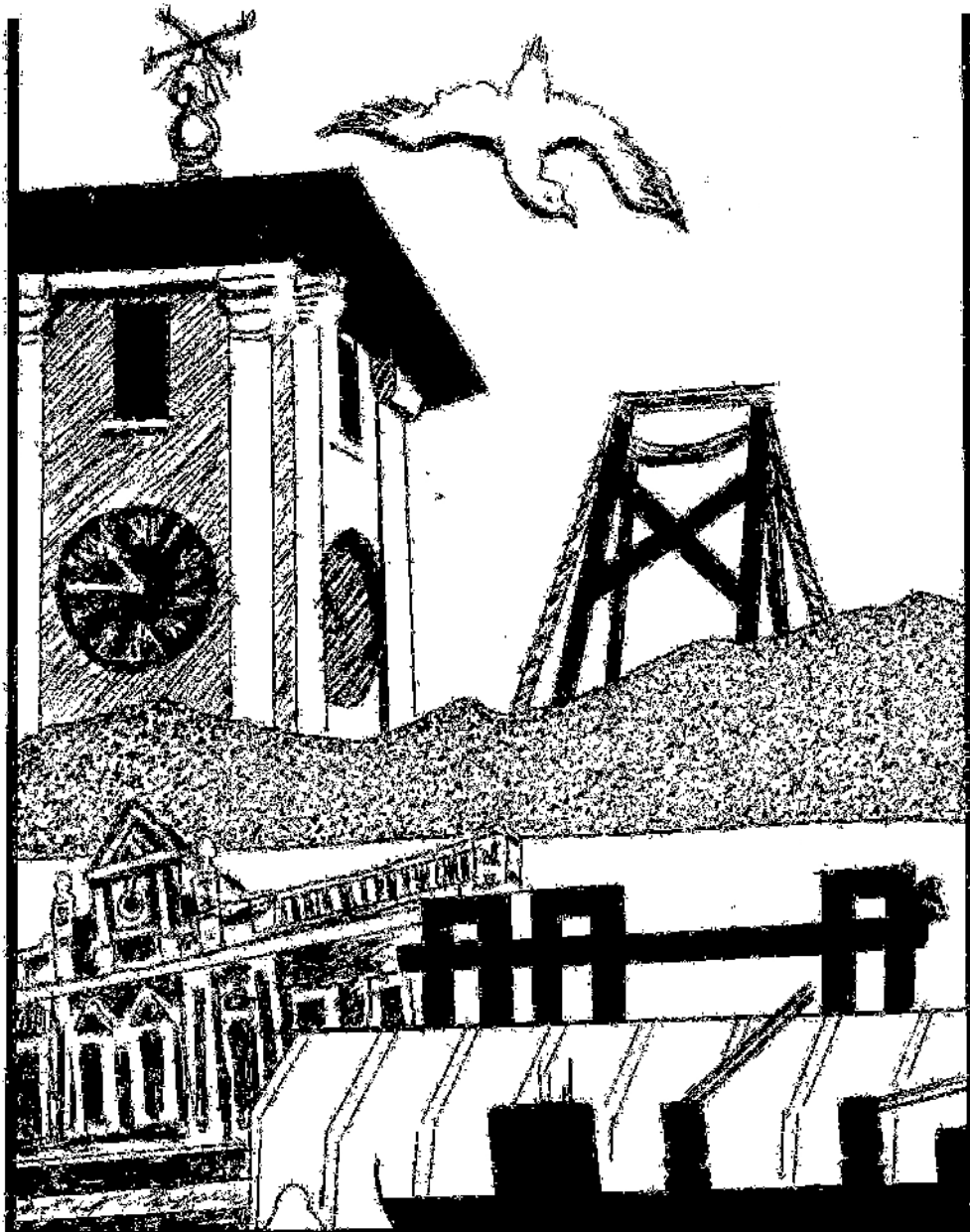


SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 2 Issue 6

16 AUGUST 1999



Sponsor for August - Charles Bates J.P.

Editorial

So the AGM of the Simon's Town Ratepayers and Residents' Association has "been and went" - agenda too crowded and too many words from invited speakers. However, certain important issues came through loud and clear: the extreme urgency of calling a public meeting to thoroughly debate the possibility of forming a Section 21 Company as a means of funding and managing: the ambulance service, crime and security management, street cleaning, traffic and parking control, "Snoektown Calling" etc.

Come on, Andrew, get moving - I'm surprised you didn't announce a date in your Chairman's Report!

Now, concerning "Snoektown Calling": It is unreasonable to expect yours truly to fund the under-recovery indefinitely; contributions via the Supporters Club and the occasional individual sponsor, although most welcome, are clearly insufficient.

I have approached those organizations that are the most frequent users of "Snoektown Calling" as a means of Keeping the Commu-

nity informed, as to their activities etc: such as, Historical Society/Museum, the SA Navy, Publicity Association and the Ratepayers and Residents Association; in due course I will make formal contact with the Business Association, as soon as they are properly organized. The question I have put is: what can each of the organizations contribute - in cash or some kind, on a regular basis? There is also the possibility of funding via a Section 21 Company for Simon's Town. "Snoektown Calling" has established itself as an important means of community communication; through the delivery service of the Post Office, a copy goes to every street address in Simon's Town and Glencairn (2100) and every post box. I shall report progress in the next issue.

Finally, many thanks to Charles Bates for sponsoring the August issue.

Please take note of the setting-up of an "Emergency Control Centre" at the False Bay Hospital. More details later. Now be careful out there!

Reg Loxton, Editor
2 Chapel Road, 786 1750



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Down the Historical Mile

The end of July meeting of SLAP (for those who have forgotten things that matter, SLAP stands for the Society for Loafers and Professional Rondlopers); anyway, Wingnut Williams was bursting with the news: an oilrig was in the Bay for major repairs! Wingnut was rubbing his hands with excitement and anticipation of big money.

"Al", he exclaimed, "the boys of Ocean View are going to have a happy Christmas once again. Meneer die Voorsitter, happy days are here again!" Of course Wingnut considers himself the SLAP spokesman on ship repair, so the members had to listen to a long story about all the ships Wingnut had worked on.

Even Mientjie Boep-pens got worked up and, as acting Mayor, she said she would demand an official reception on the oilrig. But when Harold Hardekop reminded her that she would be taken on board in a basket lifted by a crane, she wasn't so sure.

So everyone will be happy about the oilrig, even those fancy folk on the hill: those who kicked up such a fuss the last time a rig was in the harbour. Piet Pompies reminded the members about the fuss and bother. But, he said, he knew who they were and at the right time he would arrange with the ANC to betoog and toi-toi outside their houses; after all, think of all the good jobs that the rig would bring!

This time SLAP was ready and there will be action. Ja, Meneer die Voorsitter, said Harold Hardekop.

Streetwalker



Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

Donations for July 1999

1. Individuals:

Robert & Hazel Conacher	R50.00
Dante & Philis Feraris	R50.00
Malcolm & Eve Leggatt	R50.00
Gus & Barbara Ridgway	R200.00
Anon	R1,000.00

2. Associations

NIL

3. Corporate

NIL

Cheques should be made out to **Snoektown Calling** and handed in at the Crazy Daisy garden Shop. Please do not make donations via the Ratepayers Association - this only creates confusion.

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on Saturday and Sundays.**

Matters Affecting Simon's Town Residents and Ratepayers

1. Traffic issues.

Arising out of several meetings with residents and local organisations the following concerns were highlighted:

Pedestrian safety, particularly in the centre of the town.

- Trailer parking for ski-boat owners launching at False Bay Yacht Club.
- Whether large tourist busses should be confined to the main arterial routes only.
- Parking for residents on Runciman Drive.
- Lack of traffic management.

Discussions are currently being held with the various authorities to achieve resolution of these concerns. However, the community itself must resolve how it wants to manage tourism. For example, do you want mass tourism with the attendant traffic pressures or more specialised groups spread over a longer season?

The main road is under the authority of Province and all proposals for pedestrian crossings, traffic markings, traffic calming etc. must be approved by the Provincial Roads Engineer.

The pay parking systems will be installed in Jubilee Square shortly - R2 an hour.

2. Water.

The Simon's Town dams are about 50% full after the last rains and water restrictions are still in place. Since all the dams supplying the Cape Metropolitan Area are much lower than last year the Cape Metropolitan Council will assess in October whether water restrictions will apply across the whole CMA. Installing rain water storage tanks is a sensible precaution.

3. Usage of Simon's Town Municipal buildings.

Officials are currently investigating the possibility of relocating the library to the main municipal building. The current library is

very limited and larger premises would allow the library to expand the service it offers to the community. At the same time it is necessary to ensure that the cash office remains.

4. Seaforth Restaurant.

Proposals for development are being investigated currently and it is hoped to pick the successful developer by the end of August.

5. Boulders Park.

Here the traffic impacts arising out of increasing visitor numbers are of major concern. Various suggestions for handling the mega-buses and their parking requirements have been made including using portion of the golf course, road verges and the old tank farm site. The residents of Seaforth are currently seriously inconvenienced by the use



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500 grams & Chips R12.50

of Seaforth road and parking area by large buses. The consultants commissioned by S.A. National Parks will be making proposals for solutions very soon. It is hoped that immediate steps can be taken to alleviate some of the problems but radical action is needed to put into place something that will be of benefit to all.

6. New phone numbers.

Please note that there is no central switchboard any longer at the Simon's Town municipal office. Here are the revised numbers which you may need:

Water and Sanitation -
o/h 712 9364 / 65 / 74 / 76

24 hr number and hotline: 73 3070 / 1 / 2
Simon's Town cash office 786 1551
Simon's Town Library 786 1553
Simon's Town Fire and Law Enforcement
786 1611
Simon's Town Clinic (Thursday mornings
only) 786 1555
Simon's Town Ward Committee Room
786 1552

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

St Luke's Hospice Container Shop, False Bay Hospital

Our winter trading hours (weather permitting) are: **Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30 am - 12.30.**

Please take emergency entrance, park half way along road and cross the lawn. Do come along and meet our "container team". The False Bay public have been most generous with their donations and we do appreciate:

Good quality clothing, bed and table linen, books and bric-a-brac, for which we say a huge thank you.

Margaret Collet
Convenor, Container Shop

Simon's Town Ratepayers' and Residents' Association

PROPERTY WATCH

No.14 August 1999

1. CURRENT APPLICATIONS.

Since the last report in Property Watch, there have apparently not been any new submissions. Details of applications currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Municipality are:

1.1. Erf 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. No closing date for objections and/or comments is available, at this stage, because this application has not been advertised, yet. The SPM is still awaiting further information from the applicant. The details of the application or information may be obtained at Tel: 710 8367.

1.2. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen: Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and business and for subdivision into 9 portions. A report will be submitted to the Urban and Environmental Services committee at its meeting in August.

1.3. Erf 4719, Welcome Glen: Application for rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 5 portions. A report will be submitted to the Urban and Environmental Services committee at its meeting in August.

1.4. Erf 4595, Cairnside: Application to subdivide into two portions. A report will be submitted to the Urban and Environmental Services committee at its meeting in August.

1.5. Erf 267, Glencairn: Application to Rezone to General Residential. This application is being processed by the SPM and further information has been requested.

1.6. Erf 3590, Simon's Town, (Quarry Road): Application for Rezoning and Scheme Departures. The provincial premier has referred the appeals against the approval of this ap-

plication to the SPM for comments before taking final decision. This application is now pending subject to a new judgement ruling made in July by the Provincial Government being satisfied with.

1.7.1.1. No. 657, Simon's Town (Highlands Development): Application for Scheme Licences. The developer's application to build 7 housing units instead of the originally approved 9 units has been approved by the provincial government. The application to sub-divide the property into seven portions to comply with the provisions of Section 51 of the Town Planning Scheme regulations has been processed and a report will be submitted to the Urban and Environmental Services Committee at its meeting in August.

1.8. Erf 3534, Simon's Town (Alexander Road, Murdoch Valley South). This is an application for a second dwelling on a consolidated erf. Approval of the present application seems to be imminent.

1.9. Remainder of Erf 1557, Simon's Town (off Rocklands Road in Murdoch Valley South). This application to sub-divide into 5 erven has been processed by the SPM and no objections were received. This application was approved on 2 July 1999.

1.10. Erf 625, Simon's Town (Military Way, Haywards). Application to sub-divide into two portions. There is no formal road access to the erf. This has been queried by the SPM but no response has been received from the applicant.

1.1.1. Erf 250 and Erf 345, Glencairn: Application for subdivision into 21's has each 350 sqm in area. Even in the poorest vicinity owner to be much larger than these. The application is pending, at present awaiting the finalization of the purchase of a portion of equal land which was previously illegally by the applicant. Notice of the SPM's intention to close portion of the road was advertised on 2 July 1999 and the final date for comments and/or objections was 8 August 1999.

1.14. Erf 2434, Glencairn: Application for Special Consent to Establish an OX Decree

into adjacent to the Glen Amdine Hotel, Glencairn. Details of this application are available at the Simon's Town public library. The SPM decided that this application will not be advertised and that only the adjoining owners within a 150 metre radius will be notified. It is the applicant's responsibility to notify the consent of adjacent property owners. This process seems not to have been completed, yet. It is recommended that anyone wishing to comment or object should do so without delay. Details may be obtained at Tel: 710 8557.

2. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS.

2.1. Portion of Erf 1235 and Portion of Sander Road, Simon's Town (The old Sander Restaurant). The adjudicator commenced on 14 July 1999 to consider four proposals submitted. Follow up meetings with the applicant and others will have taken place by 15.10.1999. This report is published. Once the final decision has been recommended by the adjudication committee, further public participation will commence.

2.2. Simon's Town Station Development. The station has been taken away. As far as can be established, no new proposals have been forthcoming and no further contacts have taken place between the developers and the SPM.

2.3. New Street Signage. The basic design concept has been accepted by the AAO and the SPM's engineering department has approved the construction and the proposed materials. However, no further action seems to have been taken by the promoters to obtain the approval of the SPM for the new signage, at this stage.

2.4. Wildschützbrand Farm (CFM 1404). A revised application in respect of a hotel and a craft market must be submitted. This will be advertised in terms of the Land Use Planning Ordinance when it is received.

2.5. Inquiry into the Building Survey and Land Use Development Disputed Progress on implementation of the recommendations is being followed up and will be reported on in

a future "Property Watch".

2.6. Peninsula Urban Edge Study: The consultants report that approximately 120 comments have been received resulting from the various discussions and public meetings. All these are being assessed and a comprehensive comments report will be compiled with replies to all comments submitted. The completion date for this is expected to be towards the end of August 1999. The final report will be submitted to the relevant local authorities for their approval after which it will be sent to the Cape Metropolitan Council for submission to the Provincial Premier for approval. It is the premier's prerogative to advertise that the final report is available for public scrutiny and comment and where the report can be read. It is expected that this will happen, but the timing is unknown, at this stage.

2.7. Cole Point Parking Area: Work on this began in June and completion is expected by the end of August 1999. Work on the kerbing and tarred areas seems to be complete. The remaining work is to demarcate the parking spaces and finish the landscaping and tree planting. The removal of the trees was raised at the AGM. Cllr Holderness pointed out that because of the revised parking requirements to comply with modern standards, it was not possible to save many of the existing trees. New ones will be planted, however.

2.8. Miller's Point: Consultants have been appointed to do an environment based assessment by the end of August 1999. The future usage and development of Miller's Point will be determined by the abovementioned study. However, Cllr Holderness did mention at the recent AGM that the leases on various municipal properties were approaching their end dates, amongst which are those related to Miller's Point. Other municipal owned properties mentioned were Oatlands and Simon's Town Country Club golf course. These will be followed up and more information publicised when it is available.

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

Chairman's Report

The Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 21st July 1999. While there were perhaps too many subjects in too little time covered by the speakers including the megacity concept and the probable loss of localised services, collection of waste, crime problems and financing of emergency medical services, it was clear that there is a healthy interest by members in all these matters which deeply affect us. In the result, we have decided to hold a seminar or two at which the appropriate local authority officials and other experts could be present so that discussion and questioning could take place in detail. Thus, for instance, members of the Architectural Advisory Committee would set out exactly what their brief is in keeping buildings within the historic Simon's Town area subject to appropriate architectural standards. We could also discuss the formation of a Section 21 Company to supplement the falling off of municipal

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services. That body could also bolster the emergency medical services and, in particular, the funding of the ambulances. We will publish details of the date and time of the seminar shortly.

Another aspect which requires our input is the continued publication of *Snooktown*. At present there is a deficit which is made up by Reg Loxton of up to R4 000.00 a month. This is not fair on Reg. He has set out in this issue a plan for keeping it going. So far as the Association is concerned, however, we do not have the kind of funds to assist as there are only some 300 paid up members. At the end of the Annual General Meeting each person present was asked to go out and sign on at least 5 new members. Application forms were handed out. To date there has been little response. The point is quite simply that if you do not join up with your local Association, you cannot expect it to be able to represent your interests and has no support or funds. So the request is to go

out and actively canvass your friends and neighbours to join up. The application form is set out at the foot of this report.

Finally it is with sadness that we have said goodbye to one of our longest standing committee members, namely Dan Dille. Whenever the committee had a problem relating to the history of Simon's Town or background to a thorny issue, Dan would know the answer. Dan was always ever ready to assist whenever called upon. Thank you Dan. We'll miss you!

Andrew Duncan

APPLICATION FORM

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

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

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

ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP... R25,00 p/p

SIGNED:

DATE:

NAME AND ADDRESS (in block letters please)

.....
.....

* Delete whichever is inapplicable.

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

1999 Simon's Town Art Show

Wake-up call to our artists, crafters and photographers! Time to register - forms are available at the Library and at Crazy Daisy garden shop. Completed forms must be handed in at the Crazy Daisy a.s.a.p. please, but NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER.

The venue has been confirmed and the critical times and dates are unchanged:

Venue: Simon's Town Town Hall
Dates: Friday 29 October to Wednesday 3 November. Doors open 6 pm Friday.
Daily hours 10 am to 9 pm.
Hanging: 2 pm Wednesday 27 October to 4 pm Friday 29 October

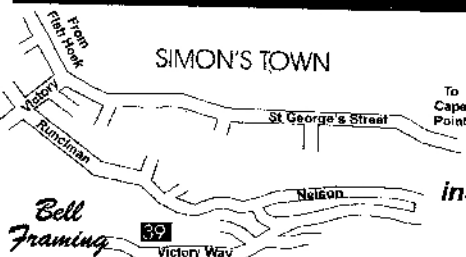
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Reg Loxton
786 1750

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780-9178 (a/h)

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ATM Fraud

COMPLACENCY IS THE CRIMINAL'S BEST ALLY

So how do they do it?

Very, very easily. Slick, quick and right before your very eyes.

The criminals work in gangs, usually 3 to 4 people, well dressed, well spoken, likeable and driving up market cars. They sometimes carry clipboards, look like employees, delivery personnel or officials. Totally blending in with the rest of the people on the street. They talk to you in the ATM queues, joke with you, offer assistance in the politest way and lull you into a false sense of security. We are all watching the man or woman behind us in the queue - what about the man in FRONT of you - or the woman or gentleman standing a few metres to your left or right raptly gazing into the shop windows of the adjacent shops, or leaning against the veranda posts along the street? What about all four of them?!!!

Beware the "Front Man"

The "front man" will stand at the ATM machine, insert his card and ostensibly transact business. He is not doing this, he is waiting for his **victim** by acquiring balance enquiry machine slips and standing there as long as he can waiting for **you**. Then his accomplice moves in, stands behind you in the queue and probably chats to you, gaining your attention whilst the "front man" takes one of the deposit slips, folds it over the front of his bank card, puts it into the machine and then presses cancel to retrieve his card. He then walks away. Casually, innocently - but not far away, just at a safe distance so he can keep an eye on the proceedings and watch out for the police, anybody watching him, or any indication that they are under surveillance.

The "target" arrives

You go to the machine, put in your card, and guess what? It gets jammed. You may have already punched in your pin number, which

*has been noted by the **THIRD** member of the gang or some well dressed, well spoken person may approach you and offer to help telling you he is a bank employee. He will ask you to put in your pin number and pretend to help, then ask you to go into the bank for assistance, or, if the bank is closed, tell you to contact the bank the next day . . . after the week end . . . You are at this stage probably surrounded by 3 or 4 normal looking people - all members of the gang - its team work for them. Alternatively if the fraudster is working alone he will jam the machine, walk away and position himself so that with a pair of binoculars strategically pointed at the keyboard of the ATM he memorises YOUR pin number which you punch in. As soon as you leave the machine he extricates your card with the help of two pieces of bent wire (paperclips are ideal), they HAVE YOUR PIN NUMBER AND VOILA! THERE GOES YOUR HARD EARNED MONEY!*

It gets worse!

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The "get-away"

Good model and usually respectable cars are parked at strategic points, usually in places where they can't be parked in - loading zones, end bays on street parking, badly parked in a bay with the maximum room in front of the car, probably infringing on the space of the bay behind them facing the way they have to go for quick exits. The cars are usually sporting number plates from stolen cars, so are untraceable.

The gang members also keep eye contact with one another at all times, unobtrusively, but checking all the time for any signs from other members regarding possible victims approaching, or any impending danger to them.

Scary, isn't it?

WHO IS AT RISK?

- * You, your family, your friends, your business associates, your clients.
- * The small businesses who often only have one female employee in the shop.
- * *Why?* Because the accomplices often use the small shops to "browse" in, stare in windows, or possible use as an escape route.
- * The tourist, visitor to Simon's Town, especially the foreigner who is visiting a strange country and does not want to be impolite to his host nation.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- * The best deterrent is **VISIBLE POLICE PRESENCE**. With Cassie, George and Louis patrolling the streets, the gangs are unable to spend large amounts of time hanging around without creating suspi-

cion. **They will be noticed** - which is exactly what they **DON'T WANT**.

BUSINESS OWNERS/STAFF:

- * Be vigilant - take note of who is hanging around, how long have they been there? The worst perception a criminal can have is **THAT HE HAS BEEN NOTICED**.
- * Report all suspicious people - don't be shy - speak out. Trust your instincts. You can always offer assistance to suspects - "Can I help you, you have been here a long time?" "Are you lost, I notice that you have been wandering up and down the street/town/area . . . for a while?" etc. Without being confrontational you can ensure that they know they have been noticed.
- * Stare at the people you suspect - take note of what they look like, what they are wearing, what car they get into, its colour, make etc.
- * Look out for one another, especially the ladies who are on their own in shops for businesses. Know your neighbours telephone number, use it to inform them of suspected criminals - get them to pass it down the line. A secret and effective method of warning your community. It could save somebody's life.

Criminals work in teams, **WE** have to have a **smarter, more cohesive, caring team** to beat them.

THE MAN IN THE STREET

- * Be aware at all times.
- * Don't engage in conversations with strangers at the ATM. You are under no obligation to talk to anyone
- * Concentrate on your business - do not be distracted by **ANYTHING**.
- * Report any suspicious actions, and distractions.
- * Try and obscure the keypad whilst keying in your number - stand close to the machine.
- * If distracted **PRESS CANCEL IMMEDIATELY - REMOVE YOUR CARD - CHECK THAT IT IS YOUR CARD AND WALK**

AWAY.

- * Never give your PIN number to anyone, not even your bank employee.

Heather Lunderstedt

Simon's Town Business Association

The information supplied in this article was supplied by Inspector Cassie Carsten, R/Cons. George Watton and Sgt. Louis Bothma in conjunction with the SAP, Simon's Town and the "Takkie Squad"

HELP THE POLICE TO HELP YOU

Simonsberg Theatre and Anchor Players

I wonder how many Simonstonians know of the historic theatre right here on their door step! What's more, how many have actually visited it?

Simonsberg Theatre nestles in the heart of the West Dockyard and was built originally in 1893. Later during the Anglo-Boer War, it was used as a Store for Torpedos, which Portsmouth at that time required Simon's Town to hold. This handsome building was restored some 15 years ago in 1984/85 and was then "recycled" as Simonsberg Theatre. At that time there was a great number of National Servicemen and the theatre was used for briefings, certain church services and other group activities when needed.

It was about this time it became the home of **Anchor Players**. The history of this very talented amateur theatre group is interesting. It was founded some 50 years ago by personnel of the British Navy as a leisure time activity. At that time the members were primarily Navy men and their wives and gave pleasure to many by the plays they performed. In later years, membership was

opened to civilians and at present only a handful of naval types remain - promotions to other parts and retirements being responsible for the drain. One rule which remains, is that the Chairman must be a Senior Naval person.

The theatre is comfortable with raked seating and excellent acoustics. The plays performed are of high standard. The aim being to present the best attainable in acting, direction, stage decor and enjoyment. Some recent shows performed at the Theatre are: "Gingerbread Lady" and the hilarious "Rumors" by Neil Simon (this being the most recent), "Wyrd Sisters" by Terry Pratchett, "Breath of Spring", as well as pantomimes and musical shows.

These shows are always well attended by regular patrons, but seem to be ignored by the greater number of Simonstonians, our audiences coming from further up the line, even as far as Cape Town and the Northern suburbs.

This is sad as a great deal of thought and teamwork go into making these productions as enjoyable and near "professional" as possible. Professional, in this sense being an attitude of mind, without remuneration! What's more one doesn't have the hassle and risk of driving to Rondebosch or Cape Town to see a show, it's right here on your own doorstep with plenty of secure parking in the dockyard.

So do yourself a favour and go to see the next one which is due to be shown at the Simonsberg Theatre towards the end of November. By all accounts it will be extremely funny and heart warming. Watch this space and Forthcoming Events on the back page for details. Enquiries: Sue Bolton telephone 786-2565 or Pat at 786-2436.

Prompt Corner

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

Telephone: 786 2436

Interesting visitors are starting to call on us again. In the last hour for example amongst others, we've helped a Crocodile Dundee type on a strict budget, a Moslem from Kenya and a young honeymoon couple from Hong Kong. All of them wanting to be directed to the PENGUINS as well as wanting to know "what else there is to see in Simon's Town". We certainly meet fascinating people in our line of business. There was one I recall from the early days, who came in to look at brochures wearing what looked like night glasses and it was only mid morning!

However on the other side of the picture, during the past week the South has also had of a few undesirables. To put a name to them - the Con Artists. This seems to be the latest scam. A guest house in Constantia was "cleaned out", the owner of which had the presence of mind to put the description and all details on fax, which was then networked around to us and others, via our Head Office. One of our Guest House members later that day received a visit from a single young man whom she booked in. Fortunately she had received the warning fax and became suspicious. After she had directed him to a nearby restaurant and making a note of his car registration number, she checked with the fax, realised this was the stolen car and telephoned the local police. The outcome was that he was arrested at the restaurant.

On the same evening he was arrested however, another of our members was not so lucky. This time it was a middle aged couple with "son" who struck and cleaned out two self-catering apartments, even making a meal for themselves before leaving with their haul. This time, it was Simon's Town's turn to warn people, which we did as far afield as Stellenbosch. So far all reported cases have apparently involved South Africans - always very plausible and friendly,

hence the title - Confidence Tricksters, so please be careful out there!

The AGM followed by our Christmas in July/ "Midmas" Dinner was held on Friday 23rd July at Oatlands. A happy and vibrant atmosphere prevailed and the following members were elected to the Committee: Peter Fewell, Percy Van Zyl, George Napier, Charlotte Richardson, Sandi Niedermeyer, David Hurwitz, Marie-Louise Cardwell, and Brian Foulds. Subsequently at the first Committee meeting, Peter Fewell was elected as Chairman, David Hurwitz, Vice Chair and George Napier, Treasurer. We welcome all on board, with a special welcome to the three new members and look forward to a successful and happy year.

The Midmas dinner was a huge success with a log fire and a satisfying festive buzz adding to the warm and welcoming atmosphere. The dinner with all the trimmings was wonderful. Congratulations to Chef Simon Griffiths and to his wife Jo-Anne who created the stunning decor and who worked non-stop towards the success of the evening. Passing the parcel, with riddles devised by Annabel was great fun giving rise to gales of laughter and prizes donated by local companies. Father Christmas was portrayed by John McConnell who did a most authentic job and was one of the stars of the evening - a highlight being his Stanley Holloway Monologue "The Christmas Pud". Thanks all round and to Charlie, Annabel and Lee for their precise organisation. SUPERB TEAM WORK.

Has anybody knowledge of a Captain Donald MacKinnon who hailed from the Isle of Tiree off Scotland? He was a Master Mariner and captain of the clipper *Taeeping*, famous for gaining the record for the fastest voyage between China and London. In 1864 Captain MacKinnon took part in the Tea Race and in 88 days had made the jour-

ney from China to the Thames.

This Tea Race was a national event, the prize money being the princely sum of 100 pounds. The ships set sail from China laden with tea and it was soon apparent that a race was developing between two Clyde-built clippers, the *Taeping*, captained by MacKinnon and the *Ariel*, captained by Keay, another Scot from Dundee. The ships soon lost sight of each other during the voyage, but weeks later caught sight again as they were racing up the English Channel and the race was on in earnest. It was a close finish, with *Taepin* crossing the line just half an hour before *Ariel*. The 100 pound prize-money was handed to Captain MacKinnon, but in typical island fashion, he shared his winnings with his gallant opponent, Captain Keay.

Not long afterwards, he was injured on a voyage between Tiree and Oban. Sadly, he never fully recovered from his injuries and a short time later died while on a voyage. He

was buried in Cape Town sometime between 1866 and 1870. The details of where he was interred are needed for inclusion in the Island's Heritage Centre and any information will be gratefully received.

This request has come from The Isle of Tiree, via a descendant in Western Australia, on to Fish Hoek and now Snoektown. If anyone should have any information on where Captain MacKinnon was buried, please let us know at the office, and it will then be passed on. There are no records of his burial in the Old Burying Ground at Seaforth.

To anyone newly residing in Simon's Town (and our old friends too), please come in to the office if you need any help on where to find anything.

**Regards to all,
Sue and Pat**



SIMON'S TOWN COASTAL PROPERTIES

126 St George's Street, Simon's Town 7975

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Cell: 082 894 5927 Voice Mail: 088 125 8906

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MELANÉ MICKLETHWAITE

**Melané
Micklethwaite
786-3515
082 894 5927**

Crime Report : Simon's Town Police Precinct

July 1999

PRIORITY CRIMES:

Burglary Residential: 13 cases (New 4) (at night/over period 6)

Analysis of crime occurring in day: Week (Mon-Fri) 6 (Tue 1; Wed 1; Thurs 2; Fri 2) between 07:00 and 19:00. Weekend 1 (Sat).

Analysis of crime occurring at night/over a period Week (Mon-Fri) 1 (Thursday night) Home intruder 5 incidents occurred over period of:
3 days; 1 month 6 days; 2 weeks; 12 days.

Method used: Door forced open 10
Window broken 2
Unknown 1

The incidents occurred at the following places:
Glencairn: 6 incidents - Pringle's Drive 1;

Ferreer Way 2; Glen Road 1; Veevalts Road 1; De Villiers Way 1.

CBD Area: 15 incidents - Flora Stage 1; Holiday Court, Rummens 12 Ave 1; Rockets Office 1; Rummens's Drive 1; 66 St Georges Street 1.

Outside CBD - Red Hill 1; incident at the Happy Valley Homeless Shelter; 1 incident at 65 North Main Road, Seaford.

Theft out of motor vehicle: 12 incidents (Daytime 9/Other 3).

Analysis of crime occurring in day: Week 6 (Fri 3); (Wed 1); (Tue 1); (Weekend) 4 (Sat 2); (Sun 2). Other period - 12 days.

Method used: Door forced open 5
Unknown 2

incidents occurred at the following places:
Glencairn Area: 2 incidents - Black 1; Glen-

Just Nuisance Seaside Inn

WINTER SPECIALS

at

Victor's Pub

- Bangers & Mash • Calamari & Rice
- Kidneys & Bacon • Minute Steak & Veg
- Bobotie & Rice • Fish & Chips • Lasagne
- Chicken Pie • Daily Specials
- ... AND MORE!

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Also delicious soups with homemade bread - R10-00

12 - 14 Glen Road, Glencairn, Simon's Town 7995

Just Nuisance Seaside Inn • ☎ 782-1122 Just Nuisance Cellars • ☎ 782-3830

Wilhelmina's Restaurant • ☎ 782-1177

cairn Express Way Parking Area near the Hiking Trail 2.

Miller's Point/Cape Point : 3 incidents - Smitswinkelbay 1; Castle Rock 1; Miller's Point 1.

Seaforth/Murdoch Valley : 2 incidents - Links Crescent 1; Boulders Beach 1.

Scarborough : 2 incidents - Scarborough Beach 2.

CBD : 1 incident - Main Road, Simon's Town 1.

SAFETY HINTS:

- Install burglar bars and gates and use them properly, do not leave windows open just because you have burglar bars thinking that this will deter all perpetrators. It is clear from the statistics that in most burglaries the door is forced open to gain entry, you can decrease your chances of becoming a victim of crime by fitting security products and using them properly.
- If you have a burglar alarm, use it properly and test it regularly.
- If you are going away for long periods of time, inform your neighbour and the police and ensure that your mail is collected, hiding visible signs of an unoccupied home and easy target.
- Analysis of the statistics in July indicate that those burglaries committed in the daytime occurred between 07:00 and 16:45 when most people are at work. If you leave your home at the same time everyday, ask a neighbour to keep a look out for you and try avoid a routine where you leave and return home at the same time every day. Perpetrators have been known to watch houses and plan their activities.
- Do not open your door for anyone and if you are unsure about a salesperson or suspicious character please inform the police or a neighbour. If you do report an incident to the police then insist on a report number.

Remember descriptions and details of

suspects and vehicles such as registration numbers.

- If you see somebody walking around your neighbours property please call the police and report this matter - your home could be next and you would appreciate somebody informing the police of a suspicious person in your property before he was able to commit a crime.
- Consider joining the Neighbourhood Watch in your area, with a concerted effort this system could be effective in reducing crime drastically. The reality is that many people do not make time for these types of activities and at times only consider joining once they have become victims of crime.
- Ensure that your house number is clearly displayed so that emergency vehicles can find you quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Do not leave valuables visible in your parked motor car particularly if your vehicle is parked at one of our beach parking areas and hiking trails where the vehicle is left unattended for long periods of time, thus making it an easy target to be broken into or stolen. Try and empty your glove compartment and leave it open to avoid temptation to break into your car to see what is inside.

WITH REGARD TO ATM RELATED CRIME, ENSURE THAT:

- You never, ever give your PIN number to anyone.
- You allow identifiable bank officials only to assist you.
- You remain aware and vigilant with regard to would be thieves intending on stealing your card or money and other suspicious characters. These perpetrators distract you and then ensure that your card is either jammed or swap your card in the confusion and normally work in groups. They have normally "fixed" the machine before the time so that your card will be jammed

and then coax you into giving them your PIN number after reassuring you that they are able to help you.

- If you are suspicious, cancel your transaction and remove your card and ensure that it is your card. You can cancel your card and try and not leave until you are certain that it is cancelled. If necessary ask someone to call a bank official from inside the bank. Make an alarm. Don't make it easy for them . . . but do not risk your life.

Bilking - Targeting Hotels and particularly B&B establishments

There is a small yet noticeable increase in the amount of establishments being targeted by persons booking into hotels and B&B establishments and then leaving during the night with the contents of the room and without paying fees - this is happening countrywide. Two establishments were victim to this crime in the past week and it is of vital importance that owners and managers *take down vehicle registration numbers and descriptions of suspicious characters* in case of any foul play. The Police are able to test whether a vehicle is stolen and can obtain ownership if the correct details are recorded. It is also important to communicate this information to other establishments to avoid repetition of this crime and to ensure that the perpetrator is eventually caught.

This proved successful recently when a perpetrator was arrested with a stolen vehicle full of stolen property. *Insp. Craig "Tok-Tokkie" Collins, Sgt's Leslie Daniels, Henry Ronald "MacDonald" October and Kobus Store* were on duty when they received the complaint and responded quickly, thanks to an alert local businessman who gave the Police a copy of a warning they received by fax from an alert owner of a B&B who reported this suspicious individual. Thank you, we could not have done it without you.

Simon's Town's History

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE
Join

SIMON'S TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY and SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

Many residents and ratepayers are already members of the *Simon's Town Historical Society* and, by reciprocity, *Friends of the Simon's Town Museum*.

The Historical Society was founded 40 years ago with the aim of preserving items of local historical interest and importance, as well as to found a museum where these could be safeguarded and displayed to the public. This museum was duly established in 1977 and is situated in the old Magistrate's Court, "The Residency", (built in 1777) in Court Road, next to St Francis Church.

The Museum depicts the Cultural History of the town and includes displays on the Hunter-Gatherers; Dutch East India Company (1743); First British Occupation (1795); The Royal Navy (1814-1957); The Boer Prisoners of War (1901-1902); Simon's Town Municipality (1893-1996); Trade & Industry in the Town; Schools; Churches; the Group Areas Removals of 1967; Whales and Whaling and The Boulders Penguin Colony.

In addition the Museum owns the vessel CS Cable Restorer (formerly *HMS BULLFROG*) Tours are available to the ship as well as to the excavated remains of the Glencairn Glassworks which operated from 1902 - 1905.

Special exhibitions are mounted on a regular basis (art, hobbies, special interest items, etc), details of which are circularised to all "Members and Friends".

During Winter, monthly evening lectures are arranged - these have become quite a social feature for the members as have the fundraising functions such as musical evenings, braais, wine tastings, dinners, organised tours, etc.

The Museum can also be hired for book launches, wedding receptions (the Courtyard in Summer is a delightful venue) or birthday parties.

All enquiries to the Curator Tel. 786-3046.
Fax 786-2391

Opening hours are :

9:00 to 16:00 Mondays to Friday

10:00 to 16:00 Saturdays

11:00 to 16:00 Sundays/Public Holidays.

Closed Good Friday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Saturday afternoons from June to September.

The Simon's Town Historical Society, with a membership of over 700, is one of the largest in the country. The research conducted by its members is published twice yearly in *The Bulletin*, while the social activities, museum chit-chat and a list of new members is reported in the *Chronicle*, (also bi-annually). Both are sent out free to members. The Society arranges one and two-day tours to places of historical interest.

Annual membership is R20,00 for a single person or R25,00 for two in a household. Membership forms are attached to this notice.

**ENJOY OUR HISTORY
JOIN US IN PRESERVING AND
SHARING IT**

*Cherry Dilley, Curator, Simon's Town Museum
Terry Korsten, Chairman,
Simon's Town Historical Society*

**Simon's Town Historical
Society**

(Friends of the Simon's Town Museum)

Tel: 021 7852812 (Membership Secretary)
P O Box 56, Simon's Town 7995

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership of **The**

Simon's Town Historical Society and enclose herewith the sum of R representing :

Annual Subscription for **SINGLE** members
R20,00 per person R.....
or the **FIRST** person of a family unit

Additional **FAMILY** members
R 5,00 per person R.....

DONATION to the **Society** R.....

DONATION to the **Museum** R.....

TOTAL R.....

Cheques should be payable to the **Simon's Town Historical Society**.

A Bulletin is published in January and July each year and the Chronicle is issued in April and October. You will also receive notification of all Museum functions.

Additional family members will be entitled to participate in all Society and Museum functions but will not receive the Bulletin, Chronicle, notices, etc.

SURNAME (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss)

.....
OTHER NAMES

.....
ADDRESS

.....
TELEPHONE NO.

FAX NO.

SIGNATURE

.....
Date.....

The Furniture in Admiralty House

Reg said "How about an article on the furniture in A House?"

As mere mortals are only allowed within on special occasions such as floral displays and things, I jumped at the chance for I would be allowed upstairs as well.

Admiralty House was to me a long stone wall with some upper storey windows looking down and two pairs of large teak gates which are sometimes open, mostly closed, and lots of greenery.

Further enquiry revealed that the history of the house and gardens is well documented but very little is available on the contents. This is largely due to the premises being vacated by the Royal Navy in terms of the 1955 Simon's Town Agreement.

On 21 February 1957 Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Robson moved to the new Admiralty House on Wynberg Hill, taking most of the furniture with him. When 10 years later Vice-Admiral John Gray (the last Royal Naval Commander-in-Chief South Atlantic and South America) left South Africa, most of the furniture was sold by public auction, a fact that I can attest to by the walnut writing table I purchased and is now in my entrance hall.

The next incumbent was Commodore H H Biermann (Later Chief of the S A Defence Force and an Admiral). He supplied his own bedroom furniture and the reception rooms were furnished by the government. Some 16 years later, when he left he took his own furniture and was able to take some of the downstairs pieces.

In 1987 a committee was formed and undertook to add to the existing contents and this resulted in what is there to-day.

Pieces were obtained from Welgelegen - the Rhodes Bequest via the Public Works Department, Mrs Christie's Bequest (Sir Abe Bailey's daughter) and the Admiralty House Fund. There were a few pieces left by the

Royal Navy for various reasons, one of which is the large *Mahogany Extension Table* which is 1.68m wide and the story goes that Admiral Robson was slightly deaf and could not hear what was said by his guests opposite him, so, he left it behind.

The Entrance Hall contains a *mule chest* and a *Kist*, both English and both oak, c.1750. Some of the restoration has been done in the Dockyard. This "Dockyard restoration" is evident in numerous other pieces throughout the house and it must be pointed out that whilst shipwrights are craftsmen in their own trade, they are not antique restorers.

A second *mule chest* is found in the voorkamer (this is like a kist, with a lift-up lid, but has a single row of 2 or 3 drawers on the outside at the bottom). This is in the Jacobean style - oak but probably a Victorian reproduction. It is now used to stand



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E-mail: b.parker@nwish.co.za

ARCHITECTS

HIGGS ARCHITECTURAL STUDIO

51 De Villiers Way - Glencairn

Services offered: Drafting of plans

Contact: Sandy Higgs

Tel: Fax: 786 2879

E-mail: higgsarc@netcity.co.za

FELIX BADOLEY

1 Elsie Street - Simon's Town

Services offered: plans for new houses, additions and alterations

Contact: Felix Badoley

Tel: 786 1895

ART CRAFTS / CRAFTS

ALBERTUS

ALBERTUS STABLES ART GALLERY

Albertus's Stables - Burg George Way

Simon's Town

Services offered: Art Gallery

Contact: Elize Older

Tel: 786 1816 Fax: 786 2257

THE COLLECTOR'S ROOM

1559 St George's Street

(above First National Bank)

Simon's Town

Services offered: Fine Art - paintings in oils and gouache

Contact: Deborah Linderstedt

Tel: 786 2775 or 786 1264

E-mail: smilscapops@info.com

REEL FRAMING

30 Victory Way - Simon's Town

Services offered: 2000 ft Reel

Contact: Wendy Del

Tel: 786 9178 / 917922432

Fax: 786 9522

CLAY CONNECTIONS

126 St George's Street - Simon's Town

Services offered: Pottery hand painted on site

Contact: Carl Jorgensen or Deanne

Tel: 786 6161 Fax: 786 2684

OGAGA TRADING

ABC Building - 52 St George's Street

Simon's Town

Services offered: selling African Art & Antiques

Contact: Fat Sides or Ade

Tel: 786 2498

CRAFT ART & GALLERY

Samuel House - 128 St George's Street

Simon's Town

Services offered: South African Craft & Art

Contact: Louise Puleton

Tel: 786 1997

HIMALAYA ORIGINALS

Shop 15 Gillyside Centre

Simon's Town

Services offered: Art & crafts from the Himalayan Regions - Jewellery

Pashmina, silk scarves and scarves

Contact: Annie Mathew

Tel: Fax: 786 1542

E-mail: info@himalaya.co.za

THE KALIDOSCOPE STUDIO

Louisa House - 127 St George's Street

Simon's Town

Services offered: handcrafted kalidoscopes for sale, monthly workshops, colour therapy

Contact: Lisa or Tegan

Tel: 786 1463 Fax: 786 1264

E-mail: kalidoscope@info.com

STRAND HOUSE TRADING COMPANY

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Services offered: Local gifts and crafts,
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Contact: Andrew or Linda
Tel: 786 1911

BRONZE AGE

African's Shop - King George's Way
Simon's Town
Service offered: Bronze/Coutury
Contact: John or Paula / Chris Gilder
Tel: 786 1313 Fax: 886-2233

JOHN'S COLLECTABLES

68 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered: Collectable (pots, glass)
and sold
Contact: John Makhele
Tel: 786 3125

SUE'S

Island Décor - Simon's Town
Service offered: Candles and wicks
Contact: Sue Forsyth
Tel: 786 0595 Fax: 786 3482

NICK POCKET

54 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered: 2nd hand shop, buying
and selling antiques, books and magazines,
Collectibles and antiques
Contact: G. Hitchard
Tel: 786 1695

EMERALD BLUE PROMOTIONS

194 St George's Street - Simon's Town
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Contact: Tracy Daise
Tel: 786 3394 Fax: 786 2722

SIMON'S BAY TRADING POST

St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered: Hand painted fabrics
and Nautical inspired gifts and home
decor items
Contact: Karen
Tel: 786 1660

WANTU'S HOME DECOR

52 St George's Street
Simon's Town
Service offered: Hand painted lanterns
and home decor items
Contact: Wantu
Tel: 786 2662

BOOKS & STATIONERS

AT EASE - BOOKS & STATIONERS

98 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered: supplies of stationery,
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Contact: Annela
Tel: 786 1375 Fax: 786 1963

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GLENCORN FAMILY BUTCHERY

Shop 104 Simon's Bay Shopping Centre
Service offered: supply of meat products
Contact: Ashley Robertson
Tel: 786 7121

CANDLE MAKING

STARBUST CANDLES

90 Athlone Road - Monticello Valley
Simon's Town
Service offered: bees wax & paraffin
candles, or making and filling of large
candles
Contact: Brian Walters
Tel: 786 2206
Email: waltersb@tylval.com.za

CHANDLER'S

FALSE BAY BOAT & YACHT SERVICES

False Bay Yacht Club
King George's Way - Simon's Town
Service offered: Boat & yacht
maintenance and repairs
Contact: Jayne
Tel: 786 1665 Fax: 786 2620
E-mail: chandlerj@web.co.za

CLOTHING & OUTFITTERS

LINDI'S STUDIO

1 Chapel Road - Simon's Town
Service offered : sewing of clothes
Contact : Lindi Loxton
Tel : 786 2296

HN KALIDAS

116 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered : Family outfitters & shoe store
Contact : Harry
Tel : 786 1885 Fax : 786 2545

JANE'S PLACE

Shop 1 Jubilee Square - Simon's Town
Service offered : Ladies Clothing
Contact : Jane Farquharson
Tel : 786 2101 Fax : 786 2415

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & WELFARE

ALCOHOLICS VICTORIOUS

Methodist annexe - Chapel Lane
Simon's Town
Service offered : rehabilitation programme and accommodation for people suffering from alcohol & drug abuse
Contact : Peter Kean
Tel : 786 1981

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Cnr St George's Street & Quarry Road
Simon's Town
Service offered : Diving Shop, scuba instruction, charters & equipment sales
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E mail : farside@iafrica.com

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12-14 Glen Road - Glencairn
Service offered : airfills, PADI Dive Courses, gear rental, sales and service.
Contact : Mike
Tel : 782 7358 / 782 6279
E mail : scbashac@iafrica.com

ESTATE AGENTS

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18 Quayside Centre - Simon's Town
Service offered : Property selling
Contact : Clive Duffell
Tel : 786 1612 Fax : 786 1886
E mail : nautic@mwweb.co.za

IRENE PORTER PROPERTIES

132 St George's Street
Simon's Town
Service offered : sales & rentals of properties
Contact : Irene Porter
Tel : 786 3947 / 786 1604
Fax : 786 1016

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94 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered : residential and commercial sales and business brokers
Contact : Heather Lunderstedt
Tel : 786 3505 cell : 082 7860038
Fax : 786 3356
E mail : seaprops@iafrica.com

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126 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered : selling of property and houses
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Tel : 786 1855 Fax : 786 2986
E mail : info@realty1.co.za

SIMON'S TOWN COASTAL PROPERTIES

126 (b) St George's Street
Simon's Town
Service offered : selling and letting agents
Contact : Melanc
Tel : 786 3272 Fax : 786 1999
E mail : steprops@iafrica.co

GLADYS DILLEY ESTATES

118 St George's Street - Simon's Town
Service offered : Estate agents, property administration and appraisers
Contact : Dan Dilly
Tel : 786 2001
Fax : 786 2003

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Simon's Town

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Tel : 786 1187 or 082 746 4677

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Service offered : irrigation systems, water purifiers, electrical, plumbing, tiling and managing agents.

Contact : Allan / Kathy

Tel / Fax : 786 1567

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Service offered : Design & printing of all stationery for home / business use, photocopying and laminating service

Contact : Tracy

Tel : 786 3204 Fax : 786 3720

E mail : penguin@gem.co.za

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1 Chapel Lane - Simon's Town

Service offered : Screen printing 'T' shirts, tablecloths etc

Contact : Lindi Loxton

Tel : 786 2296

HARDWARE

SIMON'S TOWN HARDWARE

134 St George's Street - Simon's Town

Service offered : suppliers of all hardware equipment, plascon paint mixing and key cutting

Contact : Sue Smith

Tel : 786 2122 Fax : 782 1160

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Service offered : builder's merchants, general hardware, paint mixing

Contact : Doug or Derrick

Tel : 782 4232

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Service offered : Hair dressing salon

Contact : Nikki

Tel : 786 1479

STUDIO B

Shop 3 Glencairn Shopping Centre

Service offered : unisex hair stylist

Contact : Bev

Tel : 782 7002

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London House

St George's Street - Simon's Town

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Contact : Rose

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90 St George's Street - Simon's Town

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Tel : 786 1410 Fax : 786 1162

E mail : oatlands@netaactive.co.za

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Tel : 786 3775

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12 Glen Road - Glencairn

Service offered : accommodation, meals and bar

Contact : Mrs Engles-Clews

Tel : 782 1122 Fax : 782 2321

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Service offered : 28 Rooms overlooking False Bay

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Service offered : ideal getaway a few metres from the beach

Tel : 786 1758

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58 St George's Street - Simon's Town

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Tel : 786 1386 Fax : 786 1009

INSURANCE**TRANSIT ACCEPTANCES cc**

Service offered : Marine and freight insurance

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Tel : 786 2273 Fax : 786 2155

CELL : 082 444 4123

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E mail : alicecharly@hotmail.com

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Tel : 780 1999

E mail : kingston@mweb.co.za

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56 St George's Street - Simon's Town

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Contact : Peter Shannon

Tel : 786 3821

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Glencairn Shopping Centre

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Contact : Peter Shannon

Tel : 782 6405

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Services offered : ALL legal services

Contact : Anna Cornelius / Craig Johnston

Tel: 786 1542

LIQUOR STORES**JUST NUISANCE CELLARS**

12 Glen Road - Glencairn

Service offered : off sales- wine, beer and spirits

Contact : Mrs Engles-Clews

Tel : 782 1122 Fax : 782 2321

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an attractive collection of six rum measuring jugs of varying ages ranging from half pint to 2 gallons. A *Dutch Armoire* in French walnut stands opposite.

Other pieces of interest in this large room are a Jacobean style (Victorian Reproduction) *side table*, a *Victorian 4-drawer Chest*, a pair of beautifully carved *side chairs* in Burmese teak or camphor wood and a *17th Century Walnut Chest/Kist* with original iron fittings and inlaid with marquetry and parquetry. An oak country *Long case Clock* stands near the staircase. Its maker is a certain John Fair of Westreston. The nearest reference to this place is Reston just north of the Border in Scotland.

In the study is a large *Linen Press*. A two door cupboard on top of a chest of drawers. At first it appears to be completely made of teak, but a closer look reveals the chest to be Stinkwood and it is a marriage of 3 pieces, as the base does not match the rest. Also the panelled back has been removed at some stage and replaced back to

front. It nonetheless looks good and dates from the mid-19th century. Two *Georgian Side or Armchairs* are fine examples of their kind.

There are two small dining rooms, (one is the Admiral's private diningroom), and the main large diningroom which is for official functions, etc. This one contains the large *Mahogany Extension Table* and 35 assorted chairs of no real antiquity. An indigenous *Stinkwood Display Cabinet* contains blue and white porcelain and nine numbered mess plates whose origin is not certain, but the piece de resistance is a very large *Armoire* in Stinkwood with Satinwood door panels and drawer fronts c1750. The gable top is surmounted with a well carved centre block. The silver handles have been replaced and the top drawer is used for a large amount of cutlery, the weight of which is causing unnecessary wear to the runners. A magnificent piece.

In the Admiral's dining room is a *3 drawer Server* on ball and claw feet and cabriole

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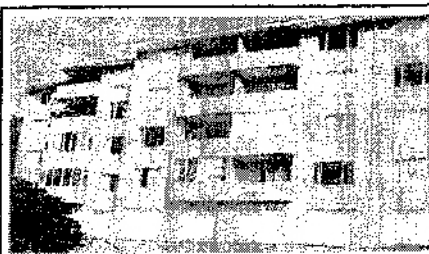
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legs which looks like French walnut and could be late 17th century. Two pieces of local interest in the private dining room came from Welgelegen, a *Stinkwood Sideboard/Server* and a *Teak Hanging Cupboard* both designed by Sir Herbert Baker.

The Drawing Room and Loggia are comfortably furnished with fully upholstered chairs and sofas, occasional tables - mostly modern in Imbuia and Mahogany. Worth mentioning is a graceful *Regency Sofa* c.1820 with Rosewood surrounds and a smallish *Dutch Armoire* in Oak or Ash c.1780.

Lets go upstairs, passing on the way a charming *English Gateleg Table* (early 19th century) and at the top of the stairs a 17th century *Oak Kist*.

There are six main bedrooms and here the style changes completely. Near the corner of Victoria and Main Roads, Plumstead, stands a building with twin turrets and Tudor half-timbering. This was built in 1937 for Bertie Cheminais (Pty) Ltd for his stinkwood furniture factory and it closed down in 1953. Prior to the visit of King George VI and his family in 1947, the Government renovated Government House (now Tuynhuis) and commissioned Cheminais to make four *Stinkwood Bedroom Suites*. These would furnish the bedrooms to be occupied by the King, Queen and two Princesses. Only the finest Stinkwood was selected and although they were chosen from the standard range, minor adaptations were requested to allow for the King's uniforms and the long evening dresses of the Queen and Princesses. This furniture eventually ended up in a Public Works Department store, where in 1987 it was discovered by the committee charged with the task of finding suitable furniture for Admiralty House.

What a find it was. The style, as with all Cheminais Stinkwood is "ball and claw" with lots of linenfold and gable tops on the Wardrobes. Each suite comprises of a "three-quarter bed" (107cm), two bedside chests, a dressing table and stool, a chair, a tallboy type chest of drawers and two wardrobes.

The rooms accommodate this rather heavy furniture well and do justice to the workmanship of what has become a truly South African style.

The pieces have been divided amongst the six main bedrooms and additional furniture from G.H. Stark's Ruvee Works and McNamees of Durban have been added to continue the design.

In 1939 Stinkwood was 15 shillings per cu.foot. At the time the furniture was made, it was 7 Pounds per cu.foot. To-day's price, and not nearly the same quality, is R15 000,00 per cu. meter.

Tucked away in some back rooms are four teak and tile *Wash Stands* also designed by Sir Herbert Baker and emanating from the Groote Schuur Estate.

I have not dwelt on the numerous oil paintings, chandeliers, rugs, mirrors and presentations which are all part and parcel of what is obviously a 'Naval' residence. It can not have been easy to assemble the present

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contents of Admiralty House, as unlike Topsy, it didn't 'just grow' but had to be created and whilst there is room for improvement (should finance be available), it is certainly one of South Africa's stately homes and an asset to Simon's Town.

Mike Saggerson
Simon's Town Historical Society

Simon's Town Museum News

THE SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE GENTLE GIANT OF THE OCEAN.

We are all fascinated by the annual visit to False Bay from June to December of The Southern Right Whale. Hundreds of motorists stop their vehicles all along the Main Road to watch the whales and their antics such as "lob-tailing", "spyhopping", "sounding", or "breaching" and we are all delighted when we see a whale with her calf.

BUT would you not like to know more about our whales, such as their origin, why they

come to False Bay all the way from Antarctica every year, what are those "barnacle-like" protrusions on their heads, how do they communicate, and what are their feeding and mating habits?

On WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST 1999 at 17h30 our "Whale Lady", Irene Toerien will be presenting, in the Museum Lecture Hall, Court Road, Simon's Town, the story of "The Southern Right Whale - Gentle Giant of the Ocean".

A complimentary glass of wine/fruit juice will be served on arrival and the talk will commence at 18h00 - Donation to Museum Funds : R8,00 per person.

Should you have any queries you are welcome to telephone the Museum : 786-3046.

Irene has also compiled a booklet on the Southern Right Whale, particularly geared for learners which we have for sale in the Museum Shop at a price of R7,50.

Cherry Dilley, Curator

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THE AGENCY WITH THE "DIFFERENT" APPROACH



SA Naval Heritage Trust and Society

The Naval Heritage Trust came into being in 1994 with the primary objective to safe guard our Naval heritage and to support the Naval Museum. Two years later the SA Naval Heritage Society was formed to act as the executive arm for the Trust. The Trust and Society is governed by a joint Executive Committee and Mr Charles Bates is the current Chairman. Admiral H. H. Biermann is the Honorary President.

The Society launched an oral history project of which the primary objective is to record the career experiences of all retired Naval personnel, which forms an important part of the Naval heritage, in their own words. The first priority has been to trace and record as many as possible of the survivors of World War II first. The secondary objective is of course to edit and publish these recollections.

The oral history project has now advanced to the point where the Society has begun to publish. The first edition of the bi-annual *Naval Digest - The Journal of the SA Naval Heritage Society*, under the editorship of Mr Roger Williams, former Senior *Cape Times* reporter, is hot off the press and is being launched at Admiralty House in Simon's Town at 1100B on Wednesday 30 June 1999. The *Digest* will usually take the form of a theme article supported by various applicable recorded recollections. The first volume has the history of the frigate (HM) SAS NATAL as theme. You are cordially invited to attend this launch, receive a free copy of the *Digest*, and hopefully, publicise the event. Many of our retired Naval members can be counted among your readership and it is hoped that they will also come forward as candidates to have their recollections recorded, particularly those WWII survivors who have not yet been reached, and join the Society if not already members. The Society would also encourage all retired members who have interesting and historical naval memorabilia, particularly photographs of events and ships, in their possession, to donate these to the Naval Museum.

Membership of the Society is of course open to anyone with an interest in our Naval Heritage. To apply for membership, people can write to The Honorary Secretary, Naval Heritage Society and Trust, Private Bag X1, Simon's Town, or phone Cdr Mac Bisset on 787-4635. The membership fee is currently R50 per annum and paid up members receive a free copy of the *Digest* twice annually in approximately June and November. Copies of the *Digest* can be bought over the counter at R25 per copy at the Museum or ordered by mail at R25 plus postage from the Honorary Secretary at the above address and telephone number.

News from Naval Base, Simon's Town

SA NAVY CHEFS PUT THROUGH THEIR PACES

The analogy: "An army marches on its stomach" may not be true for the Navy but we are certainly "sunk" without our chefs. They will be put to the test at the annual SA Navy Chef of the Year Competition (CYC) to be held at the Catering School, in Simon's Town from 10-13 August 99.

This competition identifies the best chef in the SA Navy and also provides an opportunity to display their talents, creativity and competitiveness. Categories include prizes for best junior chef, best starter, best dessert and Chef of the year.

Only serving members of the SA Navy in the rank groups of Seaman to Chief Petty Officer may compete. The winner automatically qualifies for entry into the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Chef of the Year Competition held every three years.

Navy chefs are highly qualified and part of their training includes an intensive three week training period at some of the most prestigious hotels in South Africa including

the Mount Nelson.

The competition is sponsored by Nautica and Robtson Spices.

Petty Officer Shiralda Miller

TEST FIRING IN SIMON'S TOWN

The SA Navy will conduct test firing from 16 to 20 August 1999 at the SA Naval Dockyard and Lower North Battery. The test ranges will start at 07:00 and will continue until 17:30.

The weapons to be used are the 160mm OTG Mola and 17 pounder field gun. The aim of this test firing is to test combat readiness.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the noise.

Lieutenant Lisa Hendricks

CONSTRUCTION IN SA NAVAL DOCKYARD

Construction is presently underway in the Schooneuwerk dry-dock in Simon's Town and it is expected to be completed by the end of October 1999.

A local civil engineering company has secured a contract with Dassen Kopping South Africa (part of Kvaerner A/S) for the construction of a concrete buoy gravity base (GBS) for deployment in the Mosogae 3-M field.

The GBS is of concrete and steel construction and will measure 16 metres square by 11 metres high and will displace some 2,500 tonnes when approximately draught of 10 metres. On completion it will be floated out of the dry-dock and towed to the gas field. It will be lowered to the seabed in a controlled sink in 100 metres of water to be used as an "anchor" for the gas field's control buoy. The GBS is only the second in the world to be designed and constructed for this particular application and is an integral part of the development.

Believe the dry-dock is one of only 5 dry-docks in South Africa and is the only dry-dock that could accommodate this project.

The GBA has agreed to allow for activities to be used in the spirit of the RDP. Some 30 jobs will be created for the duration of the project.

The contractor has undertaken to minimize any impact their activities may have on the surrounding community. There will be no night work when 24 hours working will be necessary. Health and safety measures will be requested.

Petty Officer Shiralda Miller

GUESS WHO'S 21 TODAY?

One of the South African Navy's flagships, DE MIST turns 21 on Wednesday 21 July 1999. She is one of three original frigates acquired by the SA Navy when the Royal Navy handed over a few small ships. Launched (DL) on 1 April 1987, De Mist is the "youngest" of the three - the first two being De Noorde and De Noye.

The flagship was launched on 27 July 1970 at the Bayhead Shipyard of Durban in Durban and arrived in Simon's Town on 28 December 1970. She was named after Corné Willemer, Governor Jansz Abraham Dierhage De Mist.

De Mist differs from the conventional frigates due to the two Motti-Schneider propulsion units. They are located under the keel at the hull and are designed to provide highly manoeuvrable steering in any direction. She achieves a free-running speed of 12 knots and has an ahead speed out of 25 knots.

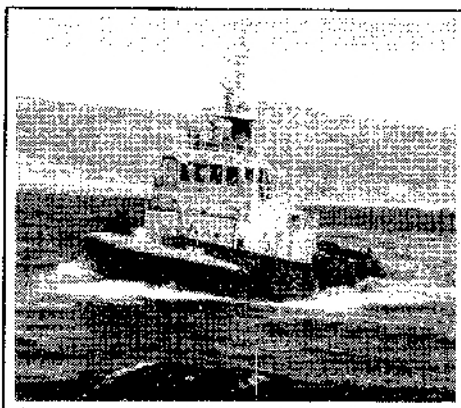
De Mist's primary function is that of harbour tug but is equally well suited to coastal and fire fighting operations. She is armed with two forward launch and intercept missiles (pro of light water foam stored in a tank. This can be directed by launchers driven by the main engines and projected from the masthead and through hatches.

In June 1994 she played vital role when a supertanker developed a crack in her hull and had to be towed to be transferred. She was responsible for "manning" the two

sels. Other "ad hoc" tasks include taking visiting groups (school children) on seatrips, scattering of ashes (on request) and towing targets used by the SA Navy in naval gun-fire exercises.

Her current crew are Warrant Officer Class 1 P. Thomson (master), Chief Petty Officer J. Carlessen - (chief engineer), Petty Officer Z. Baker (second engineer), Mr L. George (prop engineer), Mr R. Simpson (acting bosun) and Mrs L. George, R. Simpson, G. Baker, G. de Stadler, G. Witbooi, D. Bennett and F. Jenkins (bosun's mates).

Petty Officer Shiralda Miller, SA Navy



De Mist Particulars:

Length	34.3 m	Brake Horse Pwr.	2,440
Beam	7.8 m	Propulsion	Two Voith-Schneider cycloidal propulsion units
Draught	3.4 m	Speed	12 knots
Displacement	275 tons	Bollard Pull	25 tons
Machinery	Two 8-cyl Mirreles Blackstone ESL-8-MGR diesel engines	Complement	11

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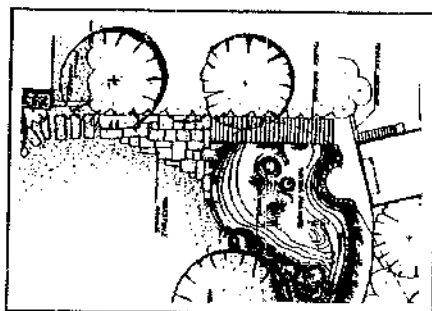
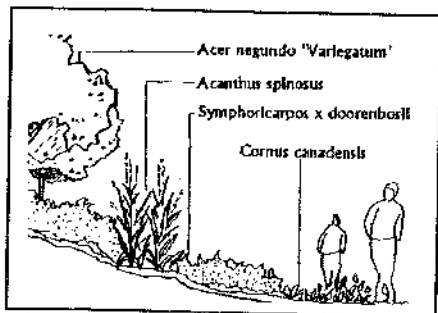
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NSRI Station 10 Simon's Town - August 1999

It is difficult to believe that the N.S.R.I. is a voluntary organization depending on donations and public funding for its very existence. A glance at some recent log book occurrences makes one wonder!

In June "Caltex Star" was launched on the 13th in response to a call from Fish Hoek Law Enforcement Officials to attend a Hobie Cat that had capsized in False Bay which the crew were unable to right. At the scene the coxswain of "Caltex Star", ordered two crew into the water, and, using the boat and swimmers managed to right the craft but with the weight of water in the hulls it immediately capsized. The crew then disconnected the forestay and dropped the mast and "Caltex Star" towed the craft to within 200 meters of the shore from where it was swum ashore by 4 swimmers. On this occasion the coxswain was Lee Adcock and crew David Fellows, Angus Miles, Wells Bailey and David Johnson. Base Control was undertaken by Spooky Selk and Myles Barkway.

Again on the 30th of June at 1608 a swimmer was reported in difficulty by a person on Fish Hoek catwalk. This time the inflatable "Eddie Beaumont" was launched and on arrival searched the area. The mobile 4x4 followed and its crew searched the shoreline, and, at 1652 the "Caltex Star" was also launched and joined the search. At 1800 the search was discontinued due to bad light. The next day a team of police and rescue service divers searched the area but nothing was found. In this case two individual persons at two different places had reported the incident and thus it is not considered to be a hoax call.

Coxswain: Darren Zimmerman, Crew G Burchell, W Combrink, P Alexander, L Duimelaar and K Combrink, Base Control D-Fellows.

On the 3rd of July a call came in from Port Control, Cape Town to contact an inflatable craft adrift off Smitswinkel Bay. From the Base the provided cellphone number was called and it was ascertained that the out-

board motor had failed and one crew member had swum ashore to obtain help. "Eddie Beaumont" was launched to the scene and the station Mobile 4x4 was dispatched to pick up the crew member. The tow was picked up at 1551 and proceeded to Miller's Point arriving at 1607 where the crewman rejoined his boat.

Coxswain: L Duimelaar Crew: J Lourens, M Coetzee. Base D-Fellows and N Barkway Mobile: E Selk and A Males.

On the 5th of July a call was received from Port Control that a 20 foot fishing trawler "Oubaas" had run aground off the Northern Shore of Buffels Bay. Both rescue crafts were launched and proceeded at best speed to the casualty. On arrival, the station Mobile 4x4 was on the scene and reported that six of the seven crew were safely ashore, only the skipper remained unaccounted for. At 0845 the fishing vessel "Sandy" reported that they had recovered the skipper who was

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then transferred to the "Eddie Beaumont" from where he was transferred to an ambulance at Buffels Bay slip. It is of interest to note that during this incident no lifejackets were used by any of the crew members of the casualty. The skipper had clung to floating debris for eight on seven hours. He suffered from hyperthermia but was soon stabilised.

Crews for this rescue were Coxswain: Lee Adcock, L Duimelaar, K Laurens, P Alexander, W Bailey, D Johnson, W Combrink. Base Control: D Zimmerman and S Selk.

On the 19th of July at 2308 a call out was received from Port Control Cape Town that the yacht "Coastal Sailing Academy" had contacted the Cape Point lighthouse keeper saying their outboard motor was defective and as there was no wind and they were dragging their anchor, they were in danger of running ashore. As the sea was calm the "Eddie Beaumont" was towed to Buffels Bay and launched from the slip. Upon reaching the drifting yacht a tow was passed

and the yacht was towed to Simon's Town. The crew of the Mobile 4x4 controlled the operation from the lighthouse and returned to base keeping the "Eddie Beaumont" in sight all the way to Simon's Town. This yacht eventually sailed off from its temporary mooring at the False Bay Yacht Club bound for Gordons Bay. To date no letter of thanks or donation or offer of payment for temporary moorings has been received by Station 10 N.S.R.I. or False Bay Yacht Club. This is a tremendous cause of discontent amongst the volunteer crew members who leave their homes in an instant to rush out to assist people in need of assistance and this is how they are thanked. Fortunately their remuneration is knowing that they have helped their fellow man and not all of them react in this way.

Coxswain: Darren Zimmerman. Crew P Alexander, P F Jansen, Ms B Botham. Mobile 4x4: Chops Craig, Warren Combrink.

Deputy Station Commander Dennis Zimmerman noticed that "Caltex Star's"

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motors were running very rough and giving difficulty starting. The motors were taken out and stripped down. The one motor's outlet ports in the cylinder head were badly corroded. With the spare engine and the purchase of a new engine block the motors have now been reassembled, the engine compartment has been repainted, the engine blocks have been painted and now everything is ship shape and in perfect running order. Thanks to Dennis and a willing group of helpers "Callex Star" has a new lease of life.

Station Commanders Report (July 1999)

All the call out incidents have been covered in this article.

A Global Positioning System has been purchased with a portion of the money received as a donation from ABSA Bank at a cost of R3500. The remainder will be used to purchase foul weather gear for boats' crew.

Four station 10 members attended Mr. Raymond Cadars' funeral and an obituary had been written.

***Yours Aye, Don Dollery
Member Support Committee
N.S.R.I. Simon's Town***

Beach and Coastal Patrol - August

Since my report last month, little change can be expected so soon at this time of the year. After all, there are too few foreign tourists whom we need to impress. However, the authorities have not been idle. The two bridges adjacent to the Glencairn beachfront are undergoing major structural repairs, the parking area has been gravelled and a damaged section of wall re-built. At Water's Edge, some - but not all - of the worn split timber steps are now replaced with railway sleepers and a rockery built around a water seepage channel. Unfortunately, the busy path becomes a dust bowl in summer, because the watering tap is never used. On the other hand, its sheltered free-of-charge seat (the only one on Simon's Town

beaches) is used continually - by penguins!

The penguin takeover of Water's Edge leads me to report on how local beach-goers regard Boulders Park. All of those canvassed felt that Parks Board was doing a great job in controlling soil erosion, eradicating alien vegetation and preventing penguin disturbance. Of the two regrets, one is that they can no longer pay for access to their traditional beach via Willis Walk only to swim, without also having to pay for unwanted viewing of the penguin colony. The second is that to take full advantage of their season ticket, even pensioners have to also explore Cape Point and Silver Mine.

Before we leave Boulders, perhaps the odd visitor right now needs to be warned against theft in its own and other beach parking areas. Signs would help, by advising people not to leave visible items of value in an unattended car. This is obvious to us, but apparently there are few foreign travel agents that tell visitors about our shocking crime problem.

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In my next report, I hope to have more news on Intersite's short-term plan for Glencairn, Mackerel Bay and Long Beach. The winter flooding at Glencairn station is now so bad that commuters can best reach the platform by boat! This huge problem has existed for too long and needs to be rectified. The same applies to Mackerel Bay with its ugly tin shanties and now obsolete railway siding. Even worse is Long Beach, because its sad state is highly visible to passing tourists and offensive to predominantly coloured users. It is about time Intersite and SPM got together to resolve this issue.

Beachcomber

"Fishy Tales" - 3

Closer to Simon's Town than the true Nautilus featured last month are the "naughty" sea anemones. Those on our rocky shores are supposed to live in the "Cochlear" zone (named after the common pear-shaped limpet *Patella cochlear*, but some hardy species trespass intertidal pools! Fortunately, most of the over 2000 marine invertebrate species in False Bay stick to one of five zones, so we always know where to find them. Furthermore, 60% are endemic to South Africa, and of these - no less than 14% are found only in the Bay. It is interesting to note that most groups have existed since the Cambrian Period for at least 500 million years!

As Cnidarians (from Greek *knide* meaning nettle), anemones are related to corals and even bluebottles. They capture prey by firing harpoon-like structures named "nematocysts". These can achieve a velocity of two metres per second with acceleration of 40,000 times gravity! A paralyzing toxin is then injected, but we are never at risk. In our waters, there are no lethal marine invertebrates and swimmers need only to worry about occasional strong currents off beaches.

Incidentally, the best treatment for a bluebottle sting is ice and cold water. With jellyfish (also Cnidarians), the recommended treatment for stings is household vinegar. Old remedies like alcohol and meths have proved to be harmful.

The Noorul Islam Cultural Museum

This is the first of what we hope will be regular newsletters addressed to our Friends of the Noorul Islam Cultural Museum and Historical Society.

In 1995 when my husband Sedick and I took occupation of our family home, Amalay House, in Simon's town, we had no idea that within two years of our return to Simon's Town we would start an Historical Society and within eight months thereafter we would open up our home as a museum.

On 26 July 1998, after three weeks of hectic running around collecting photographs and artefacts, we welcomed the community radio station Radio 786 as our first visitors to the Museum. A total of 400-odd people passed through the Museum and it was hailed by everybody as an asset to the Muslim Community of Simon's Town, as well as to the Muslims of the Cape.

The idea of the Museum in Simon's Town was actually the brainchild of myself and Ebrahim Manuel (the son of Toyer Manuel and the grandson of Hadji Bakaar Manuel), and a group of dedicated family members, friends and the remaining Indian community of Simon's Town.

When I returned to Simon's Town, it was a cold and alien little village. One hardly saw familiar faces; gone was the rich and vibrant community who once walked the main road. There was no athaan, no children running around on the sports field or going to the beaches; no Muslims going back and forth to the Mosque. No stream of school children coming and going to the various schools. Even the workers at the Dockyards were noticeably reduced.

Ebrahim, who at that time had collected numerous photographs and newspaper cuttings of the old Simon's Town, handed me his collection to sort and correlate, and together with my own hoard of photographs, documents and artefacts, I began to sort out



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all this rich treasure that was now in my possession. I also attempted to trace the families of Simon's Town, but this is proving to be a mammoth task, which Anwar Baker has also undertaken. I have found the tracing of families extremely interesting, and would welcome any help to myself and Anwar in this fascinating project.

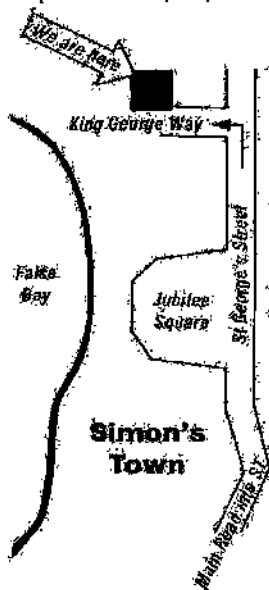
Our members, families and friends have rallied, grown and supplied us with additional items, and Algaandeelel lae we are going from strength to strength.

The rooms in my home which were allocated for the Museum, are getting very crowded, and the space available for the displays of the photographs and artefacts is becoming very limited. We should shortly need to find alternate accommodation; but financial constraints are causing a delay. We are not State funded and have to depend on donations and attendance donations to survive.

We request all our members, friends and all who are interested in our venture, to assist us with further donations of photographs, documents, artefacts etc, and also to assist in the daily running of the Museum. Please remember that, although it is housed in my home, the Museum belongs to you, all the dispossessed people of Simon's Town, and all our loyal friends.

Only by standing together in support can we take ownership of the Naorul Island Museum, and continue to operate the Museum successfully. Your help and support are of the utmost importance. Until the next issue, I bid you adieu.

Zainab (Patty) Davidson
Chairperson
 Tel: 786 2862
 Amlay House,
 King George Way,
 Simon's Town



News from Simon's Town School

So far 1999 has been an extremely busy year at Simon's Town School. The school has an enrolment of 752 learners from grade 1-12, and an academic staff of 38 educators, of whom 9 are paid by the Governing Body of the school.

Not only does the school offer a full academic programme, but it also offers a varied extra-mural programme which includes athletics, soccer, netball, sailing, free-style dancing, shooting, drama, music, squash, rugby, hockey and many other activities.

Some of the highlights this year have been a highly successful fashion show, a drama production of "The Dragon" and a Big Walk in which all the learners took part. Sporting highlights were the selection of Ismael boy, Ryan van Graan, and Mthobeli Kwabesini for the USASA WP soccer team and Gail Stanley and Nicola Barry being chosen to represent FBVC in the Lipton Cup.

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Please phone 786-1056 to arrange an interview.
 e-mail: postmaster@sths.wcape.school.za
 Web Address: www.wcape.school.za/sths

Blisters for Bread False Bay Walk

29 August 1999

On Sunday 29 August thousands of people will take part in the 27th annual Blisters for Bread sponsored walk, to raise funds for Peninsula School Feeding Association (PSFA). Last year there were more than 12,000 walkers.

There are four walks taking place in different areas of Cape Town. One of the most popular walks is the False Bay walk between Muizenberg and Glencairn, Simon's Town.

The False Bay Blisters for Bread walk is between the *Putt Putt in Muizenberg* and the car park at *Glencairn Beach*. The walk starts at 13h30 and walkers can start from either point and return to the same point to finish, making a total walk of 20 kilometres. There are water points along the route and every walker receives a free Coca-Cola at the end.

There is no charge to take part in the walk but all walkers are requested to collect sponsorship money, or make a donation themselves, for Peninsula School Feeding Association. Blisters for Bread is the organisation's biggest fundraising project and this year they need to better the R350,000 raised in 1998.

All donations, however small will be welcomed - especially as PSFA can feed a nutritious meal to a child for just 66 cents.

Peninsula School Feeding Association has been feeding disadvantaged school children in the Peninsula since 1958. Today the organisation feeds more than 200,000 primary school children each school day - including several False Bay schools such as St James RC Primary in Kalk Bay, and Marine and Kleinberg Primary schools in Ocean View. Overall, PSFA distributes an incredible 2,700 kg of jam, 210,000 litres of milk drink and 19,200 loaves of bread every day. Peninsula School Feeding Association's inspiration is that "you can't teach a hungry child".

Blisters for Bread is a wonderful way for family and friends to enjoy a healthy Sunday afternoon together, whilst helping feed hungry children. For more information please contact Rosemary Kahn at Peninsula School Feeding Association on 447-6020.

this year, has come from the Maritime Department. In March this year, Mr Brian Higginshaw presented to us the "1000s List" Salute to Youth and Training" award. This award was only given to six institutions.

The Maritime Award has also been validated by the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers in London. Our congratulations to the Maritime Staff who have made this possible.

This term we have a number of events taking place, and we would like to see the people of Simon's Town there. On the 29 August we are having a Variety Concert at 7.30 and tickets will be available at the door. A lot of effort is put into these concerts and it should be great fun.

A big event on our calendar is our Founder's Day which takes place on the 25 August. There will be a Cadet Parade and Memorial Service at the school at 11.45, after which the various Past Pupils sporting matches will take place. These will include rugby, softball, soccer and hockey and will commence at 13.00. Those past pupils wishing to take part can contact the school at 785-1956. Refreshments will be on sale in the gymnasium from 15.00. As parents, past pupils and friends are welcome to join us.

Another big event is our Cultural Evening taking place on the 3 September from 12.00 to 10.00. The theme for this event is "In and Around Simon's Town" which will focus on the history of Simon's Town and its tourist potential. Some of the attractions will include food stalls, a coffee bar, an art exhibition featuring local artists, a jumpki contest, a Beer Garden and a "Foxy" table. This is going to be a great day and we would love to see you all.

It is not just in Simon's Town School that we can be in Simon's Town, but to become part of Simon's Town. This can only be achieved through the support of the local community and with this in mind, we hope to see you all at these events.

Mr J. H. de Waal

Weight Gain After Smoking Cessation

Concern about gaining weight is probably the next common "barrier" to quitting smoking - especially female smokers. In reality the amount of weight gained is small and its impact on health is far overshadowed by the po-

negative health benefits of quitting.

The average weight gain after quitting smoking is only 2-4 kg over 5 years. Most of this gain occurs in the first few weeks. The patient's weight usually increases in the first month and is maintained over time. Major weight gain (more than 13 kg) occurs in only about 10 smoking-term outliers. The good news is that 20-25 pack smokers lose or maintain their weight. Unfortunately for our female female smokers gain more weight after cessation. Those who are more at risk of gaining weight are usually heavy smokers; younger than 55 yrs and those of lean build.

Weight gain after quitting smoking is mostly due to the removal of the dietary and metabolic effects of nicotine. There is a transient increase in hunger (especially for sweet and fatty foods) during the first few weeks after quitting. Eating patterns do return to normal in the next few weeks. Many smokers have shown that, even though smokers weigh less, they eat the same amount as non-smokers. Eating patterns only change when the smoking habit changes. The small but repeated doses of nicotine in each cigarette also cause an increase in metabolism rate (the rate at which calories are burned). As a result of this, most smokers who gain weight af-



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ter quitting even if they do not eat more. In trying to overcome this problem, it is important to realize that stopping smoking is priority number 1 and addressing the weight can follow later. It is also important to realize that the quitting of smoking have far more advantages than that extra 2-4 kg of body weight. Patients who use nicotine replacements (patches) have a lower risk of gaining weight, but this is only a temporary measure, since stopping the patch leads to weight gain. There are numerous studies pointing to the benefit of the patches in preventing weight gain or managing weight problems in the smoke-ender. For the rest, the usual tips are important: exercise (try walking 30 mins, 3 times per week); do not replace cigarettes with sweets (try healthy snacks); avoid situations associated with smoking for a while (restaurants and parties); get up from the table after meals to avoid substituting that after-dinner cigarette with food and find a new hobby to keep those fingers busy. Remember - the average weight gain after quitting smoking is small and the avoidance of that "little poison pipe" far out weighs the ill effects of the gained weight.

Greetings in Health, Get-a-fix

Coffee Culture - The History of Coffee

The coffee plant originated in Ethiopia and the horn of Africa, where it grows wild even today. Until the 10th century, coffee was considered a food. Ethiopian tribesmen mixed wild berries with animal fat, rolled them into balls, and ate them during their nomadic journeys. (Later, they crushed the berries and fermented them into wine). Legend recounts the story of the goatherd Kaldi, grazing his flock on the upland plains of Ethiopia, noticed that his goats would become particularly frisky after eating the leaves and berries of a certain shrub. He decided to try some himself, and thus discovered the invigorating effects of coffee. He showed the magic berries to the abbot at a nearby monastery who threw them onto a fire, believing them to be the work of the Devil. This released the aroma of coffee, so the berries were hastily taken off the fire and the monks learned how to make the dark beverage we know today.

It was in the country now known as Yemen for-

merly known as Arabia, that the diffusion and horticultural propagation of coffee began. In those days Yemen was one of the busiest places in the world and its main port Mocha, its centre.

Just as tea was a jealously guarded commodity in China, so was coffee regarded by the Arabs. Coffee beans are the seeds of the coffee plant; when stripped of outer cherry and husk, they become infertile, and it was only in this form that they were allowed to be exported from Arabia.

It was inevitable that travellers to Mecca, at the heart of the Muslim world, would carry some of the beans with them. One legend recounts that the Arabs themselves took coffee to Sri Lanka (previously Ceylon) as early as 1505, but the man who is most widely credited with spreading coffee to the East is one Baba Budan, who returned from pilgrimage to Mecca to his home in southwest India with some fertile beans at some point in the 17th century.

Well before the 13th century, coffee houses were fixtures of Middle Eastern life. By the end of the 17th century, they also thrived in Italy, France, Austria, Germany, Holland, England and elsewhere. From time to time, rulers, poli-

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ticians and religious leaders - from Prussia's Frederick the Great in England's Charles II to Pope Clement VII - tried to close coffee houses, wanting to put an end to the free-spirited discussions they encouraged. It is interesting to note that when coffee arrived in Italy, some clerics suggested that it should be excommunicated because it was seen as the Devil's work. The pope at that time, Clement VIII, decided to see for himself. He enjoyed the taste of coffee so much that declared instead that "coffee should be baptised to make it a true Christian drink". But the coffee-house always prevailed. Explorers and traders went on to spread coffee cultivation eastward to Indonesia and westward to the Caribbean and Latin America. European settlers carried coffee drinking with them to the New World. It was not until 1718, when the Dutch took plants to Surinam on the northeast coast of South America, that coffee arrived in what quickly became the coffee centre of the world. There soon followed the establishment of the first plantation in Para in Brazil in 1727, with plants from French Guiana. These were followed by a different variety, from Goa, which were planted around Rio de Janeiro. In Brazil the plants found ideal soil and climate and the

country was destined to become the world's leading coffee producer and coffee would be its main source of wealth.

In 1730 the British introduced coffee to Jamaica, initiating the long and fascinating history of Jamaican Blue Mountain coffee. Then between 1750 and 1760 coffee was first grown in Guatemala. In 1799 Don Francisco Xavier Navarro took plants from Cuba to Costa Rica, and in 1790 coffee was first grown in Mexico. In 1825 seeds from the plantation around Rio de Janeiro were taken to Hawaii, where coffee is grown today.

In 1878 the story came almost full circle when foundations of the Kenyan coffee industry were laid by British settlers who introduced coffee plants to British East Africa, which were augmented in 1901 by plants from La Reunion. In 1887 the French established a plantation in Tonkin (now Vietnam), and in 1896 coffee trees were planted in Queensland, Australia. Thus the secret that the Arabs had so long sought to keep to themselves was known throughout the world.

Malcolm Clark

(Malcolm Clark is Roast Master of the Caribbean Coffee Co. in Simon's Town)

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The Night Sky - August 1999

This month The Night Sky - August 1999 ought to be called, The Sky - August 1999 as so much is happening during the day!

I have been told that Total Solar Eclipses occur quite frequently, as there was a Solar Eclipse visible here on the 16th February 1999. "Partial phases of the Annular Eclipse will be visible from Southern Africa" (on the 16th February) to quote from the *Astronomical Handbook for Southern Africa*, obtainable from the *Astronomical Society of Southern Africa*, PO Box 9, Observatory 7935.

The famous astronomer, Jean Meeus, wrote that, "It is known for a given location on the globe, that the mean frequency is about one Total Solar Eclipse every 375 years, however, the actual distribution is very irregular," and, "some spots on the Earth's surface may not be under the moon's shadow (Solar Eclipse) for 36 Centuries".

There will be a Solar Eclipse over South Africa on 21st June 2001, for the survivors of the Millennium!

On the 11th August 1999 the Path of the Total Solar Eclipse, visible only in the Northern hemisphere, is 70 miles wide, as it cuts across the North Atlantic, the S.W. tip of the United Kingdom, Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, India, and ending in the Bay of Bengal. On both sides of the 70 mile wide strip of totality, there is a broad strip of 90%, followed by strips of 80%, 70%, 60%. Throughout Europe nothing less than 60% will be visible. 60%-70% will be visible over North Africa and Egypt.

Jupiter, Magnitude 2.6 and Saturn 0.2 are very bright morning objects, to be found in the Constellation of Aries. It is worth looking as Saturn with binoculars, as it is tilted at 21°, making its rings visible. It has not been tilted at this angle since 1991. Saturn's rings lie between 77,000 km and 136,000 km from the planet, and are known as the A,B,C Rings and the Crepe Ring. They are about 2 km thick. Saturn has, in addition, 10 Moons - Titan, the largest, with a diameter of 4,800 km is the largest Moon of any planet in the

Solar System. Saturn's Moons are, Janus, Mimas, Enceladus, Tethys, Dione, Rhea, Titan, Hyperion, Iapetus, Phoebe. Titan is easy to find using binoculars.

By the end of August, Mercury and Venus change from being evening planets to being visible in the early morning together with Jupiter and Saturn. On the 26th, Mercury and Venus are in conjunction as a brilliant early morning object.

Until the 16th the bright Venus is an evening planet with Mars. Pluto, Magnitude 13, may be found in Ophiuchus, only by using a telescope. Uranus, Magnitude 5.7 is visible with the naked eye, is in the constellation of Capricorn the Goat, with the difficult to find Neptune nearby. There will be a New Moon on the 11th, and a Full Moon on the 27th.

Meteor Showers - The Aquarid showers are visible after 10 pm on the 12th. Up to 15 meteors per hour may be seen, however, a good shower is expected on the 20th, after 10 pm from the North Aquarids. There will be sporadic showers from this source until the 20th September. These may be viewed from the comfort of an arm chair. Meteors are the debris of Comets, which the Earth encounters on its yearly path around the Sun.

Next to Scorpius, which is such a magnificent sight in the Winter sky, is Sagittarius, which is at the centre of the Universe. Our Solar System is situated on one of the spirals, very far from the centre. As P. Murdin and D. Allen wrote in the *Catalogue of the Universe* "Because we live inside the Galaxy, it is difficult to see its plan clearly. In the same way, it is difficult to draw a plan of our own city from inside it, but from a high flying aircraft the structure can be clearly seen. We can therefore see the structure of other galaxies better than our own, "from various pieces of evidence we deduce that we live in a spiral galaxy. The evidence is first that we obviously live in a flattened kind of galaxy or we would not be able to see a Milky Way." "Astronomers are able to trace the existence of three spiral arms", these are the Orion Arm, the Perseus Arm, and the Sagittarius Arm.

Peter I. van Blommestein

Forthcoming Events August/September

1. SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

Telephone: 786 3046

Walking tours of Simon's Town's "Historic Mile" and the "Cobbled Lanes of Simon's Town" will be conducted every Saturday morning. For more information and booking, please phone Bobby Wise at 786 8189. Donation R10.00 per walk.

Wed 18 Aug

"WELCOMING THE WHALES"

A talk by the Museum's 'Whale Lady', Irene Toerien, on the annual visit of the Southern Right Whales.

Wed 25 Aug A repeat of

"MOSCOW TO BEIJING VIA MONGOLIA ON THE TRANS SIBERIA RAILWAY"

Betty Davis will take us on another exciting journey to unusual places.

Please note starting time for both lectures is:

5.30 for 6 pm. Donation R8. Includes a complimentary glass of wine.

2. THE MASONIC CLUB

Tel: 786 3827, 782 3917

Fri 20 Aug

BINGO AND SUPPER. Tickets. R20.

Sat 14 Aug

MONTHLY DANCE

Tickets R10.

Fri 27 Aug

Musical Evening

3. PENSIONERS' FREE MONTHLY BUS

To Pick 'n Pay from Murdock Valley (Kia Crescent Terminus), then via Glencairn and Fish Hoek to Sun Valley and return. For dates, times and pick up points, Please telephone 786 3137

4. FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

ALL WELCOME!

Enquiries: 786 3890

Sat 21 Aug at 9.30 am

Alien Plant Eradication
Fisherman's Beach.

Wed 8 Sept at 7.30 pm

Simon's Town Museum Hall
Talk by Professor Harley, University of Cape Town "DNA to CONSERVATION"
Some South African Case Studies.

Sat 18 Sept

International Coastal Clean up Day.

Long Beach, Simon's Town at
provisional time 2.30 pm.

School events to be announced later.

5. THE SA NAVY BAND IN CONCERT

Sat 14 August at 7.00 pm

At Fish Hoek Senior High School

Tickets R12.00 each.

Available at the local Tourist Information Offices - Simon's Town
786 2436 / 786 6796.
Fish Hoek 782 4531
Mulzenberg 788 6176

6. ST FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sat 11 Sept at 3 pm

Reverent Canon Henry Frieslaar will be
installed as Rector of St Francis
Church, Simon's Town by the Right
Reverend Bishop Merwyn Castle.
Enquiries: Janet Cartwright
Telephone 782 3298

Deadline for September edition:

Friday 3 September

Publication Date Monday 13 September

Contact Pat Lochhead, Tel: 786-2436

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