give it a go!

The final closing date will be Friday 30th July. Forms are available at the Crazy Daisy garden shop; or contact Reg Loxton at 786-1750.



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Return to Simon's Town

About thirty years ago, more than half the residents of Simon's Town were forcibly relocated to new, so-called "Coloured" and "African" townships such as Ocean View and Gugulethu. The people so removed would have identified themselves as Coloured, African and Muslim.

Memories of life in pre-removals Simon's Town evoke pictures of a community where doors were never locked, where mountain and sea were a constant and vital presence in the life of the people, and where there was a proud sense of an individual and group history that had done so much to make Simon's Town what it was.

At the time of the removals, Simon's Town Council had tried to argue that, as the racial groups were living in different neighbourhoods, it was not necessary to carry out a forced removal. However legislation ordained that the entire Simon's Town be declared a 'White Group Area'.

Of a total population of 8 676, approximately 5 079 residents were forced to leave, and in the process families were divided, homes destroyed, and a loved and familiar environment lost, seemingly forever. A Simon's Town resident recalls going into the town centre following the removals: "A south-easter was blowing, and in the empty homes, doors were banging in the wind. It was the most desolate sound you can imagine."

Now, the South African Constitution and the Restitution Act of 1994 have made it possible for those people who lost rights inland as a result of race-based laws, to lodge a claim for the restoration of those rights, or for equitable redress in another form such as restitution of land rights in alternative (state) owned land, or for financial compensation, or a mix of the above.

The regional (Cape Town) office of the Commission on Land Rights Restitution has received about 550 claims from claimants who wish to return to Simon's Town. Eleven claims for restoration of vacant land (cur-

rently owned by the State) are before the Land Claims Court. Land now in private hands that was the subject of expropriation under race-based laws, will not be subjected to restoration claims.

A "Return to Simon's Town" Committee has been formed, and four meetings have been held this year involving a useful exchange of information between claimants, the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights, South Peninsula Municipality, South African Navy, and the Departments of Defence, Public Works and Land Affairs.

In order to ensure good communication and understanding of the return process among the different interest groups, Ward Councillor Nicki Holderness invited representatives from the Return To Simon's Town Committee to attend the report-back meeting, held on 10 June, with residents of Simon's Town. Claimant and secretary for

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the committee, Mr Vernie Wessels spoke of life in Simon's Town as he remembered it, and Elizabeth Davison responded to questions from the floor concerning the restitution process and the anticipated return. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, and the committee has particularly appreciated the offers of help that came from members of the audience - we hope it will be possible to follow through on this.

The Return to Simon's Town Committee is arranging a report-back meeting with claimant families, to be held in Ocean View High School at 2 pm on 17 July. Much work remains to be done to effect a meaningful and sustainable return, but the potential exists to transform the divided society that now exists in Simon's Town, in a way that will enhance the lives of all concerned.

Elizabeth Davison
Project Co-ordinator: Return to
Simon's Town

'99 Simon's Town Art Show

The following arrangements are firm:

Venue: Simon's Town Town Hall

Dates: Friday 29 October to

Wednesday 3 November

Doors open 6 pm Friday

Daily hours 10 am - 9 pm

Hanging: 2 pm Wednesday 27 October
to 4 pm Friday 29 October

Entry forms are now available at the Library, and completed forms should be handed in at the Crazy Daisy garden shop NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER. As was the case last year, the catalogue will be printed as a special centre insert in Snoektown Calling. I make a special appeal to our photographers to participate in the Show - let us see what you can do! As regards the 1998 Show, there are still some twenty exhibitors who have not yet paid the hanging fee of R20 per art work. Please settle up, folks, asap: our charity beneficiaries are anxiously waiting for their money.

Convenor Reg Loxton 786-1750

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to be lucky!
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just come in."*



THE AGENCY WITH THE "DIFFERENT" APPROACH



NSRI Station 10 Simon's Town - July 1999

Obituary - Mr Raymond Cader

Last month members of Station 10 sadly learned of the passing of Raymond Cader, owner of Central Supply Store, cut down in the prime of life at the age of 69. Station Commander Chops Craig, his Deputy Dennis Zimmerman and ex-Station Commander Snookie Selk attended the funeral. Station 10 Members wish to give their condolences to the members of the Cader family. The family has run the business in Simon's Town since their father purchased it in 1926.

Ever since an NSRI Station was established in Simon's Town in 1969 the Cader family have been supporters of the NSRI, mainly through the interest of Raymond Cader who, as a member of NSRI gave support to Station 10 over a period of at least 28 years.

Raymond gave service in his younger days as a crew member and eventually as an emergency controller. He derived his inter-

est in search and rescue from his interest in being a radio ham and listening to radio networks used by fishermen, yachtsmen and small craft operators.

Hardly a week-end went by that Raymond did not visit Station 10 where he spent time getting to know crew members and where he was always supportive of the station activities.

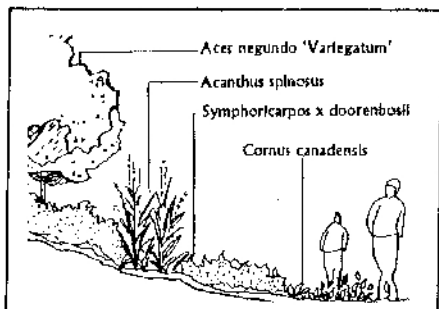
Through his own family connections and on many visits to family in Botswana he drummed up support for Station 10 amongst members of the Botswana Muslim Community and donations were made by Raymond on their behalf to boost the Station funds.

Thus it was when a winch was needed on the main boat trailer that Raymond, via his Botswana connections provided a new boat trailer winch which is still in use today.

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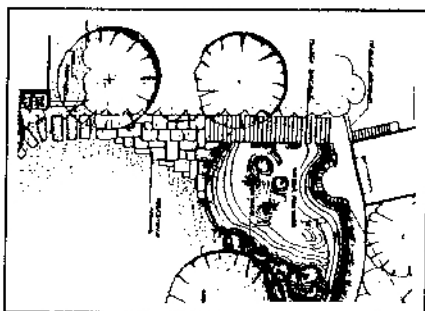
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Raymond, as well, ever mindful of the crews' comfort at the station whilst awaiting call-out or after returning from a rescue operation, saw the need for and provided a micro-wave oven, a television set and a video recorder.

Over the years the Cader family assisted, Station 10 with emergency rations for boats crew members and were always available when crews were called out, often late at night, to supply provisions for the making of hot soups or coffee etc on the crews return.

Raymond and his family have also shown great interest in most of the affairs of Simon's Town and have participated in many community related matters. Raymond had no enemies and always bore the interests of the community at heart - in fact it may be said that he was a true son of Simon's Town.

It is thus with great sorrow that we members of Station 10 and Support Committee members salute the passing of a great NSRI supporter and friend and give thanks for his life and his valued support of our cause. We wish the members of his family well in the future and thank them for their support of our local NSRI Station.

Station Commanders' Report (June)

Call-out to the much publicised Sunny Cove incident, in response to a call regarding a capsized small boat. After a 48 hour search by NSRI and SA Navy divers nothing of consequence was found and no person(s) were reported missing.

Call-out of Station Mobile to attend a person who had suffered a fit.

At this time of the year things have gone very quiet in rescue circles. Station 10 Personnel attended to their normal activities this Sunday - that is the continuation of maintenance, training and cleaning of the station.

*Yours aye, Don Dillery
Member Station 10 Support Committee*

Beach and Coastal Patrol - July

Since my last report in October last year, little has changed for the better! The state of beach infrastructures from Glencairn to Miller's Point on 17 June was as follows:

Glencairn:

The subway and curb stones need repainting. A bench in the toilet block needs repair, but one overlooking the tidal pool is beyond fixing. A brick wall section has collapsed and copings lie on the grass. A beach regulation sign can no longer be read and more litter bins are needed.

Shelley Beach:

Both toilet doors have gone and damage to cement steps on the beach is worse than at first reported. The garbage bin is full and more is heaped around it.

Mackerel Beach:

This potential tourist attraction is spoilt by a

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large tin shack and untidy surroundings.

Long Beach:

The beautiful lawn which I once photographed for a magazine cover has long gone. Intersite's development plans make it difficult for SPM to schedule work on the ground.

Seaforth:

As the burnt-out restaurant encroached on State land, legal implications for new work delayed tenders and a contractor will only be appointed around September. Until he hopefully demolishes the two dilapidated toilet blocks by accident, at least their perpetually running water should be stopped.

Water's Edge:

The lower section of access is badly eroded and needs to be levelled.

Boulders Park:

Some exciting plans might shortly be made public if a draft proposal on 23 June is ac-

cepted. Meanwhile, Parks Board are busy replacing alien with indigenous vegetation.

Windmill Beach:

The old rust-streaked toilet block could do with a coat of paint! There is no sign to indicate the women's section, nor even the name of this beach. The approach from Burgher Walk still has a high private wall on the verge of collapse and a steep eroded bank at the other end.

Frank's Bay:

Although there are still no sign posts, perhaps it is not a good idea to advertise this pipe-strewn beach!

Fisherman's Beach:

The only problem is that clover and weeds are taking over.

Miller's Point:

What a mess! The access road is full of pot-holes and the rusty garbage bins are falling apart. All of the concrete mouldings around

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the tidal pool show rust and one is broken in half. From many years of neglect, both the toilet and change-room blocks are now in a shocking state.

Beachcomber

Request to control your dogs near the penguins

Following a recent attack on nine penguins at the Boulders near Simon's Town, the Cape Peninsula National Park have appealed to dog owners to control their pets more firmly in the presence of penguins.

"We are extremely concerned with this latest incident, even though it happened outside the Park. We try our utmost with limited resources to protect the penguins within the safe confines of the Park but we cannot always stop them from moving outside the Park boundaries and into nearby urban areas," says Justin Buchman, CPNP section manager for the Boulders.

"We appeal to all dog owners to abide by the municipal by-laws and to keep their pets on a leash in public areas, especially at the Boulders where the penguins roam freely in their natural habitat.

Our greatest challenge with an open system park situated within a densely populated urban environment, is to ensure a harmonious co-existence between man and nature. Visitors to the Boulders are generally allowed to take their dogs along Willis Walk but not onto the beaches. It is to be expected that canines, no matter how well trained, will react strongly towards the penguins."

In the latest attack, all nine penguins died from dog bite wounds. The CPNP has installed two help lines to deal with such emergencies at the Boulders.

During office hours, the telephone number is 786-2329 and after hours 780-9526.

"Fishy Tales" - 2

In Simon's Town, the Navy would no doubt frown upon short-sighted skippers who can only steer their vessel backwards. It need not worry, because these "cowboys" are replaced in False Bay by more responsible cousins - the Paper Nautilus (*Argonauta argo*). Incidentally, their delicate shell - at times washed up at Water's Edge - is entirely artificial. Manufactured by the female, it is held in place by two of eight arms. The true Nautilus is a far harder mollusc and has been seen to "hover" at depths as great as 500 metres.

As mentioned in my last "Fishy Tale", Nautilus jet-propels backwards. Fortunately, it peeps sideways from under its canopy-like hood and takes no chances. It is also careful not to dive too deep until a chamber in its shell has grown sufficiently strong to withstand changes in pressure. Only then does it replace the fluid content with nitrogen gas to attain neutral buoyancy and swim with ease at great depths.

Bevan Park

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Coffee Culture

The first of a series of articles about that strange dark brew called coffee

An Introduction

Coffee, next to oil is the second most traded commodity in the world.

The coffee plant, often called a tree, is actually a tropical evergreen shrub with blossoms that resemble Jasmine. The seeds of this plant are the beans as we know them and are situated in plump, red cherries. It takes about five years for a coffee tree to bear fruit and can continue to be productive for about fifteen years. Each tree produces approximately two and a half kilograms each year.

A narrow tropical belt encircling the earth supports the coffee tree, which requires warm temperatures and no frost, abundant sunshine and a moderate rainfall.

Only two species of coffee tree produce coffee of commercial importance - Robusta and Arabica. Robusta is a hardy species, grown at lower altitudes with a higher yield per plant. It produces a harsh coffee which has twice the amount of caffeine and accounts for about 75% of the world's production, mostly used in instant coffees. Only Arabica produces an exceptional coffee and yields the world's gourmet coffees. They thrive in areas rich with volcanic materials and are grown at high elevations where the beans mature slowly and have time to develop body and density.

Savoured from first sip to last, coffee is a wonderful source of pleasure and social stimulation. This explains how and why coffee drinking has spread world-wide and how it's popularity is linked to the phenomenal growth in the coffee houses overseas and

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even right here in South Africa.

It was in Ethiopia that coffee originated but it was in Mecca that the first coffee houses were established during the thirteenth century and they quickly spread throughout the Middle East. Then coffee plants were not allowed to be taken out of Arabia except for roasted and boiled beans and it took until the early seventeenth century when fertile beans were smuggled out into India. Within a few years a number of countries were cultivating these beans in different parts of the world.

There are many steps in the process between seed and cup however, and none are as important as the roasting process. Roasting coffee beans has become what is considered an art. The process changes a small green bean and changes it in a complex process called pyrolysis to various shades

of brown, depending on the type of roast required. The beans swell, shedding off an outer skin called chaff and become almost three times the size but lose approximately twenty per cent of their weight.

The varieties of coffees from around the world and the blends made from these is an entirely different subject and will be covered in a later edition.

Malcolm Clark, Caribbean Coffee Company, Simon's Town

NEWSFLASH

Having just celebrated our 1st Birthday, we feel that we are ready to grow and expand

From the beginning of August there will be a CRAZY DAISY branch in Kalk Bay. This will enable us to offer you a greater selection of plants, pots and garden goodies at even better prices than we currently offer

We have also employed two new staff members:

- Doreen, who will run the Simon's Town Nursery
- Andy, who will be the general assistant and gardener at both branches.

I will initially be based in Kalk Bay to set up the new nursery, but will be in contact with Doreen daily, and will be at the Simon's Town branch every Saturday.

We would like to say farewell and thank you to Sandy Myers, who has been the full time "part time" assistant since we opened. Sandy and Bob are moving to Fish Hoek and will enjoy their retirement years I know Sandy has great plans for her garden so I am sure that Bob's time is not going to be as restful as he thinks

A BIG thank you to you our valued customer for your support during our first year and we are looking forward to providing you with the best garden service available in the years to come.

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YOUR LOCAL GARDEN SUPPLY STORE

Elizabeth Biggs

Liz Biggs, remembered for her exceptional curatorialship of the Simon's Town Museum, died suddenly at the age of 59 while visiting her daughter in Johannesburg. Liz had graduated at Kingamead Girls School in Johannesburg and then majored in history at UCT before completing a diploma course in Librarianship at Wits.

Liz, with her ever-smiling countenance, will be sadly missed by all her co-workers from over the years as well as her close circle of friends at the Fish Hoek area and elsewhere.

Our sympathies to her husband David (of "Wanderer" and "Wine Gopher" fame) and to her children Richard and John.

Marriage and raising children kept her away from the academy. In 1970, when she gained a higher teaching diploma at Free State University and later achieved her honours in Cultural History at Stellenbosch University.

Liz took over the Curatorship of the still-new Simon's Town Museum in 1980 (after three years' interesting Prof. O. Pryce) was the first Curator. In 1991 the Museum and its staff were recipients of the Simon's Town Municipality's "Citizen of the Year" Award.

In December 1992 Liz resigned as Curator of Simon's Town Museum to take up a more senior position in the Museum Service where, for her total dedication to Zoology and Museum Management. All her colleagues were inspired and guided by her knowledge and expertise which she was always more than willing to share. Liz was a founder member of the S.A. Museum Association School of Conservation in 1995 and in addition to being the School's Treasurer, she actively campaigned amongst her provincial museum colleagues to support the training initiatives of the School.

In 1993 Liz was invited to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Fish Hoek Valley Museum Trust. In October of that year she was elected Vice-Chairman; and since her retirement from the Museum Service in 1997 she has served as a volunteer at Fish Hoek Valley Museum.

During 1996 Liz was the Parliamentary Researcher for Val Viljoen, MP for East London.



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Danger of a "quick script"

The importance of a consultation with a doctor cannot be overstressed. The whole process of taking a history (asking all those seemingly stupid questions) and clinical examination are essential parts in deciding about the content of a prescription. In essence the prescription is a document issued by the doctor - a document which can either heal a patient or end the doctor up in court for malpractice. Something as simple as a cold or flu remedy can have catastrophic results if prescribed without prior knowledge of the patient's medical background.

During the interrogation of all the patient's systems the doctor has to ask about a background of high blood pressure; previous heart attacks; chest pains; funny heart rhythms or shortness of breath without cause. Without knowing these facts, he could prescribe something (like a flu remedy) which could raise the blood pressure of an already hypertensive patient, which could be dangerous in itself or lead to heart attacks; undue shortness of breath (possible heart failure) or even a dangerous rhythm disturbance - with dangerous effects. Without knowing that a patient is an asthmatic, some medication for colds and flu could clog up lung tubes and worsen the asthma significantly. Some ingredients of flu medications are a great harassment for existing of previous stomach ulcers and if used wrongly could cause renewed bleeding and pain - therefore another important question that a doctor would ask with significant results. Without knowing that a patient is a diabetic, he could prescribe a remedy containing sugar - which could raise the blood sugar levels severely and compromise the patient's life.

Some medication used for colds and flu could interact severely with anti-epileptic drugs and even increase the incidence of convulsions. After asking about the system's problems he would ask about allergies and other medications taken. Here again there are place for dangers, not knowing about

possible allergic reactions to ingredients of medication or interaction with other prescribed medicines.

These are all the pitfalls on taking the medical history - not even to mention the effect that examining the patient will have on the outcome of the script.

Putting pen to paper in medical practice could sometimes be seen as a quick favour but could also be seen as a deadly trap - for the patient's health and the doctor's career. The process used today in making a diagnosis and deciding on a treatment has developed over hundreds of years and takes a medical student years to master. Although it seems easy, life in itself is not that easy - and most certainly not responsible medicine.

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The Night Sky - July 1999

During the month of July, Venus, Magnitude -4.5 becomes its brightest between the 11th and 15th. It will be seen near Regulus in the constellation of Leo. Venus is 200 times brighter than Regulus at magnitude 1.3. On the 11th there is a beautiful triangle formed by Venus, the Moon and Regulus. If Venus is viewed through binoculars or a telescope, it will not be seen as a point of light, but a crescent like the Moon, due to its elongation.

Mercury, the nearest planet to the Sun 10 million km away, has been visible during June, but will fade into the sunset during July. Between the 7th and 8th July, Jupiter, Saturn and the Moon will be seen before dawn, with alpha Ceti, in the constellation of the Sea Monster. This constellation contains that wonderful variable star, Mira, which may be observed with binoculars.

Mars is second in brightness at Magnitude 0.0 to Venus, but will fade at the end of the month and move into Libra, the Scales. Jupiter rises after Mars has set and is followed 45 minutes later by Saturn. Jupiter is 10 times brighter than Saturn, and may be found in the constellation of Aries. The distant planets Uranus and Neptune are in Capricorn, and will be difficult to find this month. Pluto, the most distant planet is in the 13th sign of the Zodiac, Ophiuchus. New Moon is on the 13th and full Moon the 29th.

There have been several enquiries about Eclipses this month. There is a partial Eclipse of the Moon on the 28th July, which is not visible in South Africa. A big event is the Total Eclipse of the Sun on the 11th August, also not visible in South Africa. No Eclipses are visible over South Africa during 2000, but on the 9th January 2001 an Eclipse of the Moon will be visible here and on the 21st June a Solar Eclipse.

There is a total Eclipse of the Sun visible Africa on the 4th December 2002, and another one on the 19th April 2004.

I have been asked where to find the 13 constellations of the Zodiac. They are all on the

Ecliptic, on the East - West axis of the sky, between the position of Sunrise in the East and Sunset in the West, but being stars most of them are only visible during darkness. To find the exact position of a star requires the Latitude and Longitude of the star. As the Earth spins around in nearly 24 hrs, the Longitude is measured in hours, minutes and seconds, while the Latitude is measured in degrees. Anyone, particularly mariners and astronomers require very accurate clocks to determine their position of Longitude, on Earth or in the sky. The Longitude of the sky is known as Right Ascension.

After Galileo Galilei's death, his French pupil, Mersenne calculated the length of seconds pendulum for a clock in 1644, just before Jan van Riebeeck came to the Cape in 1652. Huyghens, scientist from the Netherlands used this information to build the first successful pendulum clock. This clock was not satisfactory at sea, as the swing of the pendulum depends on the force of gravity, which is not the same in all parts of the Earth, so that the clock would gain time in some places and lose it in others. This is not accurate enough for ships navigation. Also the temperature changes caused contraction and expansion of the metal parts, which altered the speed of the pendulum.

In 1736 the problem was solved by a Yorkshire carpenter, John Harrison, who made a clock with a grid of brass and steel bars, to compensate for the variations in the tension of the balance springs at different temperatures. He also used an escapement wheel, seen in some clocks and watches today, instead of the pendulum. One of these clocks was used by Captain Cook on his voyage of discovery in 1774 and when he went to Samoa to measure the Transit of Venus across the face of the Sun. This measurement was done at different places on Earth at the same time, and was used to determine the distance of the Sun from Earth.

Peter I. van Blommestein

Forthcoming Events July/August

1. **SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM**
Wed 14 July - Tel: 786-3046
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2. **THE MASONIC CLUB**
Tel: 786-3827, 782-3917
Sat 18 July - CLUB MONTHLY DANCE
R10 Hot Dogs on sale @ R2 each Bar
Sun 18 July - "CHRISTMAS IN JULY
DINNER" R35 per person

3. **FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN
COASTLINE** - Enquiries 786-3890
17 July at 9.30 am.
FISHERMAN'S BEACH
Track and Banding of Indigenous
Shoebill
21 July at MUSEUM HALL - 7.30 am
Slide Show and Talk on Marine Life of
False Bay. Slide from Marine Biology
Dept., University of Cape Town.
Speaker
Bever Park, writer on marine biology.
21 August at 8.30 am.
FISHERMAN'S BEACH
Alien Plants eradication track.

4. **ANCHOR PLAYERS**
"RUMORS" An Play has written by Neil
Simon. Directed by Sue Bolton.
Venue: Simonberg Theatre, West York
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**Deadline for August edition:
Thursday 5 August**

Publication date Monday 16 August
Contact Pat Lochhead, Tel: 786-2436
Peninsula Tourist - Simon's Town
(Simon's Town Publicity Association)