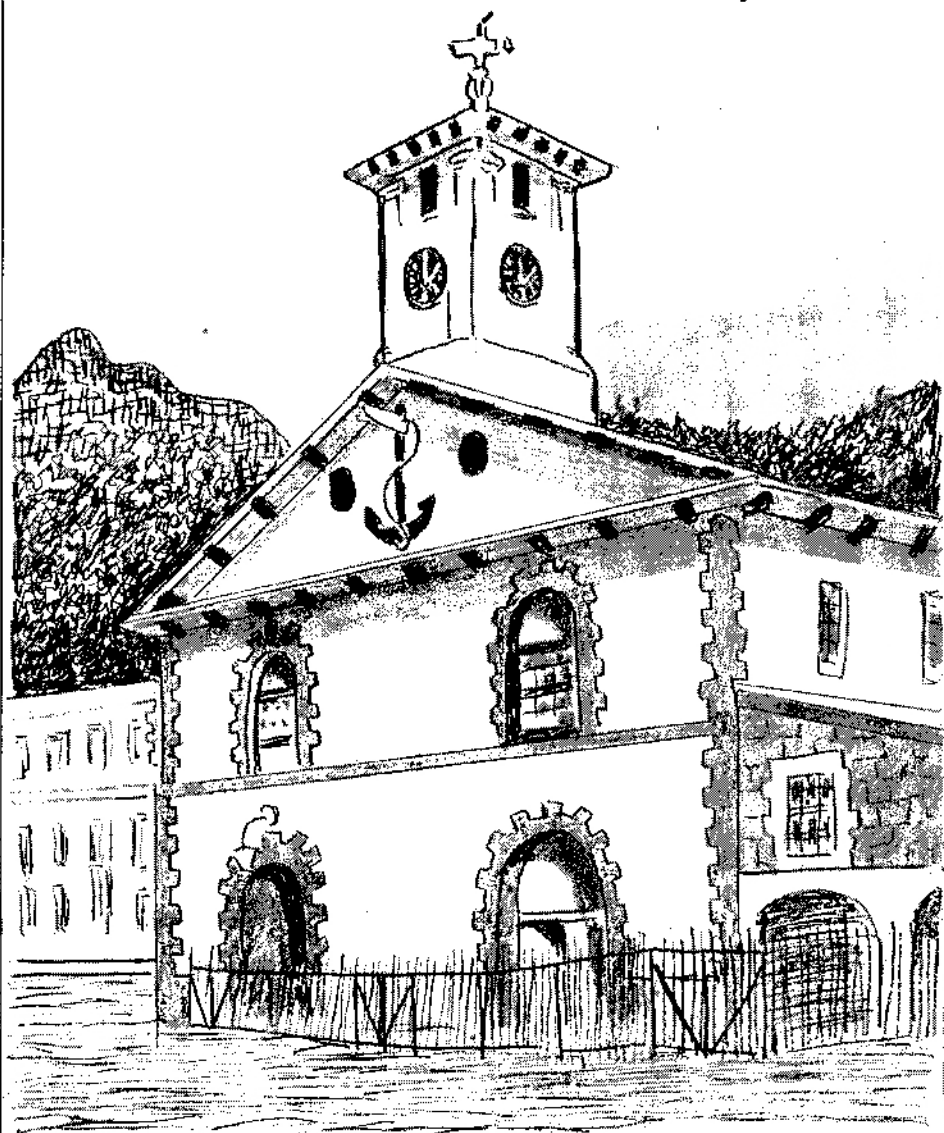


SNOEKTOWN *CALLING*

Vol 3 Issue 10

5 March 2001

"Dockyard Clock"



March Sponsor - Susan Reece-Williams

Editorial

It seems that the traumatic saga of the Blues Buddies remains an issue, but this time, a competitor in the form of a London style 'bobby on the beat' being promoted by Chubb with moral support from the Police Forum. An interesting concept; read more elsewhere in this issue.

A propos the Blues Buddies, I have requested Dr Cecil Bloch, Chairman of the Hout Bay Residents Association to give the clients reaction to the BB's promotion in his town. Hopefully this will be received in time for publication.

Now about Glen Vlei: according to reports, the current situation at the Vlei is not satisfactory, management failure and uncertainty as regards policy objectives. I have requested Jackie Weaver to prepare a review article for publication in the April issue.

Some years ago, when we had our own council and municipality, the ratepayers exec regularly compiled a checklist of road damage, sewage and water leakage etc. The works branch found the checklist most helpful and the consequence was a substantial improvement in quality and rate of repairs. Perhaps we should give this idea another try through the good offices of Snoektown Calling.

So here goes: Send me your list of repairs needed under the following headings - nature of repair needed, locality (suburb, street, erf no, street no). Let's give it a try, shall we.

Reg Loxton
Editor
2 Chapel Rd
786 1750



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Down the Historical Mile

The South Easter was blowing a gale and SLAP had difficulty finding a wind-free haven to hold their February meeting. Stoffel Boesman complained that the summer was the worst in many years, continuous blasting by the south easter. Mientjie Boep-pens feared far the worst - after this wind, only one thing - a wet-wet winter with floods and a big gemors here in Simon's Town. Let me tell you Mr Chair-man, the Town is in for big trouble, you wait and see! Now Mientjie was recognised as a bit of a "siener" and her predictions or feelings often came true. So for a while nothing was said, just thoughts of impending doom - first the fire, now floods, and landslides and general chaos.

Wingnut Williams shook us out of our misery with a report that the Navy had resolved to ban all commercial ships from the dockyard for reasons of security for the fitting out of the new ships expected to arrive in 2002 or thereabouts. Well now, said Stoffel, and what will Trevor Manuel have to say about the loss of thousands of rand of revenue earned as parking fees for foreign ships - like those huge refrigerator ships that lay on the outside wall for months on end - what about that hey!

And, Harold Hardekop burst out, instead of the Navy closing down they should be out there searching for oil rigs to repair in the dockyard. Look what employment benefits the Orca brought to our Town. Ag nee Meneer die Voorsitter, we must speak to Jannie Momborg about this, the Navy doesn't understand!

I tell you, things were really getting hot and even Clara Fijnbosch, normally a very placid person, was looking hot and bothered; but all she could say was "Ag Shame".

Streetwalker



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Ward Councillor's Report

1. Following on my comments in the last Shetkdown about unsafe building practices on our mountain slopes I have received an interesting pamphlet from UKUSA Operation Firestop Campaign. I shall quote from this, but full information is available from skyukaguide.co.uk or 0800 008 376.

Dangerous situations:

- Wooden pergolas
- Timber decks
- Timber posts to ground level
- Internal corners on veranda
- Building materials, paint etc, stacked under or against houses
- Unprotected windows and unpainted timber sills
- Unprotected exposed gas pipes
- Timber traps where timber contacts the ground, e.g. doors and pillars
- Wooden garden shed close to the house
- Wooden fences or balconies not maintained

Further advice is given about preparations - Action to take:

- Report any fire immediately. Phone 127 (remember you can only dial this number on a Talkabout fire)
- Decide whether to stay and defend your house or leave with in advance
- Reduce the potential fire fuel around the buildings.
- Look at the house design and construction to keep embers out
- Ensure easy access and turning space for emergency vehicles
- Plan for a lack of mains water pressure, no power, no available assistance and no waiting
- Employ fire protective landscaping and gardening to create a "safety zone" around your house
- Plan for protection of your pets and other animals
- Draw up a contingency preparation and

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action plan

- Practice your action plan to test it and look for improvements
- Develop a communications network and protocol to prevent overloading the system
- Be prepared.
- Stay calm and stick to your fire protection plan

These practical suggestions have been developed in conjunction with the County Fire Authority, Victoria, Australia. Perhaps those of you with relatives and friends in Australia could find out other useful fire prevention tips of benefit

2. Parking at the 7-11 at Seaforth has become hazardous. The bays have been re-marked for parallel parking only and **not** for diagonal parking. The configuration there is designed by the metropolitan road authorities taking into account various factors like line of sight, number of bays required etc. In fact the line of sight and the speed people travel along that road as well as those who persist in doing illegal U-turns makes diagonal parking and reversing into the road not only illegal but also stupid.

3. The sale of the old Marine Oils' site has been confirmed. The property is zoned Industrial. Redevelopment will require rezoning as well as Environmental, Traffic and Heritage Impact Assessments. There is quite a long process ahead, and considerable community involvement and I am sure that we will end up with an asset to the town.

4. Much needed employment opportunities will arise with the development of the above site as well as with the arrival of the new naval vessels and the work to be done on these in the naval dockyard.

5. Outstanding issues include implementing the Traffic Management Plan for Simon's Town and, most importantly, managing the parking problems.

**Alderman Nicki Holderness
Ward 69 City of Cape Town**

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1. Individuals

D & Mrs Peter Fraps R2000.00
(payment by instalments)

2. Associations

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2. Corporate

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Community Policing

Just to correct some misinformation that seems to be circulating:

Existing contributors, business and residential, to Community Policing must please continue to make their payments to Dorothy at the Pharmacy. "Old Faithful" subscribers are not affected by the new broader-based marketing drive and should also note that their contributions are not affected by any commission payment.

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Simon's Town Civic Association

NEWSLETTER

Membership

A very warm welcome to those many people who joined the STCA in response to our appeal by pamphlet earlier this month. Your support is greatly appreciated and has brought our membership to about 20 per cent of our community and still rising as more people join. Our thanks, too, to former members who have rejoined. From now on we will keep all of you fully informed about your Association's activities in monthly newsletters, with interim newsletters when warranted. They will go out both by e-mail and ordinary post.

Some standing members who paid their annual R50 subscription to the old Ratepayers' and Residents' Association at its annual general meeting last July are concerned at being asked to pay again now. To clarify the situation:

The STCA financial year will be January 1 to

December 31. People who paid R50 last July now need to pay only R25 to cover the second half of this year.

Members of the old Glenpark Civic Association, however, are due to pay fees now. For them it has gone up, unfortunately, but they are getting more for it.

Many of our listed members receiving this newsletter are not up to date with their fees and we would be grateful if they could update now. Anyone who wants to know what their status is, or more about fees should phone our treasurer, Ian Allan, at 7822786.

Some who responded to our appeal also raised questions or made suggestions. The STCA will deal with those it can, but members must please remember that the committee is a small body of voluntary workers, most with full-time jobs, who cannot cope with all enquiries.

Their primary task is to monitor, protect and promote the community's interests and deal with the authorities on your behalf. With routine problems like potholes, sewage leaks and uncollected garbage, please try to resolve them yourself through the usual channels. If that fails, then come to the STCA and bring the record of what you have done.

Obviously, if there is a major problem you cannot cope with, bring it straight to the committee.

Here's the latest STCA news:

Ward Councillor

Our huge new Unity is still very much in the throes of sorting itself out, as our Councillor, Mrs Nicki Holderness, made clear in a briefing to the committee on February 12. It will be many months before it shakes down into its new format under a chief executive instead of a mayor.

One major problem has already appeared in the creation of **sub-councils** comprising elected ward councillors and those to be appointed as proportionate representatives.

It is that we in the Deep South are being lumped together with several other wards into a sub-council which is, effectively, the same.

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size as the old South Peninsula Municipality. Logically thousands south of the natural division of the Sunshine Ridge - 63 and 74 - should form one council and those north of it their own according to their particular physical and practical conditions.

Moreover, Mrs Hydenberg said, the Unity chiefs do not want the sub-councils to have any control over municipal services in their areas, which she believes they must have. Sub-councils, it seems, are in danger of being just good talk shops.

Compounding the confusion is that in setting up sub-councils the Unity is using 1956 population statistics, which have been shown to be hopelessly inaccurate. Maighumville's population, for instance, is now estimated at about 1000 - several times more than the official figure.

The STCA fully supports her demand for a smaller regional sub-council, with necessary executive powers.

Other points are made:

The move of the library into the old man-of-war building next door is being delayed. The building urgently needs roof repairs before hand. The STCA will meet this up with the Integrated Working Group.

The whole infrastructure of the old SPM - officials departments, phone numbers - is still in place while the Unity aims to set four and everyday business can be conducted through it as usual. This is what the South Peninsula Administration.

There is no clarity yet as to whether unities will be allowed to have their own metropolitan police, as Durban has had for decades. It al-

lowed, such a force without hundreds of sub-poles and the government is unlikely to pay. This leaves hanging the whole assumed community police officers.

Da Gama Park

Residents of this township for Navy families have formed their own association, which we expect to be represented on the STCA. The Navy is encouraging employees living in Simon's Town to join the STCA.

SAN Dockyard

Contrary to a common misconception recently caused by incorrect information, the Simon's Town dockyard is not about to be expanded into major industrial operations. It is, of course, and always has been a military installation complex and will continue to such when the new ships the Navy has acquired arrive here for completion.

Thus we have been categorically assured of by the SAN representative on our committee. The only expansion in the dockyard - and it has been public knowledge for some time - will be a new headquarters building near the Mafeking tower to accommodate personnel now housed in premises all over Simon's Town. The new building is expected to be about three storeys high and then an examination of the site, however, be obvious.

The new ships coming in the next few months will be modern missile boats and their final fitting will be done here. Most of it will be electronic and the dockyard facilities are being extended accordingly.

This will give a much-needed boost to our

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local economy.

Blues Buddies

The dust raised by the Blue Buddies venture seems to have settled. It was caused by the aggressive canvassing for funds by Integrated Marketing, the Hout Bay company contracted by our Business Association to find money for our community police officer, plus more.

Business Association chairman Andre Duraan apologised for their behaviour, which he said was neither expected nor wanted, and instructed the company to tone down its approach. Since then complaints have dropped sharply.

Meanwhile it has raised funds, which the Business Association has been struggling hard to do for years with lackadaisical local support.

National Parks

The national parks in the Peninsula - specifically the Boulders penguin park - continue to give the STCA considerable concern.

The three main subjects of concern are:

- the relationship between urban residents and the parks and how to reconcile the inter-

ests of both,

- the issue of entrance fees which local residents regard as prohibitively high for amenities they have had free rights to in the past,
- the reputed over-zealousness of the parks administrators in eradicating alien but non-invasive vegetation and thereby degrading public amenities.

The STCA intends sending a delegation to the executive of the Cape Peninsula National Parks to discuss these and other concerns and find an amicable resolution.

Property

- The **False Bay Yacht Club** has applied to renew the lease on their premises for 99 years. The STCA supports the application.

Representation

There has been some confusion lately over the representation on the STCA committee of the environmental groups in Simon's Town, of which there are about six. Initially they were represented by Dr Mike Berger but he stepped down last year.



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"WE CARE"

At the February 12 committee meeting they were represented by Chris de Villiers of the Simon's Town Environmental Advisory Committee. This body had quasi-official status with the SPM but has not been functioning fully for some time. The committee has asked for the various "green" organisations to jointly select a representative, preferably through the STEAC because it retains its status in the new municipal structure.

Other items

- The **whale skeleton** whose owners wanted to erect it at Seaforth has finally found a permanent home in the Waterfront aquarium in Cape Town.
- The STCA will ask the provincial traffic authorities to make a thorough study of the **traffic** situation in Queen's Road (the Main Road) between Seaforth and Harrington roads because of the congestion there, and recommends some form of traffic control.
- Plans to improve the appearance of the **entrance** to Simon's Town have been held up by problems of land ownership: which is

railway, municipal or provincial? Watch this space.

YOUR TURN

The STCA is not some distant and dull organisation dedicated to dusty drudgery. It is made up of **you** and all its other members. The committee would very much like to hear from you - not complaints but constructive, imaginative ideas for making life better for everyone in this lovely corner of the world. One suggestion to start with: how can the Metrorail service be so improved that people will want to use it, enjoy travelling on it as they used to, and it will attract tourists.

Until next time, best wishes from the committee.

Simon's Town Civic Association

P.O. Box 47 Simon's Town 7995
Chairman: Mrs Jacky Weaver 7825335
Vice-chairman: Geoffrey Palmer 7865402
Communications: Wilf Nussey 7861368

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Important Notice!

Scooter Raffle

The draw for the **Starway 50cc Scooter** has been extended to the end of April 2001 to co-incide with our Gala Evening. Tickets are limited and are available at most shops in Simon's Town for R25.

The scooter can be viewed at Simon's Town Pharmacy.

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PROPERTY WATCH No 27

March 2001

1. CURRENT APPLICATIONS.

Dates of applications currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Local Authority are:

1.1. Eri No 2679, Glencairn: Application for Amendments to the Approved Site Development Plans at the Glencairn Shopping Centre to permit the building of 5 new shops and extensions to the 2-nd supermarket. This application has been approved by the Urban & Environmental Services Committee subject to environmental and aesthetic objections being resolved between the objectors and the developer. Comments from all parties have now been received and are being collated and processed. No change from February report.

1.2. Eri No 1247, Simon's Town: (Cor Harrington and Queens Roads, Mestert). Application for a Development to permit the estab-

lishment and operation of an art gallery and coffee shop on a residential site. A report has been prepared for submission to the new Urban & Environmental Services Committee which is likely to take over from the SPAL Urban & Environmental Services Committee. No change from February report.

1.3. Eri 68, Simon's Town (Glencairn): Land Use Change application on behalf of the Walden Schools. A number of objections were submitted and a report by independent consultants is still awaited. No change from February report.

1.4. Eri 2980, Simon's Town (Erica Road, Murdock Valley): Proposed Alienation or Lease of portion of the municipal land. The Eri is to go successful and the two portions purchased by the Applicant and a neighbour, subject to a final valuation of the property.

1.5. Eri 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. The applicant has lodged an appeal against the Urban and Environmental Services Committee's refusal to approve the recent applica-

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&

Salad

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cation. The decision of the Provincial Government is still awaited. No change from February report.

1.6. Erf 1180, 198 Queens Road, Simon's Town: Application for a Land Use Departure to convert a Residential House into a Medical Practice. A decision regarding parking facilities is awaited from the Unicity Municipality. No change from February report.

1.7. Erven 4348 and 4349, Welcome Glen: Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 10 portions. This was turned down by the SPM and is on appeal to the Provincial Government. No change from the February report.

1.8. Erf 4595 Calmside: Application to subdivide into two portions was not approved by the SPM and has been referred on appeal to the Provincial Government, whose decision is awaited. No change from the February report.

1.9. Erf 625 Simon's Town: (Military Way, Bayview) Application to sub-divide into two portions without formal road access to one

erf. One portion is to be consolidated with Erf 2643.

1.10. Erf 2212, Glencairn Heights: Application for a Bed and Breakfast establishment. Objections were received by SPM, who now await response from the applicant re parking facilities. No change from the February report.

2. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS

2.1. CFM 983, Wildschutsbrandvlei: Application for Land Use Departure to permit an arts and craft shop, a pottery studio and sales outlet and a place for curio sellers. The Provincial Government's decision on a report submitted by the Urban & Environmental Services Committee is still awaited. No change from the February report.

2.2. CFM 1404, Wildschutsbrand Farm: Application for Land Use Departure for the Establishment of a Restaurant and Tea Garden, an African Arts and Crafts Market and Overnight Accommodation. A decision on the findings of an independent Environmental

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Impact Assessment Report is still awaited. No change from the February report.

2.3. Erf 2204, Glencairn Heights: Application by Ericsson South Africa to permit the installation of a Cellular Communication Base Station and Antenna at 14 Golconda Street for the 3rd Cellular Service Provider. Objections have been received and the application is being processed.

2.4. Erf 3321, Glen Marine: Application by Ericksson South Africa to permit the installation of a Cellular Communication Base Station and Antenna at Erf3312, Seemeeu Street for the 3rd Cellular Service Provider. The closing date for objections is 2 March 2001

2.5. Erven 3117 and 2904, Simon's Town: These erven are being disposed of by the SPA. Objections were called for by 16 February 2001 but to date no objections nor tenders have been received

Geoff Palmer
Simon's Town Civic Association

The Emergency Control Centre

The Emergency Control Centre, situated at False Bay Hospital, serves the area from Cape Point to Lakeside to handle calls on a wide variety of problems and is manned 24 hours a day.

Like 107, it has direct radio contact with Police, Ambulance and Fire services, also with Law Enforcement and Chubb Security.

Apart from the emergencies handled by those authorities, the Centre assists the public in problems relating to accidents, vagrants, mudslides, maritime emergencies, poachers, snakes, lost or straying animals and many others in excess of 100 calls a month.

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News from Naval Base - Simon's Town

SA Navy Programme - March / April 2001

8-9 Mar	Arrival of Minervaexpress	SA Naval Dockyard	
15-19 Mar	Visit by Swedish ship LEWIS CAPE SIKHONA	Cape Town	
		Dir M V: Bayan 787 3431	787 4129
31 Mar	Navy Festival Fair	SAS OUTENQUA	Mrs K Knight 787 3860
3 Apr	Box and Dine	SAS OUTENQUA	Mrs F Brown 712 9647
4 Apr	Fiber Puling Regatta	SA Naval Dockyard	Capt Geron 787 3943
6 Apr	Drydock Concert (18h30)	SA Naval Dockyard	Mrs K Knight 787 3860
6-8 Apr	Navy Festival	SA Naval Dockyard	Mrs K Knight 787 3860

Simon's Town Navy Festival

6-8 April 2001

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Future Commercial Use of Naval Dry Dock and Ship Lift Facilities in Simon's Town

2001 heralds the arrival of the first 13 ships and submarines from Germany. Extensive fitting out of state-of-the-art systems, sensors and weapons on board these vessels will be done in the naval dockyard over the next few years.

Whilst the benefits of the commercial use of the dry dock and ship lift facilities are self-evident, the SA Navy is a State asset. As such the SA Navy is required to comply with operational and security prescriptions.

As the facilities which are in commercial demand are situated in a SANDF high security area and co-located with the facilities required for the ship and submarine

projects, it is becoming increasingly difficult to allow foreign nationals or even local contractors without the necessary security clearances, into the naval dockyard.

As a result, it is considered necessary to discontinue the repair of commercial vessels in the Simon's Town Harbour as soon as present contractual obligations have been fulfilled. There will however be occasions when exceptions will need to be made e.g. in the event of an emergency.

Admiralty House Garden Picnic with the SA Navy Band

Sunday 11 March 2001, 6-8pm

A picnic is being held in the gardens of Admiralty House, Simon's Town in **Sunday 11 March at 6pm - 8pm**, with the SA Navy Band providing the musical entertainment.

Members of the public are invited to attend. Entrance is R50 per person and tickets can be purchased from Computicket or the Tourist Information Centre in Simon's Town.

Bring your own picnic basket and note that the gates will open at 4pm so that you can be comfortably settled before the music begins! The music programme includes items from popular musicals, the movies and some jazz. **Plus**, an auction of some wine and a painting of Admiralty House by talented artist and navy Captain, Tim Johnson.

Arranged under the auspices of the Naval Heritage Society, funds raised are in aid of the Naval Heritage Trust. Admiralty House was proclaimed a National Monument in 1972 - please support us in preserving this special heritage. At only R50 a head, you will have a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Enquiries 786 1907.

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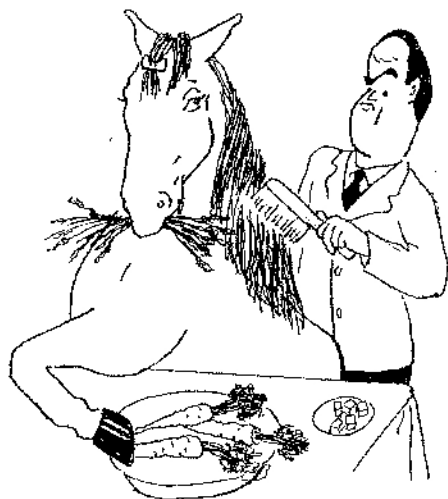
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Navy Stories

Accommodation for the Night

We know that ignorance of the Law is no excuse. Well, some years ago there served a very smart and brave Warrant Officer (WO). Whatever the problem was, this WO would and could solve these problems. He was a very artistic and eccentric personality and would do all sorts of weird and naughty things.

Just before sunset one Friday evening a rider and horse arrived at the Lord Nelson Inn. The rider dismounted, tied his horse's reins to the metal rail (still there today) outside the hotel, went inside and asked in a low voice - being a Gunnery Instructor - to see the "Inn Keeper". Eventually the owner arrived and was requested to have his horse walked to cool down, groomed, watered and stabled for the night. Dinner for himself, and a bed.



An amazed owner protested but the newly arrived guest pulled out a Government Gazette dated 18-something, swore it had not changed and demanded service, to bed him and his horse. Eventually a very amused horse trainer from Constantia arrived with a horse box to accommodate the horse for the night. The next morning the guest paid his bill, mounted his horse and rode off.

Rumour has it that the hotel Ordinance Laws or whatever were changed and gazetted about three months later.

Chief in the Navy

Some years ago one of the President Class frigates had to sail at short notice to conduct a rescue mission. As the ship was in a self maintenance period a little bit of organised chaos was being conducted. The young Boats Officer reported to the Captain that both inflatable boats and outboard motors were ashore for maintenance at Wingfield. Being a late Friday evening things had to move fast. The Boats Officer (Lieutenant) went to see the Warrant Officer (WO) in charge of the

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bridge office. The Lieutenant explained this serious problem. The WO immediately picked up the phone and started organising things.

The Lt. walked in the office to find out what was happening and overheard the following conversation: "Yes, yes Chief Petty Officer: I know we must submit for a so-and-so seven days prior to delivery date, but this is an emergency. Yes, yes." Stopped. Then the WO put his neck "Listen to me, you little s... You're a chief in the Navy, are chief of the... Navy. When this ship sails in two hours that equipment had better be on Board - instantly!"

An amazed Lieutenant looked at all the brand new equipment when the ship sailed. The Lt. had spent about an hour on the phone to Wingfield before she went to see the WO: "Man, these old hands know how to do things."

Malcolm

Simon's Town Museum News

The De Nys Stone

The inscription on the gravestone of the Postholder Adriaan de Nys reads:

Ter gedachtenis van
De
Heer Adriaan de Nys
in

Zyn Leven Onder
Oorp Man

In Hoof, van de
Bapt. Kerk

Gebooren, Den 27 Sep, 1711

En Over Leeden

Den 1 Maart Ann. 1761

De Nys was the second Postholder of the Dutch East India Company's anchorage at Simon's Bay, succeeding Justina Blas in 1750. He lived next door to the Reel-

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dency (which is now the Simon's Town Museum) in the Postholder's House (now West Gate Residences). He had married Maria Magdalena Meyer on 25 February 1742 and they had six children. Adriaan came from Amsterdam and Maria Magdalena was the second daughter of the French Huguenot, Pierre Meyer, who arrived in the Cape in 1688.

On his death Adriaan De Nys was buried at Cole Point. His gravestone became "well-travelled" around Simon's Town, being moved from Cole Point with the building of the police station in 1934, to the Old Burying Ground at Seaforth. Here it changed positions at least twice.

Moving the stone must have occasioned much "blood, sweat and tears" because it measures 2560mm by 1280mm and is 200mm thick. A geologist writing in 1968, thought it to be a type of reconstituted, impure sandstone. It is not a local stone and must have been procured from much further afield. It would have been a very expensive stone to import into Simon's Town.

The De Nys stone has finally been "laid to rest" in front of the Simon's Town Museum at the request of the VOC Foundation and with assistance and funding from the Simon's Town Historical Society and the Van Ewijks Society, together with the much-needed physical assistance of the SA Navy riggers. It lies next to a Dutch

East India Company gun dating from c.1780.

Just Nuisance Day

The Simon's Town Museum and The Great Dane Rescue Scheme have organised a Parade of Great Danes to be led by the SA Navy Band, from the Simon's Town Museum to Jubilee Square on Sunday 1 April 2001 at 15h00

Participants are requested to assemble at Simon's Town Museum at 14h00. Celebrate and participate in a tribute and commemoration of Simon's Town's famous Great Dane "Able Seaman Just Nuisance" followed by a blessing of the Great Danes.

There will also be a competition for a Just Nuisance Look-a-Like, A Miss Just Nuisance and a Least-Like Nuisance. Each participant in the Parade will receive a rosette. Food and refreshment stalls will be provided and seating will be available on Jubilee Square for spectators.

Great Danes are requested to ask their owners for a donation of R15 per person for the whole afternoon. Spectators are to pay R15 per person too. Children under 12 can participate free.

Tickets are available at the Simon's Town Museum Tel: **786 3046**.

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The Jewish Community of Simon's Town

The Simon's Town Museum recently embarked on a project to research the history of the Jewish community in Simon's Town after we received a query from the granddaughter of Carl Chenik. Although we knew there had been a relatively large Jewish community in Simon's Town, we had very little information in our archives. Some Simon's Town Jewish families were from Lithuania. For the most part Lithuanian Jews immigrated to South Africa from 1881 to 1910.

In the early 1900's the Jewish community met in the Phoenix Lodge for religious gatherings. On a certificate presented to Carl Chenik, they called themselves The Simon's Town Hebrew Congregation. The certificate is signed by E. Epstein, H. Levy, J. Freedman, F. Berman, A. Chenik, A. Knopfer, E. Peirnor ? (indistinct), A. Abramson and A. Horwitz. (Some of the first name initials are difficult to decipher, so they may be incorrect.)

By the 1940's and 1950's the Jewish community began to diminish and major religious festivals were celebrated in Cape Town or Muizenberg. Below is the only information we have at the museum about our Jewish people.

Information taken from brochures, pamphlets and voter's rolls in the archives of the Simon's Town Museum:

Abramson, A - 1906/8 to ?

Abramson & Katz - butchers, 1906

Abramson & Freedman - butchers, St George's Street, 1908-1911

Adler - news agent and barber, 1930-1940

Arlasoroff, B. & Co - general dealer, 1901-1906

Berman, B - produce & general merchant, Waterfall Road area, Back Buildings, facing Admiralty House Gardens, 1908. Were two brothers who moved to Fish Hoek and are supposed to have built the first shop there.

Berman, F? - 1906/8 to ?

Bernstein

Binderman, S - tailor, Old Rectory Building, 1906-1908

Braude, Mrs Rosie - Black's Lane, 1939-1946

Cheirt, H - American tailor and outfitter, 1908-1911

Chenik, A - 1906/8 to ?

Chenik, Carl - born 17 June 1887 in Odessa, Russia. Married Rebecca Voplosky born 1888, Odessa, Russia. Business in Simon's Town - jeweller and watchmaker, "clothier, outfitter and ostrich feather merchant", 1906-1908. Came to Simon's Town after fleeing from Odessa to Australia and then to South Africa.

Several children, one of whom was named David, who was born in Perth on 17 June 1899. At the time of David's birth, his siblings were Aaron 12 years, Lewis 10 years and Gladys 8 years. (There is a note that one male child is deceased at this time.) The witness on the birth certificate is Susan Amy Doig of 86 Lake Street, Perth and is noted as "friend of parents".

David's daughter, Pat Robinson, initiated the Jewish Research Project at the Simon's Town Museum by enquiring about her grandfather, Carl. (Chenik is sometimes spelt Chenick or Chennick on documents).

 **I.D. AND PASSPORT PHOTOS**

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Chernick - Jeweller 1908
 Chimowitz - butcher, Station Road, 1918-1919
 Cohen, Janie - shop and dwelling in St. George's Street, 1945-1946
 Cohen, S - general dealer, Mount Pleasant, 1901-1902
 Cohen, S - butcher, St. George's Street & Seaforth, 1910-1916
 Cohen, S - tailor in Hugo's building, 1908-1911
 Cohen, Sam - draper, practical tailor and outfitter, sold calabash pipes, watches and jewellery too, (Sabsky's Building, now Standard Bank), 1948-1950
 Cohen, Sam - owned Mirco Alfred Building
 Cohen, Via - lawyer 1946-1970+, (corner of Seaforth)
 Dorfman, J. - dentist, 1910-1911
 Edelstein - brothers, a chemist and a doctor, February 1911
 Elvey, Dr. Philip - (formerly Levy) 1915-1940
 Epstein - butcher 1906
 Epstein, E - 1906 to 9
 Falk, Alfred - Station Road, 1940-1948
 Freedman & Abramson - butchers, St. George's Street, 1900-1913
 Freedman, J - 1906 to 9

Friedman, Charles - 1939-1945
 Gelfen, Samuel Joshua - curtain poles and garden at Seaforth, 1933-1949
 Geniesson, M.L., 1913
 Goldblatt, L. - Howells Supply Store, Seaforth in 1906-1908 and then Station Road in 1908. General provision dealer, greenhouses, drapery, furniture etc.....
 Goldschmidt, Leonard Bernard - owned ground at Rainsea, 1909-1910
 Gootman - Goldblatt's brother-in-law
 Gordon, Samuel - general dealer next to Imperial Bakery, owned all of Gordon's Avenue (now Jackson Road, Seaforth). He had two daughters: Miriam and Nella.
 Greenblatt, Isaac Max - Mayor of Seaforth's Town, 1957
 Horwitz, A - general dealer 1902
 Isomonger, Robert Benson - manager of Standard Bank, 1925-1930
 Israelson, D - 1911-1917
 Jaffe - had a liquor store in Seaforth town, but lived elsewhere.
 Joeekwatz - lived in Hayview House, corner of Alfred Lane (became Patel's, now Irene Porter-

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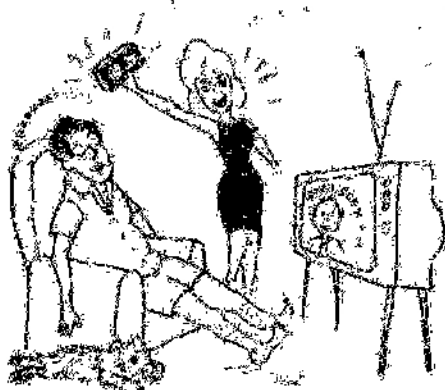
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estate agent), 1947

Juter, Reuben Cecil Hyman - Mayor of Simon's Town 1960-1963. Dispensing and family chemist in St. George's Building, then old municipal offices (now Patel's), 1940's-1970's. Juter's Square in Wikboom Lane named after him. His widow, Sadie, emigrated to Israel in 1987.

Kaplan - corner of Alfred Lane and St. George's Street

Katz & Abramson - butchers, 1906

Katzeef - Wickboom Lane, 1907

Katziff - shoeshop in Squire's Building. Children were David, Edie and Morris

Knopfer, A - 1906/8 to ?

Koplowitz - general dealer in Waterfall Road, 1901-1902

Korsak, Zalman and Leah - sweet shop next to Criterion Cinema and later in Queen's Road. Lived in Robinson's Cottage, Seaforth. No children. From Lithuania originally.

Kovarsky, Chloine and Chava - house in Seaforth, (Voter's Roll of 1939-1940). Had general dealer business in Seaforth: Seaforth Supply Store (Howells S.S.?), 1937-1969. Lived in Seaforth, first in Queen's Road and later in

Belmont Road until 1952, when they moved to Muizenberg. Both came to Cape Town in the 1920's from different towns in Lithuania. Met and married in South Africa. Left to settle in Israel. Then came to Simon's Town, South Africa. Chloine born in July 1900 in Lithuania. Died in Ramat Gan, Israel in March 1988.

Chava (nee Sacks) born in March 1906 in Lithuania. Died in Ramat Gan in 1998.

(They had emigrated to Israel to live with their daughter, Ora.)

Daughters:

Riva Pernikoff, born December 1949 in Cape Town, emigrated to Israel in 1968

Ora Even-Ari, born in 1935 in Tel Aviv and married Hillery Loewenstein (Even-Ari) of Johannesburg in 1958. They emigrated to Israel in 1959. Three children and 9 grandchildren.

Levy, H - general draper and provision dealer, shop opposite Admiralty House. Lived above shop. Children were Sam, Morris and Sarah (Sahrie). 1906-1911

Levy, P

Levy, Samuel Reuben - 1945-1946

Lizerbrun, F - tailor, 1906-1911

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Meyer - c.1880

Meyer - newsagent, 1906

Meyerowitz - photographer and jeweller, c.1880

Michalowsky, Israel Louis - general dealer, corner of Rectory Lane, 1926-1945. House and shop corner of Belmont and main roads 1960's and 1970's ?? Wife's name was Ada.

Novis, Dr.

Peimor ?, E - 1906/8 to ?

Satusky, F - 1945 (proprietor of shop called H.

Cohen - Simon's Town's leading drapers and outfitters)

Scher, Simon - draper in Rectory Building, 1939-1940

Seager

Seidle, Philip - house, ground and dairy at Seaforth, 1939-1940

Selby, F - newsagent and barber, 1940-1945

Semel, Barnett - general dealer in Waterfall Road, 1940-1945

Greg Sinovich - Hava Nagila, Garland House

Tabor - video shop next to Lord Nelson Hotel, 1994-1999

Wade - general dealer in Squire's Building, (Juter's brother-in-law), 1950's

Marriages in Simon's Town taken from marriage register at Cape Archives

- information kindly supplied by Paul Cheifitz.

Brenner, Abraham - jeweller, married Rosalie Mihaly, dressmaker, on 15/2/1905

Broomberg, Morris - general dealer, married Bertha Broomberg, daughter of a deceased landed proprietor, on 10/3/1904. Witness was Fanny Broomberg.

Buirski, Isaac - commercial traveller married Ada Russell, on 5/4/1898. (This appears to be the only marriage out of the Jewish faith. Isaac died during the Great Flu Epidemic of 1918.)

Chweidan, Jacob - general dealer, married Fani Vickar, on 6/11/1905. Witness was S. Goldblatt.

Cohen, Charles - general dealer, married Jane Broomberg, occupation: housework, on 18/1/1905.

Cohen, Harry - general dealer, aged 30, married Janie Rollnick, aged 22, occupation: domestic duties, on 29/9/1910.

Eckstein, Abraham - general dealer, aged 28, married Zlata Chirensky, aged 24, on 25/2/1903

Gootman, Ezra - general dealer, aged 23, mar-

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ried Dora Gordon, occupation: domestic duties, aged 22, on 7/12/1916.

Levy, Hyman - shopkeeper, aged 24, married Lebah Kulman, aged 22, on 20/1/1903. Witness was I. Kulman

Lipschitz, Barnet - widower, watchmaker, aged 35, married Anne Berman, lady (this is listed in the occupation field !), aged 20, on 3/7/1900

Katzeff, William - shoemaker, married Rosie Hendler, tailor, in July 1903. The certificate is unsigned, so it is uncertain whether the marriage took place.

Katzen, Herman - widower, financier, aged 48, of Vereniging, married Elsa Gertrude Lewin, nursing sister, aged 38, of Dordrecht (SA or Germany?) on 17/2/1921. (Elsa Lewin was Paul Cheifitz's cousin. Herman had been married to Elsa's sister, Helen, who died the year before this marriage. It was Helen's dying wish that Herman marry Else.). Simon's Town connection unknown.

Lief, Hyman Harry - tailor, aged 26, of Jamestown, married Sarah Shrock, aged 21 of Indwe on 1/7/1922. The Lief family lived in Indwe until Sarah Lief's death in her late 20's. Simon's Town

connection unknown.

Silver, Joseph - aged 34, of Kimberley, married ? Alford, aged 28, on 14/10/1902. Witness was H. Sakfish

Stein, Max - general dealer, aged 27, married Fanny Melnick, aged 23, of Hermanus, on 6/7/1922.

Tuffias, Max - butcher, aged 29, married Polie Broomberg, aged 22, on 3/9/1912.

Wolfe, Eli - hairdresser, aged 24, married Annie Rebecca Kasmai, aged 21 of Stellenbosch, on 10/1/1921.

It would be much appreciated if anyone in Simon's Town who has any information for us, or knows of anyone who may be able to assist us, would contact the

Simon's Town Museum on **786 -3046** or at **stmuseum@mweb.co.za** or **museumsj@mweb.co.za**

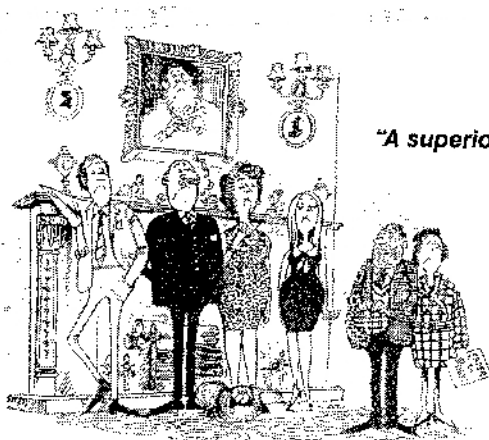
Cathy Salter-Jansen
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Salt & Wind Resistant Gardens

Some time ago, *Shrinkdown Clipping* - and later *South African Gardening* - published my article on gardens subjected to gale-force winds and salt-laden air. Unfortunately, few references brooked plants resistant to either of these enemies. Reconsidering the problem, most - but not all - nurserymen are unable to make recommendations based on field experience in our region. However, thanks mainly to Parks & Recreation for their kind help, I have since made trip reports which might interest gardeners in a similar situation.

As background, I am faced with a long stretch of open ground between a steep embankment behind six houses, with the last one located across the road from the Glencairn beachfront. This creates a tunnel effect through which the southeaster often blasts and causes everything with dripping salt water. With pick and shovel, I refilled the urban area of rocks to give the few patches of struggling grass a chance to spread. After two years of digging and weeding, I achieved a bare and fish lawn. Unfortunately, it

is not better - but firstly kroyal. Meanwhile, the steeper lower slope of Houttor (sic) on the sandstone embankment became dissected and died, as they had done elsewhere on the South Peninsula. These were subsequently removed, replaced with peatly soil and then replanted with mostly indigenous shrubs.

But they were strewed all over the embankment to reduce soil erosion, flooding and subsidence of a large house on top. I have since stuffed their rotten stork profiles by incorporating them into stretches of rock terraces similar in solid. They also serve as buffers against wind and create a "mini-climate" for less hardy plants. Unfortunately, my zone pathways have now become an overgrowth that can no longer weed these incursions. I also discovered too late that with minimal watering of indigenous plants to summer, the fan leaved grass (*Cynodon* sp.) is too invasive. And for Houttor (sic) to buy shrubs that were not root-bound and to plant them after soil treatment. Even then, experienced gardeners tell me that they can still tell for many

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different reasons. These include poor drainage, unsuitable soil, over-watering and insufficient light, or - in some cases - inadequate shade. But for the presence of a large sea-facing Bietou (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) to provide at least some protection, I would probably have had little success. For what it is worth, the following alphabetical list of mostly indigenous plants have so far managed to survive:

Agapanthus (*Agapanthus minor*), Beach salvia (*Salvia africana-lutea*), Bloukappie (*Polygala myrtifolia*), Blue marguerite (*Felicia amelloides*), Buchu (*Agathosma ovata*), Bush violet (*Barleria obtusa*), Camphor bush (*Tarchonanthus camphoratus*), Cape honeysuckle (*Tecomaria capensis*), Cat's tail (*Bulbinella floribunda*), Confetti bush (*Coleonema pulchellum*), Everlasting (*Helichrysum argyrophyllum*), Fairy crassula (*Crassula multicava*), Gazanias (*Gazania spp.*), Grysousblom (*Arctotis auriculata*), Indian hawthorn (*Rahphindica sp.*), Kosigoe (*Helichrysum petiolare*), Lavender bush (*Lavendula officinalis*), Margriet (*Ursinia sp.*), Mauve trailing daisy (*Osteospermum jucundum*), Milkwood (*Sideroxylon inerme*), Natal plum (*Carissa*

macrocarpa), Plectranthus (*Plectranthus madagascariensis*), Purple Prince *Barleria sp.*, Rockrose (*Cistus sp.*), Sagewood (*Buddleja salviifolia*), Salt & Pepper bush (*Myoporum laetum*), Silver lace (*Helichrysum sp.*), Spurflower (*Plectranthus ecklonii*), Statice (*Limonium sp.*), Sticky flower (*Orphium frutescens*), Tall Aristea (*Aristea major*), Thatching grass (*Elegia capensis*), Wild dagga (*Leonotus leonurus*), Wild garlic (*Tulbaghia violacea*), Wild geranium (*Pelargonium cucullatum*), Wild Rosemary (*Westringia rosmarinus*), Wild silver oak (*Brachylaena discolor*) and Zuurberg harebell (*Dierama pendulum*).

At least three of my plant choices were poor and yet they thrive further back, where the wind is not so strong. These are Shrubby felicia, Silver lace and Thatching grass. Worst affected by the wind's constant battering is Thatching grass, which becomes permanently bent and lashes neighbouring plants. However, the overall attraction of such a problematic open space has increased the market value of all six properties and can do the same for other home owners in our region. **Bevan Pank, Science Writer**

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8-11 December

Statistics: 32 Exhibitors (including 7 school children)
223 visitors
75 artworks
±150 craft and other items

Statement of accounts:

Opening balance (1:12:2000)	R1023.07
Entry Fees	R1840.00
15% commission on art sold (Sales R8872.00)	R1330.80
Door donations	R1015.00
	R5208.87

Less:

Rental of Town Hall	R850.00
Cost of invitations, catalogues, altering signage, advertising	R562.90
	<u>R3795.97</u>

The support of local artists was tremendous

and a very big thank you must go to the Simon's Town Art Group, not only for their support, but also for the loan of their display stands.

Our local churches raised funds by providing tea/coffee and eats in the front section of the Hall. While their takings were meagre, they all felt it was worthwhile and should become a feature of the show. It is after all a community fund-raiser and should include all sectors of our community. Thank you to all those who participated.

The consensus of opinion amongst all those who took part in the show has highlighted a number of reasons for the poor public attendance and consequently poor sales figures. These drawbacks need to be addressed before the next show.

Cameron Taswell-Yates, Convenor

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February 2001

Alcohol strategy unresponsive for February South Coast winds seem to have kept resupply station to a minimum of water. Training has been ongoing and steady. On Sunday 1 February, Station 10 hosted a team of Rescue Service divers from the Ottery Fire Department when they had invited to spend a day honing their diving skills in Falm Bay. Using a Station 10 rescue craft the divers were taken to the sight above the S.A.S. Plumberzburgh wreck where they carried out exercises. On completion they enjoyed a brew at Station 10.

On this day there was also a tip-out to the area between Kalk Bay and St James where a local resident had reported seeing an unmarked dinghy offshore. The "Eddie" department was launched with Louis Dalmeyer as coxswain. On arrival at the spot no sign of the dinghy was seen, even though a second report seemed to back up the first one. After half an hour the search was called off.

On Tuesday 13 February "Eddie Bearmount" was again launched to attend a yacht that had drifted ashore on Sunrise Beach at Muzerberg. On the night 12 February the yacht had anchored offshore but during the night the morning period and the yacht went aground. The yacht owners went to the yacht and then layed an anchor further offshore at night tide. A naval HRP had been summoned to the area but could not get close enough to the yacht to take the crew off hence the call-out by the M.S.M.I. surfmen. On arrival at the scene the rescue boat commander was told that there were no crew left on the yacht so the rescue craft returned to base.

It is said to include that Collin class who has been a stalwart member of Station 10 for over twenty years, firstly as a crew member, then controller and eventually a member of the Station 10 Skandinav Committee for de-

ded to retire from N.S.B. duties" also gathered at the end of March this year. Collin had also been Station 10 for a short while. All members of Station 10, far and near, will join me in thanking Collin for his outstanding service to National Sea Hounds and in particular to Station 10 over the years. Pledge of his caring and loyalty are not easily come by.

This leads to my next introduction of a loyal crew member of Station 10 A.S.U. namely **Stephen Conrado**. Stephen was introduced to Station 10 through his friend, whose father worked with Edlin Does who invited Stephen and the friend down to see Station 10 and find out what it did.

This introduction led to Stephen and his friend, then both scholars at George Willig School, joining Station 10 as new recruits. Stephen gradually worked his way through

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the steps of N.S.R.I. Today, fifteen years on, Stephen owns his own business which specialises in making furniture and office units. He is unmarried and is a qualified N.S.R.I. boat coxswain. He is a member of "C" crew and a waverider coxswain in that crew. Stephen has served as a member of the Station 10 Operations Committee for the last eight years. He also carried out the duties of Station administrative officer for the past four years.

In his fifteen years service Steven has attended many call-outs. He says none really stands out but to him they have all been worthwhile and even when a call-out seems fruitless it still provides that crew with training. He was also involved in the launching of the waverider "Eddie Beaumont." Stephen, with the assistance of crew members has rebuilt part of the upper deck and built a knotty pine Operations room and special console which has made a lasting improvement to the Station 10 base.

It has been my privilege conducting these interviews to meet some of the most dedicated young people. If anyone complains about young people today I am pleased to say that I know some very dedicated young folk and that is what keeps the wheels of life turning.

On Sunday the 18th of February, Station 10 stood by as Medical Aid when the Navy Band and Cape Town Highlanders gave a concert on Jubilee Square in Simon's Town. At the end of the proceedings R500.00 was presented to Station 10 in acknowledgement of their services.

On Friday 2 March the University of Cape Town are holding an anything that floats competition to make funds for the Rag. Station 10, as they do every year, will stand by with a waverider boat and 4x4 mobile to give aid and act as safety boat for this event. See you there!

Cheers, yours aye,

Don Dollery

Station 10 Shorelink Member

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Notes from the Bosun's Chair

From a sailing point of view a yacht needs wind to progress through the water, but the amount and duration of our "Cape Doctor" this summer has been exceptional. Wind speeds of 52 knots (96.3km) have been recorded in the marina of the False Bay Yacht Club. No equipment caring person willingly sails in this weather.

Strong winds also keep the fishing fraternity onshore. Snoek have made a very unseasonal visit to False Bay where many were caught off Miller's Point. Yellowtail are also in the Bay and some catches have been reported by ski-boats off the Quarry and mouth of Fish Hoek bay. Many more are taken by the trek fishermen. Tunny have also been caught in fair numbers west of Cape Point between 26 + 30 miles, mostly longfin with some yellowfin in between. White Stumpnose in the ± 1 kg class have shown up at Baileys Cottage in Muizenberg and have been biting well.

Noisy Seas

Last year the Friends of Simon's Town Coastline presented a talk on marine communication. Those who attended were struck by the huge variety of sounds underwater creatures make in order to communicate with one another. This is currently a popular area of research, both locally and internationally.

Now the inevitable has happened. During March 2000, 16 almost simultaneous groundings of the rare Cuvier beaked whale were recorded along a 100km stretch of coast in the Bahamas. Autopsy demonstrated suggestive evidence of barotrauma in the form of bleeding and other signs of damage in the ears of the stranded cetaceans. This was linked to a small Navy (USA) fleet in nearby waters which had been conducting antisubmarine exercises

using sonars just before the strandings began.

These findings, plus other clues, are delaying approval of a new ship-towed sonar system to track increasingly quiet submarines the SURTASS LFA - which would also fire far travelling low-frequency sounds waves into the oceans. This controversy plus related research is documented in a recent issue of *Science* (26 Jan 2001 pp576-578). It seems likely that noise pollution is a genuine threat to some marine species; the research continues and we should try to keep abreast of these developments.

It is through transparency and a willingness to face the potentially negative consequences of our technology that future harm maybe prevented.

Mike Berger
Chairman, Friends of Simon's Town Coastline

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- Art of War
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- What lies beneath
- and Many More.....

In Defence of the Environment ... and Environmentalists

The popular stereotype of an environmentalist, or 'green', is of an impractical loner implacably opposed to any form of progress or development and far more at home with animals or plants than other people. Developers, of course, hate them - but so do many planners and scientists.

Such a stereotype has, not surprisingly, some element of truth - and that's our good fortune. Such individuals through their passion and commitment bring abuses to our environmental space, and the species which inhabit it, to the attention of the rest of us preoccupied as we are with a multitude of less important matters. They are also those who will lie in the path of bulldozers and board fishing trawlers busy depleting vulnerable fish stocks to the point of extinction, and thus save us from our own apathy and folly.

But if that was all there was to the 'environmental movement' it wouldn't have been as effective as it has been in the face of quite enormous pressures. Environmentalists come in many different stripes. There are those who simply love the natural world, and who may know a great deal about it, without ever becoming deeply politically involved. There are the painters and photographers, the natural scientists and the managers and economists. Nowadays, even philosophers and social scientists have become a feature of the 'green' movement. The sum is definitely greater than its component parts which is just as well: the environmental struggle is carried on at a myriad different levels and in a thousand different ways. The sum total of the movement may, with good fortune and great tenacity, be just enough to prevent our planet and our own little corner of it, from destruction.

The Friends of Simon's Town Coastline represents, in a small way, the mix that goes to

make up the 'green' movement. Many of you out there are environmentalists in spirit if not in name. Isn't it time that you joined us in order to keep our environment in the forefront of the development and evolution of Simon's Town and its surroundings? Conservation is providing jobs to otherwise unemployed people and is vital to the growth of our tourist industry - also a major source of jobs and foreign capital. Let us try to keep this golden goose for future generations.

To find out more about Friends of Simon's Town Coastline keep your eyes peeled for our hacks, walks and talks (contact Chris van Vuuren 786 3890) as advertised in Snoektown and the other local papers. Also, attend our **AGM on 4 April** at which you can ask questions of a Cape Peninsula National Board representative. (Submit questions beforehand to Elaine Rutherford-Jones (secretary) **786 3562** who will also enrol you as a member or send you the relevant information.)

Mike Berger, Chairman
Friends of Simon's Town Coastline

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Snakes in the Simon's Town Area

Part Two

Brown House Snake - A constrictor feeding mainly on rodents at night. Dampish lodger in your house which will crawl out when the rodents have all gone! Normally up to 1 meter long. Will bite but is non-poisonous. Scale gray to brown with creamy belly.

Olive House Snake - Fynbos dweller. Dark olive green. Drier belly. No distinctive markings. 60 cm to 1 meter long. Eats rodents snakes and lizards hunting mainly at night. Could be mistaken for a brown cobra but the absence of a neck gives it away. No threat to man or pets.

Cape Sand/Glass Snake - Uncommon but found in dunes where tybads halting the river. Very fast whip-like snake up to 70 cm long. Gray to green and brown with yellow to cream all over along the body and under the head. Lizards and insects are main diet.

Cape Reed Snake - Slight neck but pointed snout. Typical constrictor body similar to the water and house snakes. Olive green to brown with small black spots in bright yellow. Pale shadow on belly. Feeds on amphibians mainly.

Aurora House Snake - Similar in all respects to the water snake except in colour which varies from olive green to russet brown with six orange stripes down the centre of the back. No neck, non-poisonous.

Ringhals - Uncommon but in this area probably almost eradicated by man as it has always been greatly feared for its spitting habit. Ringhals is able to spit accurately into the eyes from 6 meters. Banded black and creamy white to yellow. Belly dark brown to black with the distinctive white band on the neck. Length 1 to 1.5 meters. Poisonous.

Herald Snake - Prefers marshy fynbos areas. Slight mouth. No neck until threatened when it flattens its head and raises its body to strike. Not dangerous to humans. Colour olive green to brown with thin white

red line. Belly cream. Adults have a distinctive barred upper lip. 50 to 100 cm long.

Egg eater - Aider like tickle markings. 50 to 150 cm long. Non-poisonous. Nocturnal and feeds on birds eggs. No neck, hatched.

Coral Snake - Fynbos in drier areas. Uncommon here. 40 to 60 cm long. Similar at first sight to the Garter Snake in markings but not as highly polished with less definite bands of black and cream to orange with a creamy belly. Poisonous but does not kill more than a few cats and dogs.

Snake Bite - Emergency Response

If someone is bitten by a snake there are the rules.

1. Symptoms advanced - signs of breathing difficulty.

Phone Western Cape Pathology Service

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0800 225599 and be ready to answer the following questions:

- Locality of the bite
- Condition of patient
- Species of snake or description

The W.C.P.S. will have a helicopter to you within 12 minutes with a doctor and paramedic on board and the necessary equipment.

Normally your medical aid will cover the costs if not either the W.C.P.S. will provide a free mercy flight or the Cape Provincial Administration will provide free helicopter service on 10177. This is "SKYMED" who will send their helicopter from DF Malan airport at no cost to the patient. This is important especially if your gardener is bitten.

2. Symptoms not advanced - still easy breathing

Phone your local doctor and get the patient to him/her immediately. Take the above emergency numbers with you.

3. If there is doubt about the bite, the symptoms etc.

Phone your doctor for guidance or the Milnerton Hospital Emergency Poisons Centre on 551 5291 direct line.

4) General

In cases 1 and 2 above bind the infected limb from the trunk to the ankle or wrist firmly with a crepe bandage to SLOW NOT STOP circulation. Always wash the bite with disinfectant first.

Puff adders and cobras are the most common poisonous snakes in our area. The puff adder venom is slower acting and destroys the tissues around the bite. So this area must be cleaned well and quickly to limit further infection.

Cobra venom acts on the nervous system via the blood stream and is much faster acting than the adder venoms. This is what causes the breathing problems. So speed of treatment and minimising the exertion of the patient is important.

5. Keeping snakes away from the house.

- * Keep creepers off the walls and trees away from the roof.

- * In dry areas such as ours create a permanent water source in the garden to prevent snakes coming into the house for shade and drink.

- * Cats and dogs are a good snake alert and deterrent.

- * Keep compost heaps and any rubbish dumps away from the house.

- * Maintain an open area around the house such as a lawn as snakes do not like coming out into the open.

- * Do not let the garden get overgrown and neglected.

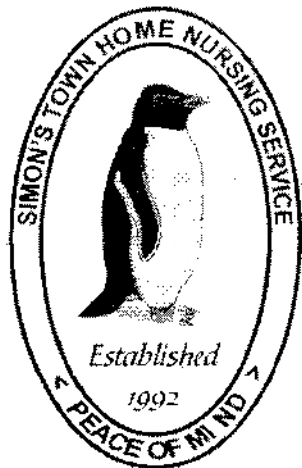
- * Make clear paths in the garden so that you can always see where you are putting your feet.

- * Avoid walking through undergrowth at night.

- * Be always aware that we share this spot with others who greatly fear us.

Simon's Town Home Nursing Service

P.O. Box 625, Simon's Town, 7995
Tel: (021) 786 1442



**Ian Howse, Simon's Town
786 1442**

The Night Sky

Orion remains the brightest constellation in the night sky at this time of the year, and is high in the West when most people have gone to bed. Other bright objects in this region are the planets Saturn and Jupiter forming a line with Aldebaran, the eye of the Bull, Taurus setting at 9pm. These are followed on the ecliptic, the pathway of the planets, by the Twins, Castor and Pollux, being 11 light years apart. These, the brightest stars in the constellation of Gemini, are the heads of the Twins. Sir William Herschel made his first recorded observation in March 1774 on the Orion nebula. He was 36 years old at the time being a professional musician in Bath, but it was to be regarded as the beginning of his astronomical career. In one of his letters he wrote: "I determined to accept nothing on faith, but to see with my own eyes what others had seen before me. ... I finally succeeded in completing a so-called Newtonian instrument, 7 feet in length. From this I advanced to one of 10 feet and at last to one of 20; for I had fully made up my mind to carry on the improvements of my telescope as far as it could possibly be done. ..." He was persistent and he sought perfection.

When using his 7 foot Newtonian telescope he discovered in Gemini, the Twins on March 13th 1781: "In examining the small stars in the neighbourhood of H Geminorum, I perceived one that appeared visibly larger than the rest, being struck with its uncommon appearance I compared it to H Geminorum in the quadrant between Auriga and Gemini, and finding it so much larger than either of them, I suspected it to be a comet." But it was found to be a new planet. No new planet had been found in historic times, and after much deliberation it was called Uranus.

Orion the Huntsman is followed in the sky by the Big Dog, Sirius which is the brightest star in the sky and then Puppis, the Little Dog.

As the stars rise 4 minutes earlier each night, or 1° higher, it is easy for an observer to measure a degree. With the daily turning of the Earth, Orion and his companions move from the eastern to the western horizon in 12 hours, at the rate of 15° an hour. In the southern part of the sky when

Orion's belt is rising, the Southern Cross is at 9pm, so that when it becomes dark the Southern Cross and the Pointers, Alpha and Beta Centauri are visible below the Milky Way. The closest constellation to the Grandis Musae the Fly. Ahead of the Southern Cross is the larger False Cross and the small Diamond Cross. How many people have tried to identify these constellations by turning South towards the mountain and seeing the Pointers of the Southern Cross, then looking West on the other side of the Milky Way to find these lesser known crosses. It is rather appropriate to think of the three crosses at this time of the year.

The Planets

Mercury, magnitude +0.1 may be seen low in the eastern sky before sunrise. It ought to be a superb pre-dawn show, at +0.0 at its greatest illuminated extent this month.

Venus, magnitude -4.3 is a bright evening "star" this month until the 28th. This planet is a wonderful sight using a telescope or powerful binoculars for the next two months, as it looks like a new moon with cusps. Try looking at it with your binoculars. Venus and Mercury are in conjunction on April 6th.

Mars, magnitude +0.5 is a morning planet with Mercury in Ophiuchus. Mars will be near Antares, the bright red star in Scorpius from March 15th.

Jupiter, magnitude -2.2 is an evening planet, with Saturn and Aldebaran, the eye of the Bull as companions. A new Moon will be near them on March 28 and 29th. At the beginning of the month Jupiter sets at 11pm, but at month's end at 9pm.

Saturn, magnitude +0.2 is in Taurus and will be seen as an evening planet. On the 1st it rises at 10:30pm, but at the end of the month at 8:30pm. It will be near the Pleiades most of the month. Saturn and Jupiter have been close together for some months, but they are now pulling apart.

Uranus (Herschel's planet), magnitude +5.8 is in Capricorn as a morning planet.

Neptune, magnitude +8.0 is in Capricorn and may be found using a telescope in the morning sky before dawn. It is 2° North of the Moon on the 20th.

Pluto, magnitude +14.0 is in Ophiuchus, but it is

invisible to all who do not have a telescope of at least 10" aperture. It rises an hour before dawn.

The Moon

New Moon on 25 March; First quarter on the 3rd; Full Moon on the 9th; Last Quarter the 16th. On the 8th the Moon is nearest to the Earth at perigee (357,000km), and furthest at apogee (407,000 km) on the 20th. This means that the Full Moon on the 9th at perigee will be large.

The Sun

On March 1st sunrise is at 6:33am and sunset at 7:23pm.

At the end of the month sunrise is at 6:58am and sunset at 6:41pm.

The Vernal Equinox is on the 20th, when the Sun leaves the Tropic of Capricorn and passes over the Equator on its journey in the Tropic of Cancer. At the Equinox the length at the day and night are the same.

Many people are making preparations for the Solar Eclipse on June 21st from 13hr 17min to 15hr 49min at Simon's Town, when about 60% of the Sun will be covered. Solar glasses to view

the eclipse are essential, and school going children should be supplied with these glasses. Modern solar glasses are made with mylar or any other certified solar screen.

The full Eclipse is visible along the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia and on this Latitude in Angola and Mocambique.

A Solar Eclipse can only occur at a New Moon. Extreme weather conditions, which were predicted in last month's article have come to pass with the flooding in Zimbabwe and Zambia and Mocambique. Unfortunately the summer rainfall period is not over, so these floods or droughts may continue for several months this year in the Southern Hemisphere, as there are 14 more months of great Solar activity expected.

Binoculars with a comfortable exit pupil size with a ratio of 4:1 have been shown to me recently, but so have several been seen with an uncomfortable exit ratio, which were rather expensive.

Peter I van Blommestein

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A Tanganyika Diary Part 2

February 28
Nakara

This was a period about which I won't be writing to the *Journal* (as *soon*) said.

A long, long trek from Kilosa, in heavy rain. Christopher restless and unhappy, probably hungry and definitely wet. Sailor thought it best I sit & wait for anything, so I did and had to be rendered in a lurching vehicle, paying that silly fine would find their mark with authorities. Food? Sailing in *pace* Dr Spotted's advice to Do The Best Way: What You've Got. I groped around in the dark for a ripe banana, chewed small portions and pushed them into CD's hungry mouth. Well, mamma birds do it, don't they?

Eventually the Government Resthouse was located, welcoming light shining through the darkness. A door opened to Sailor's knock and a middle-aged man introduced himself as Beauclerk, District Commissioner, and invited us inside. A grey haired woman smiled vaguely and a young man shook her's firmly. The DC, glass in hand, offered drinks. I asked where I could change Christopher's nappy and give him a wash and a bottle. DC waved his newly-filmed glass and invited the two of us and have a seat. The woman, taking pity, led me to a bedroom where I saw to CD's pressing needs.

When I returned to the living room Sailor looked grim. It appeared that Beauclerk needed the resthouse - indefinitely. We could use his boma, and meanwhile we should seek help at the Protestant Mission. Sure we wouldn't stay for a quick week? Back in the Landover, Sailor g thought he mattered "asshole", but must have somehow poured through the rain, searching for and finally finding the Mission buildings.

A wordless but smiling Father Superior welcomed us and, offered us food with a ges-

ture and showed us into two immaculate window-washed cells, avoiding Grand Night. We had breakfast with the Brothers, all friendly but serious (it seems we barged in on a Retreat or something). Took most expected something special, but we were given a hearty English breakfast, and fresh ground milk for Christopher.

March 5

The rain has finally stopped. Sailor has located the DC's home, two small rectangular rooms where his "office" of the local population are heard by Authority. The place is must be cramped for our needs, but Sailor has spoken to Kasuni, the local headman, about hiring someone to add on to the boma, with an annex room for Christopher. And to help with the DC, says Sailor.

April 30

Great day: the additions to our home have been completed, using uncooked bricks. The Mission drops have made a large pot for CD, which has been squeezed into his tiny room. A messale will hold his wardrobe.

Going past the post office this morning with CD in his puerari. I noticed a young girl sitting on the steps. Beautiful, like Grace Kelly, not black. I thought she stared at us rather rudely - or perhaps out of curiosity.



CRIME REPORT

Simon's Town Round-Up

This precinct has traditionally experienced a rise in theft out of motor vehicles during the holiday season between October and February. This season has been no exception and members of the diving fraternity using the beaches at Links Cres, Boulders, Windmill Beach and Castle Rock have also been targeted.

As a result of this **Operation Counterstrike** and **Spendthrift** were held during February 2001. Members participating in these operations have supplied Insp Carstens (Crime Intelligence) with lists of suspicious vehicles which have enabled him to draw up a Database for further crime prevention operations.

On Sunday 2001-02-18 some possible suspects were interviewed, but unfortunately a policeman's gut instinct is not sufficient reason for arrest. It should however, be pointed out that no theft out of motor vehicle cases were reported from 2001-02-19 until 2001-02-24.

Cases which are opened receive thorough vetting by Insp Carstens and where it is apparent that members of the public are reporting falsely for insurance claims, then their insurance companies will be informed. A hypothetical example is where the complainant spends a day at the beach and then reports his kitchen sink as being stolen out of his motor vehicle. Enough said!

The above false cases are obviously few and far between, but if you are using the beach **DO NOT leave your valuables** in your motor vehicle and **DO report it to the police** by opening a criminal case.

Of late, the SAPS have been accused of not caring, not being interested etc. In 98% of all investigations carried out by Insp Store, it is apparent that the general public is not aware of what it means to **open a case**. To open a case you must give a sworn, written statement to a policeman at any police station, at your home or place of employment. You cannot open a case telephonically or on behalf of someone else.

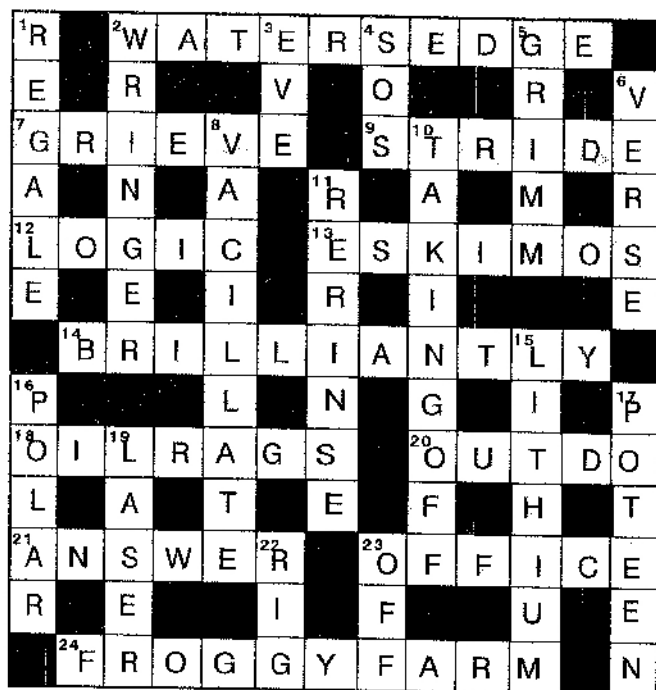
If you are not happy with the service which you receive from the police, then you may report this matter to the local station commissioner, so that the necessary investigation can be carried out. Remember to get your facts straight and do not act upon hearsay. Remember, nothing prevents a policeman who has been falsely accused of suing **you** in a civil court.

In closing, remember that policemen are human beings too, and as such are not infallible.

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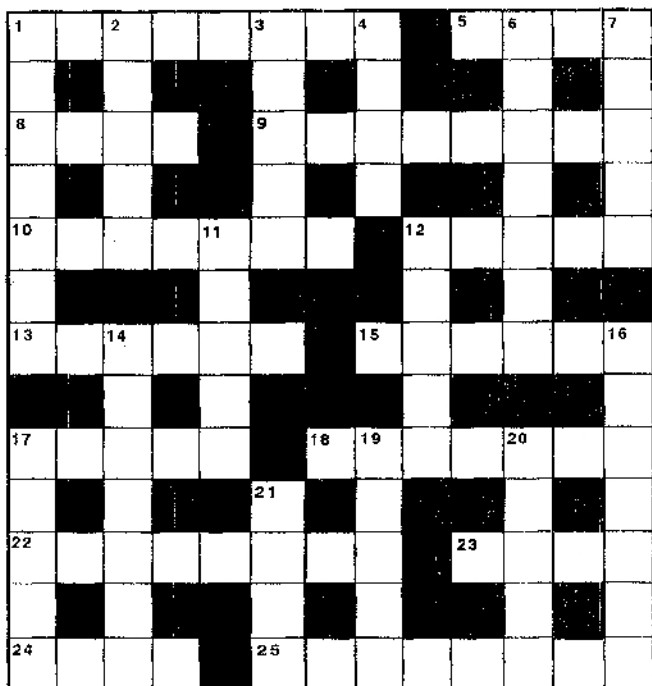
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1****WINNER for Crossword No 1 - Dave Pugh****Simon's Town Civic Association
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	CPO Manu Choudree	782 7241
	and Ian Allan	782 2736
Treasurer:	Ian Allan	782 2736
For the ex-STRRA:	Dr John Morris	786 1765
	and Wilf Nussey	786 1368
Communications:	Wilf Nussey	786 1368
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		780 9123/ H
Security/Safety:	Cdr. Blackie Swart	786 2508
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Environment:	Dr. Mike Berger	786 4823
Economic Development:	Andre Duraan	786 1918
Recreation/Community:	Dr Reg Loxton	786 1750
SA Navy:	Captain Chris Roodt	787 3049
National Parks:	Justin Buchmann	780 9100
Pollution Monitor:	Dr John Morris	786 1765

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 2



Across

1. Does this Simon's Town street have a barrier of grain? (8)
5. Step to speed (4)
8. Gas that's new to a cardinal (4)
9. See 13
10. Ratters arranged to get going again (7)
12. The rascal is said to be in church (5)
- 13,9. The Royal Family jeers at this unoccupied local building (6,8)
15. Two short men are quite usual (6)
17. The valuable property of a backward girl ... (5)
18. ...or those of a person who is late, perhaps (7)
- 22,12dn. Kids alarm fool playing in this section of our town (8,5)
23. Pull the opposite-sex get up? (4)
24. Borrowed fast? (4)
25. The local road to heaven? (8)

Down

1. Spell "unable to tear" (7)
2. So rot twists the source of a plant's growth (5)
3. A warning light in the road? (5)
4. Asinging, flying prank (4)
6. Current demand begets applause (7)
7. Two points bring a legal action to follow (5)
11. Coats altered for a race-meeting (5)
12. See 22 across
14. Number eleven in the team is expected to endure (4,3)
16. After the City of Angels Agnes turns to italian food (7)
17. Make use of a screen, so it's said (5)
19. In a pile of refuse remains a welder (5)
20. Blimey, an american soldier! Rather a dog! (5)
21. Find fault with a fish (4)

PRIZE: R100 voucher valid at Café Pescado

Name: Tel. No:

- Entries in plain envelope addressed to Snoektown Calling Crossword Puzzle and delivered to Simon's Town Bottle Store before 20 January 2001.
- First correct entry drawn will be the prize winner. Only one entry per person permitted.
- Result and solution in the following issue of Snoektown Calling.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

March / April 2001

1. SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM

Ph: 786 3046

Sunday 1st April at 5pm - Just Nuisance Day. Parade of Great Dories led by the SA Navy Band.

2. FRIENDS OF CAPE POINT

Guided walk on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Next walk Sunday 18 March at 8am. Meet at Cape Point Gate.

8th - 10th April the walks continue at 11:30am.

Enquiries 786 1774.

3. ADMIRALTY HOUSE GARDEN PIONIC AND THE SA NAVY BAND

Sunday 11 March, 6-8pm

(Gates open at 4pm). Entrance R50 per person. Book at Computicket or Simon's Town Publicity. Enquiries 786 1957.

4. FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

Enquiries Ph 786 3630 - All welcome

Friday 9 March, 7:30pm - Talk on marine life reptile in the Cape by Dr Julie van der Meer, University of Stellenbosch.

Venue: Museum Hall, Court Rd, Simon's Town. Enquiries 786 1072 / 786 4823.

Saturday 10 March, 9:30am - Morning walk on Liesbeek Park. Meet at Glenpark 741 parking area.

Saturday 17 March, 9:30am - Coastal Letter Clean-Up. Meet at Blencaine Station.

Saturday 25 March, 9:30am - Continued all-day walk with Flora Conservation Group to Crocker's and Kier's place Dam. Meet at Pineshaven Village on top of Red Hill (SP14 Water purification works turn off on Red Hill Rd, Simon's Town). Enquiries 789 1334.

Wednesday 4 April, 7:30pm - AGM and talk

on Cape Peninsula National Park by Japie Jacobsen.

Venue: Museum Hall, Court Rd, Simon's Town.

5. SPIER TRAIN

8 April 2001

a) Cape Town to Simon's Town via De-Depart-O-Town, departs Simon's Town 2pm.

b) Simon's Town to Plumstead via De-Depart-O-Town, departs Simon's Town 11am, returns 2pm. Enquiries 419 522. Tickets available for (a) at Peninsula Tourist office, Simon's Town.

6. LINDBERGH ARTS FOUNDATION CONCERTS

Hezel Rd, Muldenburg

Thursday 8 March, 10:30am - Presented by Karen Brydolf, Tina Nel-Garniano-Singling, Shadia - Dierdra Adrianse, Bergita Kramlein, Charles de Flamingh R25 (in-cludes tea).

Thursday 29 March, 8pm - Lisa Carson (piano), Lusia de Blasco Scott (violin), Barbara Kennedy (cello), Renette Swan (viola). Includes works by Mozart and Chopin. R55 (includes drinks).

Deadline for April Edition

Thursday 22 March

Publication Date - Monday 2 April

Contact Sue Stumm

Tel 786 5786 or 786 2886

(Simon's Town Publicity Assoc)