

SNOEKTOWN CALLING

Vol 3 Issue 7

6 November 2000



Vice-Admiral Simpson-Anderson's Farewell Parade

November Sponsor - Reg Loxton with some help from the Supporters Club

Editorial

First of all, recognition for exceptional community service awarded and many of the rosette award to Peter Collins for providing and maintaining the five caravans of flower arrangements at Jubilee Square. A wonderful effort!

Take note of the due date of the **Municipal Elections - December 5th**. It is a busy to vote. Also take note of a public meeting arranged for **23 November 7.30pm** by our Civic Association to meet and hear from the candidates of our newly defined and enlarged ward.

As regards the check list for the birds of our area, all interested party has been notified where will investigate the feasibility of compiling a videotape of the check list - arranged alphabetically according to Latin name - I await any constructive suggestions.

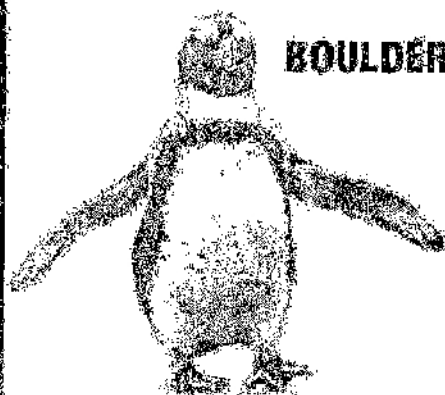
The Simon's Town Publicity Association

have published their attractive 2001 calendar which is available at R50 from the Photo City Bureau, Simon's Town Pharmacy and At Ease Bookstop.

In common with most thinking members of our community, I have given much thought to the problem of pollution prevention and keeping our streets and walkways in good shape, ie, cost-effectively - free of weed and litter. My conclusion is that litter and fly pollution only be effected through community organisations like the Neighbourhood Watch - certainly from the point of view of management simplicity and effectiveness. So there is need to coordinate and vigorously promote the concept of the Neighbourhood Watch.

King Loxton
Editor

2 Chapel Road
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Down the Historical Mile

Now you see Mr Chairman, Mientjie Boepens almost shouted: When SLAP gets going on things that matter in the Community, something happens - the West Dockyard gate has been fixed and so has the clock. We are an Important Society and the folk of Simon's Town should treat us with respect.

At the last Municipal election I couldn't vote because I wasn't registered as a voter; because why? The Town Clerk wouldn't accept Jubilee Square as a proper address. But Mr Chairman, that's where I spend most of my time. Anyway, I am a candidate for mayoress - and so and and so on. Mientjie was getting worked up and we all had to listen to her story and we also knew that Mientjie could get quite violent when she got really worked up. So what to do....

Schultz came to the rescue; all he needed to do was to stand up straight and look around slowly, looking directly into the eyes of every single person. That look was fearsome, and then of course there was that ever present fear of the Lüger Schultz was reputed to carry in his belt. So most folk just looked away and silence prevailed. The Schultz effect must have real power because even Mientjie shut up.

Clara Fijnbosch changed the subject by recalling what a grand parade it was when the Chief of the Navy went down the Main Road sitting on the gun carriage, Navy band and all. It was SLAP that gave him a cheer as the procession passed Wharf Street. Ah, said Clara, wasn't it wonderful to see the Navy in town again, it made all SLAP feel good and important. Aag was dit nie pragtig nie, exclaimed Mientjie, and she started to cry. That's our Mientjie, up and down, up and down!

Piet Pompies stood up: Mr Chairman, I have an announcement to make: Harold Hardekop has been officially approached by National Parks to be technical advisor to their training course for baboon chasers. It

will be remembered that it was Harold Hardekop who sorted out the crisis when a baboon troop invaded Murdock Valley a year or so ago.

It was Harold who negotiated a peace settlement with Adoons, the baboon troupe leader. You see, Harold can speak the language!

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"Meeting the Challenge - Law and Order"

During September our SAPS Station Commander Captain DuPisani had the brain wave of parking a 'semi-permanent' Charge Office in the heart of our CBD. Brilliant idea! But all good ideas have problems. Our few police vehicles are not fitted with tow bars. The mobile charge office has to be secured outside of business hours.

Telkom was approached for permission to park the trailer (picture in People's Post 18 Oct) in the courtyard on their property in the CBD overnight. Their response was negative. Then the Community Police Forum approached Telkom again and after a three day tele-communication electronic tour of Telkom departments - never mind good manners from their PRO department who did not even bother to return calls after three messages - the answer is "NO".

Due to the undermanned state of our local

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Local Elections

Local Government Elections

Meet the candidates for the Simon's Town/Ocean View Ward. The Simon's Town Civic Association has arranged a public meeting at which the candidates have been invited to present themselves.

Venue: Simon's Town Town Hall
Date: Thursday 23 November
Time: 7.30pm

BE THERE!

police it was impossible to muster a team to pull/push the mobile station to and from the Police Station twice on a daily basis. Thanks to Mr Cedric Duncan of 76 Dorries Drive, Murdock Valley, our police van now has a tow bar and the problem is solved. Thank you Cedric, once again, you have "met the challenge" as you did by donating a bicycle for the "Bike Squad".

The people of Simon's Town keep on "Meeting the Challenge" - what a wonderful, considerate and kind people we have in our town - Thank You. Ironical that the Telkom logo on their official letterhead is "Meeting the Challenge"!

Question: How serious are the Big Business Boys in assisting to fight (our national pastime it seems) crime?

Does Telkom contribute towards the CPO's wages - No!!!

**Blackie Swart
Chairman - STCPF**

Ward Councillor's Report

1. We are now in the final days of the life of the South Peninsula Municipality. Those of us who saw the demise of the Simon's Town Municipality after 113 years of existence, viewed the future in a larger local authority with some trepidation. The sad reality is that much that was good about a small local authority was lost: the quick response time, the personal knowledge of the area, the easy access to officials and the close contact with councillors. This has all gone.

An even larger administrative area will further strain that kind of relationship. Communities will have to become far more engaged with and informed about local government. Civic groups will have to develop skills to deal with this new challenge. Wards are larger, and the most important level of government for delivery to the people has become further away from the communities it is meant to serve. Bitter experience has shown us that as the centre of gravity moves

further away, servicing levels become attenuated and unresponsive. A further serious concern is that corruption can flourish in large organisations.

The only answer is to have decentralised management systems, something I and like-minded councillors have been pushing for. To date there has been resistance from bureaucracy, but at last reality seems to be dawning. Ask the candidates for election how committed they are to this.

I list some of the services that should be available on an area management basis:

- fire and disaster management
- traffic and law enforcement
- management of beaches, parks and halls
- signage
- building control and approvals
- land use and environmental management
- road maintenance and drainage
- water, wastewater maintenance and



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2. Water restrictions are to be implemented at the direction of the Department of Water Affairs from **1 November 2000**. Water tariffs are to be increased from 1 December 2000. In terms of the Department of Water Affairs requirements for a 10% reduction in water consumption, there will be a shortfall in the budget of about R11m. Combined with an increase of 9% in the bulk supply tariff set by the Cape Metropolitan Council the shortfall will amount to R14m. Council has agreed to an increase of 5% in the tariff but this will leave a deficit of R9m. This deficit will have to be made up in some way, probably by further cuts in spending on capital.

3. The contract for replacing all main road directional signage from Clovelly to Simon's

Town station has finally been awarded at a cost of R380, 350.74. The work should be completed by mid-December 2000.

4. Some money has been found for play-park equipment for the public open space in Welcome Glen. This site was chosen because it is an area with small children and easily overlooked by parents. Various sites were assessed, but were too isolated or too close to busy roads.

5. The process of drawing up a new priority valuation roll has begun. Data collectors and valuers will be visiting residential and non-residential property throughout the cape Metro in the coming months, beginning in the current city of Cape Town jurisdiction. The process will culminate in 2002 when the new municipal valuation roll will be implemented and the UniCity Council will determine the rate in the Rand for the property tax.

6. A new system of traffic management is to be put in place in the Seaforth area as soon as possible, following public consultation. All tourist and Park visitor traffic as well as



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delivery vehicles for the Community School and Seaforth Restaurant, will be required to use Seaforth Road and car park. Parents dropping off children at the Community School will also use Seaforth car park while dropping off or collecting children. Pedestrian safety is an important consideration. Residents, Park Management and service vehicles will use Miller Road to access Gay and Kleintuin Roads.

7. The South Peninsula Municipality will finalise all meetings by 17 November 2000, the date of the last council meeting. There is much unfinished business to hand over to our successor-in-law, the new UniCity. The current officials will stay in the same positions and your contact numbers will remain the same until further notice.

There is much the SPM has achieved: it has turned attention to areas like Mulzenberg and Grassy Park, inherited from other authorities and long neglected. It has developed Vrygrond and Westlake and given impetus to riverine management systems. But there is so much more to do particularly in the area of responsive and flexible management systems.

8. On a personal note, I shall be standing as a candidate for Ward 69 in the forthcoming election on 5 December 2000. The politicisation of local government and the new electoral system led me to reassess my position as an independent and I shall be standing as a Democratic Alliance candidate. This is a whole new world for me, but I shall continue to fight for the principles of service to the community, and for cost-effective and decentralised management systems and chose a party accordingly.

I really care about my community and the environment we live in and I have been constantly frustrated by the lack of response by Central Government to the many issues affecting the daily lives of us all. Perhaps the new local government system will have the clout to get things moving!

Alderman (Mrs) Nicki Holderness
Ward Councillor: Ward 22, SPM

Property Watch No 24, Nov.

1. CURRENT APPLICATIONS

Details of applications currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Municipality are:

1.1 Erf 3619, Glencairn: Application for Amendments to the Approved Site Development Plans at the Glencairn Shopping Centre to permit the building of 3 new shops and extensions to the 7-11 supermarket. A report on this application will be discussed by the Urban & Environmental Services Committee (UESC) on 2 November.

1.2 Erf 1247, Simon's Town (Cnr Harrington & Queens Rds, Seaforth): Application for a Departure to permit the establishment and operation of an art gallery and coffee shop on a residential property zoned for single residential use. The Dept of Transport has carried out a Traffic Impact Assessment and the SPM is processing the application.

1.3 Erven 2472 & 2473 Simon's Town (off Cotton Road): Application for rezoning (to build a private road), subdivision (into 6 erven) and departures (in respect of building lines). Developers and the objectors will meet at an UESC meeting on 2 November.

1.4 Erf 60, Simon's Town (Glencairn): Land Use departure application on behalf of the Waldorf Schools. A number of objections were submitted. A report is being prepared for the UESC by ind. consultants.

1.5 Erf 2930, Simon's Town (Erica Road, Murdock Valley): Proposed Alienation or Lease of portion of this municipal land. A final decision is still awaited.

1.6 Erf 2298, Simon's Town - Boulders Beach Guest House: Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. The applicant has lodged an appeal against the UESC's refusal. Decision still awaited.

2. OTHER PROPERTY MATTERS

2.1 CFM 983, Wildschutsbrandvlei: Application for Land Use Departure to permit an arts & craft shop, a pottery studio and sales outlet and place for curio sellers. The UESC has put forward a report to Province whose decision is awaited.

Geoff Palmer, ST Civic Assoc

Simon's Town Civic Association

In October the new **Simon's Town Civic Association** met in its own premises for the first time - offices above the garage next door to the old municipal building. Several committee members could not attend, but 12 were there under the chairmanship of Jacky Weaver, plus Councillor Nicki Holderness and helping out as secretary, Verena Hinsch. Sharon Bosma stood in for Dr Mike Berger of the Environment portfolio, who regrettably has had to resign for personal reasons.

The "office", which still needs a lot done to it, will not be staffed until the funds and people can be found to be there at least two or three days a week to make the STCA more accessible to the public. Until then, please continue to use the address and telephone numbers below if you need to contact us. Meanwhile it is available to the other civic groups in Simon's Town which have joined forces in the new Association.

The meeting began with a briefing by Mrs Holderness. These are highlights:

- Management guideline plans for the Glencairn Vlei have finally been drafted and agreed to in the SPM.
- A lone copy of the comprehensive traffic management plan for Simon's Town by consultants is available for inspection in the Simon's Town library. The STCA is studying it.
- The new zoning scheme has been approved by the SPM and awaits decision by

the provincial authorities.

- The Property Rates Bill which is causing so many jitters is likely to cause more. It is still wide open to speculation with no indication yet how much rates will jump. Next step is the evaluation of properties, and that means every property - urban, rural, township, squatter, the lot. There are over 550 000 in the Peninsula. You will be asked to admit assessors not only on to your property but into your home. Valuations should be completed in about two years. Then the government must decide whether to set rates on land value only, or land and buildings, or with differentiated rates, and whether the poor should pay for water and electricity. There will be right of appeal to a valuation court.

Highlights from the committee meeting are:

- Watering the garden will be banned from **November 1** between 10am and 4pm, thanks to a dry winter.
- The Community Police Forum will contribute R500 to this magazine, Snoektown Calling, which has become a local institution. The committee is looking into ways of making it financially viable. Dr Reg Loxton, its creator and editor, has been forking out from his own pocket to keep it going, with some help from generous sponsors. With a guaranteed circulation of over 2755 it is the best little advertising vehicle in the neighbourhood. Please support it.
- The Business Association is planning a

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"Whale Festival" next year for several days. This year the whales have put on a better performance in our waters than at Hermanus, according to some sightings, and we should capitalise on it. Details are still to be worked out, especially the timing, and any ideas should be sent to André Durheim at our PO Box number below, or to his e-mail sally@coqweb.co.za.

- The meeting strongly backed another proposal from the Business Association, backed by several other bodies, to **beautify the entrance to Simon's Town**, beginning on the Main Road below Glencairn Heights where the large concrete plaques welcome visitors. The part that needs it most is the dreary stretch of road from Glencairn to the Simon's Town Station - past the old cemetery, Marine Drive and the other grimy buildings near the Lower North Battery, and the approach to the station. Again, any ideas will be welcomed if they are practical, inexpensive and effective.

- The STCA supported Michael Barry Smith residents who complained to the SPM

that a new house there exceeded the **planned height** by 0.57 metres and they said damaged their view. The STCA was unable to easily see harm in the view, but backed the objection in principle because of strong views from local branches to go unoriented, not a flagrant precedent. The SPM has replied that the objection is virtually harmless, but has not yet responded to the point of principle. The SPM has been inattentive about several other branches of objections. If this council strictly does not apply the rules fast and firmly, developers cheating their way round the serious damage.

- The STCA desperately needs a **volunteer secretary** to take minutes of meetings, help sort out records and generally give a hand. We can pay R100 for a meeting plus extra. The secretary should have a notebook with printer and be on the Internet.

Congratulations to the Business Association, Fishing Association and Historical Society and Museum for acquiring the new



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successful Internet Website all about our home town called "**simonstown.com**" from Lance Langenhoven, who lives in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, but has a home and family here. It is one of two Websites which give considerable news and publicity about Simon's Town. The other is The Valley Online run by Carl van Blerk of Fish Hoek. It is available at **www.valley.co.za**.

Wilf Nussey

Simon's Town Civic Association
P.O. Box 47, Simon's Town, 7995
Chairman: Mrs Jacky Weaver 782 5335
Vice-chairman: Geoffrey Palmer 786 5402

Simon's Town Home Nursing Service

There are many who may not be aware that we in Simon's Town have access to an excellent highly professional home nursing service at an extremely modest membership fee.

Those subscribing to the Service are being assisted in maintaining their independence within the comfort of their own homes with the reassurance of knowing that nursing and domestic care is available to them at short notice and around the clock. That care could be of a full or part time basis, temporary or permanent, depending on the member's circumstances; be that person frail or infirm, convalescent or terminally ill. If required a qualified nursing sister is also available, daily and around the clock for basic medical assistance eg. bathing, dressing, incontinence or catheter management. One of our members who has recently recovered from a lengthy post operative illness which entailed daily treatment of a rather unpleasant nature, cannot speak too highly of the cheerful and efficient treatment he received as prescribed by both his GP and surgeon - in fact he does not know how he and his wife could have coped without Sister Swart and her team.

Any one of us may find one day that they cannot cope on their own, perhaps only for help with a bath after an accident as was the case with one young local rugby player

who broke his leg. One never knows when disaster will strike or at what age.

Unfortunately the Service badly needs more members (the more we have the lower the subs!). At present it costs a mere R50 to join with a monthly fee of R30. Emergency members must pay R360 to join, and non-members needing the service can enter into a 30 day contract at a higher rate.

Please support this good cause; if you are lucky enough never to need it, think how you are helping your less fortunate fellow citizens who may. In fact you will be supporting a truly Simon's Town charity, not some faceless organisation of which you may know nothing except its name.

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Friends of Simon's Town Library

Here is news of some of the new books that arrived during September and October to whet your appetite.

Fiction

Tolkien, JRR - The Silmarillion (Recommended by Melanie)

Kellerman, Jonathon - Monster (Forensic/Murder)

Leather, Stephen - The Bombmaker (Sci-Fi)

Rowling, JK - Harry Potter & The Goblet of Fire (Taking both the child and adult world by storm)

Non-Fiction

Orman, Suze - The Courage to be Rich and Nine Steps to Financial Freedom

McGraw, P (Dr) - Relationship Rescue (For Oprah fans, you will no doubt have seen these subjects on TV).

That is all for this month, but next time we will bring you all the important and exciting news of the proposed and approved (in principle) relocation of the Library.

The Bookworm

Peninsula Tourism

(Simon's Town Publicity Association - Tel. 786-2436)

The highlight of October has been the arrival of the Association's 2001 calendar - which has a superb selection of colour photographs depicting aspects of the town. The photographer Dr Peter Goldman (a retired brain specialist from the USA) has generously donated his pictures and our Chairman Dave Hurwitz arranged the design, layout and printing - we are most grateful to both of them. The calendars cost R35 and can be purchased at the Publicity Bureau, ST Museum, ST Pharmacy, At Ease Bookshop and various other stores. Businesses or community organisations wishing to stock the calendar will be charged only R25 (with R10 profit to the vendor). The profits are used for community projects in Simon's Town.

October saw a bumper crop of whales in Simon's Bay and one resident of the Zante townhouses told me that while looking down from their balcony, he and his wife had a

grandstand view of a whale producing a calf just off the rocks below.

About a fortnight ago Simon's Town was visited by Patricia Smith, the assistant editor of "Saga", a British travel magazine. She had planned to write an article on the Penguin colony, but thanks to Irene Toerien (our invaluable penguin and whale expert) a trip on the whale-watching boat was arranged and for once the south-easter took a break. We are looking forward to seeing Pat's article on penguins and whales. The Saga company brings many British visitors to Cape Town each year, so coverage in their magazine could help attract more visitors. Talking about our irritating sea breezes, the south-easter spoiled the proposed "Floating Farewell" party planned for George and Jennie Napier, who are retiring to Swellendam. Their elegant B&B - Sans Tache won several awards for excellence and they will be greatly missed.

Sex on a Plate

"London: Curryholics may be more hooked on their favourite dish than they realise: Curry can be physically addictive, according to a new study by British scientists. The spices provoke physiological symptoms that are typical of addictive substances and experiences, they say. Eating a curry raises the heartbeat and blood pressure to a much greater extent than blander fare such as fish and chips. The result is that the bodies of curryholics crave the food and can gain satisfaction even from the anticipation of an Indian Meal. "It is like sex on a plate." "You cannot get a rush from anticipating a drug, you need to take the drug itself" - The Times (Cape Times)

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Dave Hurwitz had offered his "Spirit of Just Nuisance" as a farewell venue, but sadly the weather was too bad. With the prompt assistance of Roger Bagshaw, until recently commodore of the False Bay Yacht Club, the gathering was held in the Club Gallery. Thanks are due to Vanessa Parris and her staff for the excellent catering. Dave thanked George for his services as treasurer of the Publicity Association, while Peter Fewell (former chairman) spoke of Jennie's help as a voluntary assistant at the Information Bureau. All present signed the marvellous farewell card created by Estelle Byrne.

It seems impossible, but the year 2000 is slipping away and it is time to think of New Year celebrations again. A committee chaired by Cherry Dilley is hard at work and once again Party tickets at R30 are on sale at the ST Museum and at the Publicity Bureau.

Sue Sturman
Peninsula Tourism

Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

October

1. Individuals

John & Susan Reese-Williams	R200.00
Barbara Paynter	100.00
Bob Johnston	100.00
Lance Burra-Robinson	100.00

2. Associations

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Chips**

Thursday

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News from Naval Base - Simon's Town

Navy Chief Retires

The Chief of the SA Navy, Vice-Admiral (V Adm) Robert Simpson-Anderson bid farewell to members of the SA Navy in the Western Cape at a Farewell Parade held in the SA Naval Dockyard on Thursday 26 October.

V Adm Simpson-Anderson joined the SA Navy in 1962 and became Chief of the SA Navy in 1992. During his career as a Naval Officer he served in various capacities, including that of Officer Commanding of the first Minister (now Warrior) Class Strike Craft, SAS JAN SMUTS, in 1977. He has also been actively involved in the recent acquisition programme of new submarines and corvettes for South Africa.

V Adm Simpson-Anderson handed over

command of the SA Navy to V Adm Johan Frans Retief in Pretoria on 31 October.

Born in 1946, V Adm Retief joined the SA Navy in 1964. He has served as Officer Commanding SAS NAUTILUS and SAS JIM FOUCHE (now known as SAS ISAAC DYGBA). V Adm Retief's most recent appointment was that of Inspector General of the SANDE.

Chief of the Navy Farewell Speech

To retire is a dramatic step in one's life, but it is also a great privilege to be able to step down after a long and exciting career. It is a point at which one has to create a new future and learn how to deal with a new life-style, but one invariably also ponders about

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the past. I think this is particularly the case when one retires from the Navy that is such a special organisation in terms of challenges, excitement, camaraderie and very special people that we work with. As I was doing the rounds to say goodbye to our units and level three divisions, I realised once again the quality of our people, uniform as well as civilian, people who have made this Navy work through thick and thin, people who I believe will continue to help create the new future for our Navy.

When saying goodbye, one should keep one's message short and to the point, and this is what I will certainly do. Summing up the past and reflecting on the good and the not so good of years and months gone by would serve little purpose. I must, however, mention that the nineties, particularly during my years in command of the Navy, were years of great uncertainty and instability for the Navy and also for the country as a whole. In the case of the Navy, we

had the demanding task of transformation, we had the integration of the various statutory and non-statutory forces into one, we suffered a series of serious budget cuts, and yes we even had to fight for the survival of the Navy. But we survived by judicious management of the funds available and while a large number of planned activities had to be shelved, I am happy to remind everyone that not once these past eight years did the Navy not respond, and respond with success, when the call came for a mission or an operation, whether in the Antarctic, whether in a distant port helping to open doors for South Africa abroad, or whether to search for and rescue a lone yachtsman hundreds of miles away. The nineties were hard years, but they were also good years. During those years big leaps were taken from the old to the new and although there were frustrations, despair and anger at times, and obviously a fair amount of criticism, the foundations were laid for a new future for the Navy. Much hard work and consolidation, refinement and adjustments are now required to bring together the



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new structures, the new processes, the new people and the new vessels with what is still required of the old to give real substance to the hard work of the nineties. Successful achievement of this will take the SA Navy into a golden era and make it a respected Navy internationally and a much loved and admired possession of the people of South Africa.

However, as out-going Chief of the Navy, I must issue a warning as well. There is a dark cloud in this potentially blue sky, and it is a serious dark cloud, one that I would have preferred not mention, but for one last time I must be frank and honest. This is the dark cloud of crime, gross indiscipline and fear. Elements entered the Navy that we

never had before: murder, death threats and intimidation that I don't think you find in any other Navy. I have in the course of the years visited many Navies right across the world, including in Africa, and nowhere did I encounter this terrible phenomenon. It is not acceptable, as I said many times, that watchkeepers work in fear, that staff officers go about their daily business armed or protected, that safety gates are installed not to keep spies out, but to keep out naval personnel who are threats to fellow naval personnel. This must be eradicated, and I thank the C SANDF for his no-tolerance stance and the new bold steps that are being introduced to clean up the SANDF of such elements and actions. However, an evil practice cannot be eradicated by the mere prom-

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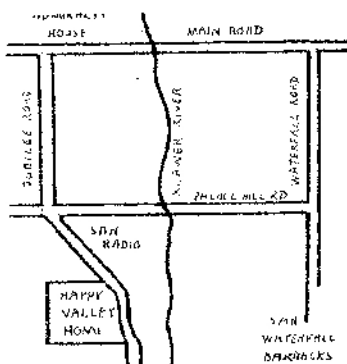
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ulation of policy, rules and measures. It will be everyone's duty and responsibility to make this work. This is not asking for too much. After all, that is what the Code of Conduct, which we all listened to a little earlier, is all about. I therefore appeal to you all to make the eradication of these evil practices from this potentially wonderful Navy, a personal mission.

It gave me great pleasure to award a number of decorations, medals and certificates this morning. Congratulations and well done to the recipients; they are well deserved. Many of these awards are for services rendered when we took the Navy through very difficult years. You have done your Navy proud. I must mention, also, that the process for approval of higher level awards is a lengthy one, and that some recommendations for awards are still in the pipeline and will be promulgated in due course.

To conclude: A big thank you. A big thank

you for hard work, loyalty, patience and support during the years that I was privileged to be Chief of the Navy. A big thank you to Flag Officer Fleet, R Adm Green, for arranging visits for my wife and myself to most of our units and divisions this past month and for this magnificent parade. A big thank you to the parade commander and parade GI and all on parade and a big thank you to my dear wife Geesje who supported me so well during these challenging years.

I wish you all and your families a very happy and exciting future. To my successor, Adm Retief and Mrs Retief, best wishes for a very bright and prosperous future. May our Navy go forward and from strength to strength under your command.

Goodbye and God bless you all.

V Adm Robert Simpson-Anderson

**The Navy's 'Code of Conduct' appears
on Page 30.**

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South African Navy Diving - A Brief History

Part Two - Training

The difference between a sports diver and a military diver is very simple: the military diver does not have the luxury of choosing the time, place or conditions he works in.

So how does the navy achieve the objective of sending a diver down alone to depths of 50 metres or more, breathing mixed gases other than air, in stormy conditions, with zero visibility, in shark infested waters, at 2 o'clock in the morning to render safe a potentially deadly sea mine? If you're convinced at this stage that Navy Divers are suicidal maniacs, you're wrong. These are highly trained individuals operating within boundaries determined as safe by the on-site diving supervisor.

The 100% safety record proudly held by the divers of the South African Navy is testament to the high standards of training the navy divers are subjected to. All diver recruits are volunteers who are physically, psychologically and medically screened

before undergoing diver training.

The various courses presented at the SAN Diving Centre include:

- a) Ship Diver Training (non-career divers).
- b) Clearance Diver Training (career divers).
- c) Diving Supervisor Training.
- d) Diving Instructor Training.
- e) Boat Coxswain Training.
- f) Explosive Ordinance Disposal Training, and
- g) Underwater Sabotage Device Disposal Training

Apart from the formally presented courses, a naval diver undergoes continuation training throughout his diving career. A typical diver takes approximately 9 years to fully qualify as a Diving Instructor.

Physical Training

The actual diving training received by potential diving recruits is demanding both physically and mentally. For this reason,



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the divers course is complemented with a tough daily physical program. Divers are subjected to mile swims, mile fins (in surface swimming kit), timed water circuit activities and land based PT activities. All prospective divers are required to achieve an 80% physical pass rate to complete the course. Weekly progress is monitored and students may be removed from the course due to a lack of progress.

The reason for the emphasis on the physical condition of the student is the immense strain regular deep diving takes on the human body. By having the diver as fit as possible during the intensive "wet" phase of the diving course, the risks of physical trauma are considerably reduced.

Theoretical Training

Contrary to popular belief, SAN diver students spend a considerable amount of time in classrooms covering subjects as diverse as diving physics, physiology, equipment maintenance, theoretical application of procedures, first aid and seamanship, to mention but a few. The theory pass mark is also 80%. The student has to pass the theoretical application of a procedure before being allowed to continue in the practical application.

Practical Diving Training

Student divers generally are exposed to diving for the first time in a pool and under controlled conditions. The Diving Centre has a 10m tank in which much of the initial training takes place. The tank offers a controlled environment with observation windows for the instructor to actually watch the students as they are taught emergency procedures and put through their paces to practice various drills.

From the relative shelter of Simon's Bay, the students progress deeper into False Bay. From the depth of 39m onwards the Diving Centre utilises the SAS FLEUR as a diving platform. The students are trained to dive with common air cylinders (as used by most sports divers), semi-closed circuit breathing apparatus (used for mine clearance diving), closed circuit breathing ap-

paratus (used for covert diving) and surface supply diving (helmet and hose to the surface).

Diving Skills

Although the diving skills imparted to the divers are important, diving is essentially only the mode of transport for the diver to enter and return from an unnatural environment. For this reason, the real skill of the military diver lies in his ability to conduct various tasks underwater. SAN divers are trained to conduct searches, salvage operations, photography, cutting and welding, all waterborne search and rescue missions and to work with explosives. The navy diver, by virtue of his diving skill, is a jack of all trades. The mastering of a specific field is done when the diver is appointed to a section within the Diving Centre, Naval Base Durban or a ship at sea and gains experience within a field by exposure and "on the job" training.

On completion of the part one diving course and a predetermined number of hours



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logged underwater, the diver is considered for Diving Supervisor training. On completion of the Supervisor's course the diver is qualified to supervise all naval diving operations as well as operate recompression chambers.

The final course the diver completes is the Instructor's course. This enables the diver to give instruction as well as conduct candidate diver selection. The advanced explosive courses are at this stage completed voluntarily.

The Future

The South African Navy Diving Centre training division qualifies approximately 15 **new** diving recruits annually and will continue to do so. The training of the SAN divers is on par with the best in the world. The successes attributed to these individuals are a direct result of the high training standard and the high calibre of qualified divers.

Commander Richard Penn
Officer in Charge SAN Diving Centre

French Vessels Visit Simon's Town

Two ships from the French Navy sailed into Simon's Town at 9am on Wednesday 1 November.

The Supply and Command Vessel, FNS VAR is the second of five Durance class vessels belonging to the French Navy. FNS VAR will be berthed in Simon's Town from 1-20 November and will be undergoing maintenance in the SA Naval Dockyard.

The French Naval Floreal class Frigate, FNS NIVOSE, will pay a goodwill visit to Simon's Town from 1-3 November and Cape Town from 3-9 November. Thereafter she will depart for Durban.

The ships will be open to the public during their visit to Simon's Town. Please contact Public Relations 787 4129/3860 for details.

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Station 10 N.S.R.I. Simon's Town November 2000

October produced some false alarms which are not pleasant for rescue crews. Some occur through circumstance, but those that happen due to thoughtlessness or lack of foresight are inexcusable because they cause a great deal of frustration on the part of would-be rescuers, waste of money in the use of excess fuel and wear and tear on expensive boats and equipment.

One such call out occurred on 13 October at 0607 in the morning when a member of the public reported to Cape Town Port Control that she had sighted three red flares in the middle of False Bay on a line between Simon's Town and Somerset West. "Spirit of Free Masonry" (R10) was launched and searched on the indicated line. At approximately one mile from Macassar turned and proceeded towards Steenbras river mouth. Then proceeded off Gordon's Bay where contact was made with the ski boat "Sanet" whose skipper confirmed that a local chemical company had been burning products on the beach at approximately 0600. Warnings were issued to aircraft by Cape Town airport control tower.

Red flares, fires or rockets are Internationally recognised distress signals and should not be fired indiscriminately. Needless to say the frustrated crew returned to base.

The 14th of October at 1410 brought a call out from Port Control to report that a windsurfer was in difficulties near Roman Rock Lighthouse. The Station Mobile 4x4 went out to conduct a visual search of the area, but they could see nothing so they telephoned the reportee who confirmed that she could still see the windsurfer who was unable to right his craft. "Spirit of Free Masonry" was launched and proceeded to the area, but could find no casualty.

The mobile then proceeded to the home of the reportee from where they co-ordinated the search, but nothing was seen of the windsurfer but given the wind direction it was possible that the casualty could have blown ashore. The mobile then searched the windward shoreline and even spoke to

some windsurfers with no result.

15 October brought a call out to attend an overturned hobycat in Fish Hoek Bay. "Eddie Beaumont", the rubber rescue craft, launched and went to the aid of the hobycat and towed the craft to the Fish Hoek beach. Again on 15 October at 1510 the Station was called by False Bay Yacht Club to report that a yacht that was heading toward Simon's Town against a strong north-westerly wind and could not make headway into the steepening sea even when using it's motor. The skipper, realising his radio battery was flat, made a call to his wife on his cellphone and she made a call to the yacht club who called the N.S.R.I. Rescue 10 was launched, rendezvoused with the yacht South West of Roman Rock Lighthouse. A tow was passed and the yacht was towed to safety in Simon's Town.

Continuing in the series of introducing N.S.R.I. Station 10 members to the readers

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of Snoektown Calling it is great to be able to introduce an element of romance to these pages.

Paul Alexander has lived in the Simon's Town area all his life until now, as his father is a member of the South African Navy. Paul went to school in Simon's Town and like many local lads joined the N.S.R.I. and the False Bay Volunteer Emergency Medical Service where he met his wife to be, **Olivia**, who is also a keen member of both these organisations. They are both qualified as Basic Ambulance personnel and Paul has qualified to be a coxswain of the semi-rigid rescue craft "Eddie Beaumont". Olivia lived in Fish Hoek and attended schools in Fish Hoek where she matriculated in 1996. Both Paul and Olivia serve as rescue craft crew members and were originally on the same crew, but because they are now married and according to Sea Rescue policy that no family members may serve in the same crew, they now serve in different crews. Duties with the N.S.R.I. and the Ambulance Service are no problem in this young marriage

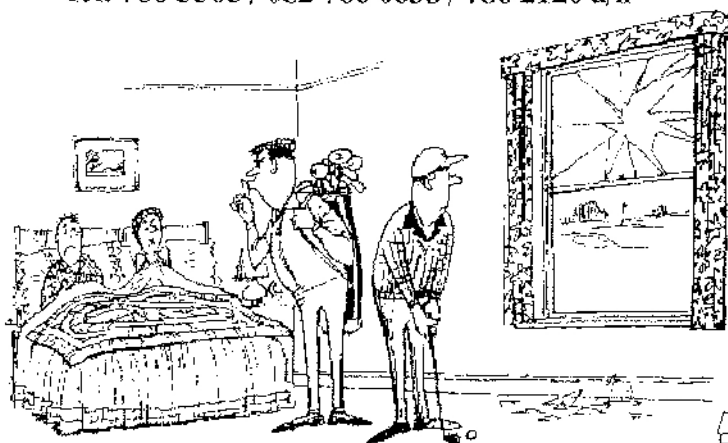
and it must be a tremendous bond to have one's hobby and interest shared by one's soul-mate.

Paul works for the South African Sailing Federation and Olivia is a chemist's assistant at a well known local pharmacy in Sun Valley. Congratulations to the young newly weds. We hope you will enjoy rewarding times in the N.S.R.I.

On Saturday 28 October I was privileged to attend an informal function at Station 10 Boathouse in Simon's Town. This function was the official hand-over between the newly elected Station Commander of Station 10 Dave Roberts and Chops Craig who recently retired from the position. Proceedings for the evening were initiated by ex-Station Commander Snoekie Selk who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the occasion. Snoekie introduced Chops who said how happy he had been to be of service to the community for over thirty years. He also said he would not be leaving the Station but offered his services in the future. He thanked his fellow Station mem-

HEATHER LUNDERSTEDT ESTATES cc

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bers for their support during his term as Station Commander and Deputy Station Commander for the past 15 years. He then handed the traditional Station Commander's telescope to his successor Dave Roberts. Dave said he was a man of few words and praised Chops for 31 years of service and handed a certificate, belatedly issued by N.S.R.I. Headquarters for thirty years service with the N.S.R.I. He then presented Chops with a beautiful brass ship's clock mounted on a wooden plaque with a suitable inscription as a gift from his fellow members of Station 10. He also introduced and unveiled the "Chops Craig" floating trophy - a brass instrument mounted on a plaque with a suitable inscription. The trophy was presented by Dave to retiring Deputy Station Commander Dennis Zimmerman for his sterling service on the N.O.T.C. as 9metre class boat co-ordinator. Dave also introduced his newly appointed Deputy Station Commander Geof Burchell who had also earlier been presented with a certificate for having completed 15 years

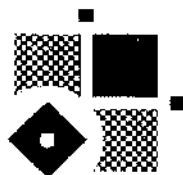
service with N.S.R.I.

Certificates and badges were handed out by Ian Kloppers, a lecturer with the firm Medi Tech, to numerous Station personnel who had successfully completed a Basic First Aid course under his tutelage. Other certificates were handed out to senior Station personnel who had qualified as boat coxswains for both rescue craft, which has been reported on in an earlier edition of this column. Other certificates were handed to members who had passed a course in Electronic Navigation courses.

Phil Ferreira, chairman of the Station 10 Shorelink Committee made a presentation to Chops on behalf of the Shorelink Committee for his great co-operation with respect to the Shorelink Committee. Thereafter everyone enjoyed a very good finger supper and liquid refreshment. All in all a very splendid occasion for Station 10.

Yours aye,

Don Dollery
Member Station 10
Shorelink Committee



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Simon's Town Museum News

The Simon's Town Museum has been working on the transformation of its displays to include all members of the Simon's Town community, especially those who had to leave the town under the Forced Removals of the 1960's and whose history has not previously portrayed in the museum. Our Project Phoenix Committee, made up of representatives of those who were forcibly removed from the area and museum staff and volunteers, continues to meet and artefacts are gradually coming in. The transformation of the museum's displays is currently underway.

We had a phenomenally successful Heritage Day on 25 September 2000. We invited past and present Simon's Town residents to come to the museum with their families and friends and to set up stalls of arts, crafts and traditional foods. We had an overwhelming response from the former residents of Simon's Town. They had a wonderful time and were delighted with our "People of Simon's Town" exhibition as well as our slide show "Down Memory Lane" and a video taken by former resident, Mr John Wessels. It was heart-rending to see people moved to tears on seeing photographs of their homes, families and friends in Simon's Town.

Overall it was a very happy day at the museum as the community met friends that in many cases, they had not seen for more than 30 years. The Heritage Museum in King George's Way worked in close co-operation with the Simon's Town Museum and were also run off their feet, catering for the large number of visitors. Thank-you to Patty Davidson and Roshini Millet for all their assistance.

Hopefully when we undertake this exercise again, we will see more of our current residents at our museums.

The following letter was faxed to the Simon's Town Museum after Heritage Day:

"I felt that I really had to write this letter to

thank you from the very bottom of my heart for making my dream come true. It has always (been) my dream to take my husband & kids to the place that I grew up & to show them where I played & went to school, but the most moving & emotional moment for me was to be allowed to stand on the steps of 27 Arsenal Road where I stayed. Joan, a special thank you to you, you made it possible not only for me but many other ex-Simonstown residents. We were all down memory lane yesterday 25 September. Just listening to everybody's story of what they used to do & how we as neighbours stayed was a wonderful and fulfilling experience for my husbands & kids. If ever we are allowed to go back to Simonstown to stay I would go without a doubt, my heart still belongs to Simonstown. Last night the 25 September it took me a long time to fall off to sleep because I was so overcome with emotion. I couldn't believe my dream had come true. May God Bless you all for what

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you have done for me and many others
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God's Richest Blessing
Phil Davids'

(A big heartfelt thank-you to the Navy for
their vision and kindness in allowing the
tour to take place.)

Please make a note that on **Saturday morning 18 November 2000 from 09h00 to 12h30**, we are having an Evaluation Morning, organized by **Christie's**, at the museum. Mr Jeremy Collins, director of **Christie's Scientific Instruments and Models Department**, will be visiting South Africa and will give verbal valuations and advice on buying and selling at Christie's auctions internationally. We request a minimum donation to the museum of R5 per item that you wish to have valued. Tea and refreshments will be on sale on the museum stoep. Please join us for a fascinating morning and a cuppa.

Cathy Salter-Jansen, Acting-Curator
Simon's Town Museum

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A notice regarding the Simon's Town Millennium Committee's New Year's Eve Party, 31 December 2000 on Jubilee Square, is (set out below).

New Year's Eve Party

The Simon's Town Millennium Committee invites Simon's Town families, friends and residents to a New Year's Eve Party on Jubilee Square, 31 December 2000.

The Quarterdeck Restaurant on Jubilee Square has agreed to remain open on New Year's Eve and will serve supper. The price of the meal will include free access to the festivities taking place on the Square. Once you have booked and paid for your table, you will be free to spend the whole evening at the Restaurant.

Tickets are **R75,00 each** and the meal includes:

Spit Roast Pork and Lamb
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Dessert and Coffee

To avail yourself of this wonderful offer, please complete and return the attached Booking Slip together with your cheque, **post-dated to 1 December 2000**. You will then receive your wristband to enter Jubilee Square, plus the tickets for your supper. (The Convenor is Cherry Dille.)

SIMON'S TOWN MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

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Cheque in favour of **Simon's Town Millennium Committee**, post-dated 1 December attached.

Lipton Challenge Cup 2000

Hosted by False Bay Yacht Club (FBYC), the Lipton Challenge Cup came to life in the naval heart of Simon's Town this year. On the mornings of the 6th to the 11th of August not only the Yacht Club, but Simon's Town itself was aglow with the Lipton fever. As the giant yellow label tea arch rose from its crumpled heap on the grass in front of the club, Lipton tea flags all over town were coming to life in the breeze, or clearly indicating the lack thereof. By 9am every morning the marinas were buzzing with excitement and sporting an array of hard-core and development yachtees from around the country, dressed as brightly as their respective L26's.

The 5th of August was 'Parade Day' and after scrutineering, weighing and a little bit of a practice session, all the teams gathered outside SAS Simonsberg for a parade briefing. Every team was smartly dressed in their team gear and luminous Lipton identification bands, and armed with their club burgee on a flagstaff and a bottle of water from home. The parade GI's (gunnery instructor!) briefing was short and sweet, this was a parade and we were not permitted to drop into pubs along the way. The yachtee crowd emitted a heavy sigh and after waiting for some very late arrivals, the Navy Band played and we marched.

On arrival at Jubilee Square we were welcomed and addressed by Rear-Admiral Trainor. The mixing of the waters ceremony evoked many mixed emotions when the UCT team's skipper took a swig of their 'water' before allowing it to froth in the bell. One thing was for certain though; whoever simply brought a bottle of still water ensured the light winds and calm water that prevailed throughout Lipton. After tasting the combined waters, the Admiral wished all the sailors good winds and following seas and the water was tipped into the bay.

The first day's over-enthusiasm encouraged several general recalls before the fleet

took off towards the first mark of the rectangular course. *Orion Challenger*, skippered by Mark Sadler and Greg Davis, collected the 'Golden Teapot' that evening and the next, winning the triangular course in a fluky South-Easter on the Monday. Day 3 became a hurry-up-and-wait scenario as the pressure cells on the synoptic chart battled it out, and Wednesday saw the AP up for longer than anyone cared to look at it. It was agreed that someone should present FBYC's bridge with a slightly newer one for next time.

Thursday's windward/leeward course was dominated by the fog that ensured the utterance of many unusual sailing terms as the top ten boats in the fleet had to beat back towards the bottom mark. The race was won by *Solid Liquid Filtration Consultants*, skippered by Trevor Donald, and caused much debate over redress rules regarding visibility. Day 6 dawned with a

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navigational warning, gunnery practice till 10:30, so we boomed and we sailed around Olympic course in an extremely patchy and gusty Northwester. *Abraxas Technologies*, skippered by Dericke Warne, won the race.

Many will argue that the weather that accompanied this year's Lipton Challenge Cup was not quite what Sir Thomas Lipton envisaged for the 12-mile course he had in mind, but fair sailing and superior speed and skill still won the race. *Orion Challenger* proved that they had just that and held the glittering Lipton trophy up at prize giving.

Despite the tough competition both development teams from Royal Cape Yacht Club (23rd place) and FBYC (20th place) did exceptionally well this year, but Dominique Provoyeur and her cheerful girls team showed them all how it's done, finishing up in 15th position. Even the visiting Chinese Navy and their choir couldn't compete with her team's synchronised voices as they sang their way to and from the start line every

day. The defending champions, *Dalys Insurance*, skippered by Chris King and Rick Nankin, finished 2nd with Harry Ellens on *Parental Guidance* in a close 3rd place.

SAS Simonsberg's Senior Rates Mess hosted prize giving and amidst the celebration of a successful regatta a generous four-course supper was served which left no ravenous yachtee tummy hungry. The definitely nautical theme got raucously out of hand when not only miniature life rings, but the remains of the mussel entrée too, frisbeed their way down the elegantly dressed tables.

Many thanks to the SA Navy and SAS Simonsberg for putting up with all the usual yachtee nonsense and for providing us with a great dance floor. I believe young and old were still at it till 4am the next morning. To FBYC, the Lipton 2000 Committee and our sponsor, Lipton Yellow Label Tea, thanks for a memorable regatta, all the souvenirs, and generous happy hours and a scrumptious mid-week fish braai.

Congratulations to all who took part and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Table Bay next year.

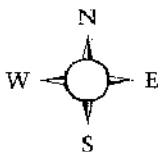
Nicola Berry

(For those who don't recognise the name, I'm the blonde chick from the foredeck on *Abraxas*. Hope to see you on the water soon, and keep sailing!)

Note : Nicola Berry is a Junior Member of the False Bay Yacht Club

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Simon's Town Art Route

Just a reminder that the Simon's Town Art Route will take place as usual on the last Sunday of the month - **26 November** from **10.30am - 4pm**. Brochures are available from Galleries in the village as well as from the Museum. Enquiries Michele **786 3184** or Estelle **786 1212**.

The Night Sky

During November the Taurid Meteors may be seen for the first half of the month between 9.30pm and 3.30am. The Southern Taurids expected maximum is on the 3rd between 9.30pm, and 3.30am, whereas the Northern Taurids maximum is at the same time on the 13th. The dominant colour is yellow, but red, green, orange and blue may be seen. These meteors are slow moving, as they enter the earth's atmosphere at 28km per second and originate as particles of the Periodic Comet Encke.

The Leonids, at maximum on the 17th and 18th, at between 3-4am, are often very spectacular. They are frequently large and are often heard. Last year the shower had an almost flat trajectory, when green, blue and orange meteors were seen at the rate of about 40 per hour. They were recorded on ASA 800 film. The camera shutter was kept open from 2.45am until 3.30am and again from 3.35am until 4.15am and was pointed in a SE direction at an elevation of 60°. The

Moon is in the First Quarter at this time and will conveniently have set, so the sky will be dark. Meteors are heard on Long Wave radio as they approach the Earth, so if a radio is used as an additional aid in identification, more meteors may be observed. A "swishing" sound is heard on Long Wave as they approach.

The Planets

Mercury at magnitude +4.2 is in Virgo and is visible as an early morning planet from 20 November. It reaches its greatest elongation West on the 15th, so is not visible at the beginning of the month.

Venus at magnitude -4.1 is seen in the West after Sunset as a very bright planet. On the 17th and 18th it is $\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from Lambda Sagittarii, and at month's end close to the crescent Moon.

Mars at magnitude +1.8 is visible all night and moves from Sagittarius to Capricorn later this month, on the 21st it is 4° South of the Moon, at month's end it is near Spica.

Jupiter at magnitude -2.9 is in Pisces and so rises in the East in the early evening, together with Mars and Saturn. On the 13th it is 2° North of the Moon. It is a bright silver object, half as far from the Earth as Saturn. It is interesting to watch the moons Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto with a small telescope or binoculars.

Saturn, magnitude -0.3 is a bright cream coloured planet, which rises before Jupiter in the early evening. It is brighter now than it has been for 25 years, so that the ring system may be examined using binoculars. The outer ring called Ring A is 14,600km wide, is subdivided from the outside, by the Keeler Gap, the Encke Division; Ring B is divided by the Cassini Division, followed by the inner ring C. The rings of Saturn are conveniently tilted on their side, being easy to observe at present. It takes Saturn 29½ years to orbit the Sun.

Uranus, magnitude +5.8 is in Capricorn and will be 1° North of the Moon on the 4th. It is easily identifiable.

Neptune, magnitude +7.9, is also in Capricorn. It will be 1° North of the Moon on the

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2nd. Pluto, whose size 14 will not be visible in November, and will reach conjunction with the Sun on December 4th.

The Moon

New Moon is on 6 November; First Quarter on the 13th; Full Moon on the 23rd; Last Quarter on the 29th.

The Sun

Rise of the Sun is at 5:48, Sunset at 18:13. Sunrise on the 30th is at 5:59, Sunset at 18:13.

On 21 June 2021 there will be a total eclipse of the Sun over most of Southern Africa, including Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. There will be a partial eclipse over Simon's Town.

Comets

Comet NEOWISE disintegrated, and it was difficult to find the pieces without a telescope from mid-March, which was very disappointing. There have been no reports of Comet Burke, magnitude 16, having been spotted.

Aurora Australis

Although there has been a great deal of Sun spot activity, no reports of the Aurora have been received.

Magnitude

A frequent question asked is "What is Magnitude?"

Magnitude is the brightness or luminosity of a star estimated by the human eye relative to a nearby star of known magnitude, or measured by a photometer or taken from a photograph when the star is at its zenith. Hipparchus in the Second Century BC classified all naked eye stars into 6 grades of brightness. This grading is still in use today, so stars of magnitude 7 and above are not naked eye stars. This classification was used by Ptolemy in 130 AD in his star charts, and later in 1596 by the Royal Astronomer, a famous astronomer, when he confirmed the magnitudes by calculating a difference of brightness in each Magnitude of 2.5. Thus a magnitude of 2 is 2.5 times than a magnitude 3 is 6.25 less; magnitude 4 is 15.63 less; magnitude 5 is 39.06 less; magnitude 6 is 97.66 less; magnitude 7 is 244.1 less; magnitude 8 is 610.35 less; magnitude 9 is 1525.5 less; magnitude 10 is 3801.6 less.

Below the other end of the scale -

magnitude 0 is 2.5 greater and magnitude -1 is 6.25 greater; magnitude -2 is 15.63 greater; magnitude -3 is 39.06 greater; magnitude -4 is 97.66 greater.

The magnitude of the Full Moon is -12.6 and that of the Sun -26.72, so that it is 2.5^{21.12} times as bright as a star of magnitude 1.

Refer to Blommerstein.

Tortoise Rescue in Seaforth

With the bulldozers digging off the dry river, many the road was on to save the Tortoises and other small animals off the road in High Street Avenue. Francis preparations arranged. Permission to remove and relocate tortoises was obtained, dozens of boxes collected to put tortoises in, now all we needed was helping hands.

Brownies and Girl Guides came to the rescue with willing little hands and happy faces armed with cardboard boxes, long sticks and bags of enthusiasm, determined to rescue anything that moved. Along with the happy band were a lot of "volunteers" who so kindly came to assist. One SP resident, Aunt Leggat and Sympathetic visitors who despite warnings of "please be careful snakes and lizards", still climbed up the hill and helped.

Our local "snake man" Sean Treves, was on hand to lend a hand and remove anything without legs that appeared and even the weather stayed with us dry and dry conditions. After much hard work, lots of perspiration and great noises, we found one little tortoise and off he went to Pheasant Farm. Our experience is that with the movement of the machinery the animals had already moved off.

A wonderful effort and with thanks from Heather Lundestad and the developers of Seaforth Heights to all who pitched in to help.

Heather Lundestad First Simon's Town Brownies



Simon's Town Brownies getting ready for Tortoise Rescue

The Annual Simon's Town Charity Art and Craft Show

Due to the local elections, the show has been set back one week.

Dates: 8 - 12 December 2000

Times:

Friday 8 December 9am-5pm

Saturday 9 December 9am-7pm

Sunday 10 December 9am-7pm

Monday 11 December 9am-7pm

Tuesday 12 December 9am-4pm

Venue: Simon's Town Town Hall

Opening: Friday 8 December 6.30pm - Cheese and Wine

]Tea/coffee and eats will be available daily.

The Annual Art and Craft Show was started by Dr Reg Loxton for two specific reasons. Firstly, to support local artists and crafters by providing them with a venue to display their work. Secondly, and most importantly, to raise funds for those charities and support services which serve our local community. This effort becomes increasingly important as our district is part of an ever-enlarging Municipality.

All funds raised from the sale of items on display, entrance fees and door receipts will go to LOCAL organisations who help us when we most need it.

The proceeds from the sale of tea/coffee and eats supplied by our local churches will go directly to the churches concerned.

Entrance Fee: R5
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHARITIES

News From Naval Base - Simon's Town

Code of Conduct

For uniformed members of the South African National Defence Force

- I pledge to serve and defend my country and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the law and with honour, dignity, courage and integrity.*
- I serve in the SANDF with loyalty and pride, as a citizen and a volunteer.*
- I respect the democratic political process and civil control of the SANDF.*
- I will not advance or harm the interests of any political party or organisation.*
- I accept responsibility for my actions.*
- I will obey all lawful commands and respect all superiors.*
- I will refuse to obey an obviously illegal order.*
- I will carry out my mission with courage and assist my comrades-in-arms, even at the risk of my own life.*
- I will treat all people fairly and respect their rights and dignity at all times, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, culture, language or sexual orientation.*
- I will respect and support subordinates and treat them fairly.*
- I will not abuse my authority, position or public funds for personal gain, political motive or any other reason.*
- I will report criminal activity, corruption and misconduct to the appropriate authority.*
- I will strive to improve the capabilities of the SANDF by maintaining discipline, safeguarding property, developing skills and knowledge, performing my duties diligently and professionally.*

Rules of War

In situations of armed conflict I will abide by the rules of international humanitarian law as contained in the Geneva Conventions:

- I will fight only enemy combatants and attack only military objectives.*
- I will employ methods of attack to achieve the military objective with the least amount of harm to civilian life and property.*
- I will not attack or harm enemy personnel who surrender. I will disarm them and treat them as prisoners of war.*
- I will not kill, torture or abuse prisoners of war.*
- I will not alter weapons or ammunition for the deliberate purpose of increasing suffering.*
- I will collect and care for the wounded, shipwrecked and sick, whether friend or foe.*
- I will treat civilians humanely.*
- I will not tolerate or engage in rape or looting.*
- I will respect all cultural objects and places of worship.*
- I will respect all persons and objects bearing the Red Cross, Red Crescent and other recognised symbols of humanitarian agencies.*
- I understand that disobeying these rules is a crime. It dishonours military personnel and their country, and makes them liable to punishment as war criminals. I will therefore report any violation of the rules to my superiors.*

Simon's Town Creative Workshop 9-15 July 2001

A wave of creativity is due to hit Simon's Town next winter. The concept of Simon's Town Creative Workshop is to provide "hands on" educational and cultural workshops relating to the arts. Otto du Plessis of the New Bronze Age Sculpting School will be participating as well as local and imported artists. Catherine Paynter is planning to come down from Johannesburg to share her special painting techniques! This event is intended to draw people from all over South Africa to come and experience a unique holiday here in Simon's Town. In addition to the workshops, exhibitions, demonstrations, lectures, concerts and entertainment are being planned. For the less artistic, other activities are being developed.

Mr de Waal has kindly agreed to the use the Simon's Town High School premises which will be the main venue for many different workshops. The Simon's Town Museum will be active in this event. And what will False Bay Yacht Club cook up? And the Library?

Publicity for Simon's Town Creative Workshop will go out nationwide with the help of the Publicity Association and all relevant press. The event will also go onto the simonstown.com website in the New Year.

With the cooperation of Peninsula Tourism's "Secret Season" and the encouragement of the many moving forces in the village, this vision is fast becoming a reality. I feel heartened by the generosity of spirit that exists in Simon's Town. I anticipate that Simon's Town Creative Workshop will be a well-received and well-supported community effort.

Creative suggestions welcomed.

Phoebe Cottrell
Coordinator
786 2952

Special thanks go to Dr Loxton for this space.

SPIER STEAM TRAINS

Sunday 26 November

1. Cape Town - Simon's Town return (stops at Plumstead and Muizenberg) Adults R75 children 12 and under R40. Departs Cape Town 10am. Returns ex Simon's Town 2pm.

2. Simon's Town - Plumstead Return (stops Muizenberg) Adults R60, children 12 and under R35. Departs Simon's Town 12 noon. Returns to Simon's Town 2pm. Spier's delicious picnic is available on board if pre-booked. R60 per person.

For tickets & enquiries phone Spier Vintage Train at 419 5222 or Peninsula Tourism at 786 5798 or 788 6176 or 790 1264

St Luke's Hospice False Bay

Our General Office and Day-Care Centre including the reception area of our hospice sister Margot, will be **moving** at the end of October to the **rear area of the Main False Bay Hospital Hall**. **Please take the Out-Patients admissions entrance gate** adjacent to Kommetjie Rd and look for our Hospice signage. All donations of quality clothing, linen, bric-a-brac must in future only be handed over to our container shop staff on Tues and Thurs between 9.30 and 12.30. **No** electrical equipment or furniture please, due to limited space. Books to new office. Thank you one and all.

Margaret Court
Convenor Container Shop

A Tanganyika Journal Part 10

January 10 1951

Mile 11

We have moved forward a couple of miles, to a semi-permanent camp. We not only have a stoutly built banda with a cement floor, there is also electric lighting for five hours in the evening. It is wonderful to be cool and clean and dry - and still have the added miracle of electricity. Water bowzers come around each day to fill our tanks, and if they are tardy our neighbour Tony Stiebel makes a successful fuss, bless him.

Filippi has gone home to his family, after sad cries of "Kwa heri, Bwana. Kwa heri Memsab". Tomasi now sees to dishes, dusting and dobi. He also makes the beds with flair: corners mitred, top sheets turned down in a neat triangle. I have high hopes of making a vegetable garden next to the banda.

January 15

When we came to Mile 11 there was a question of furniture and household stuff. I was put into the care of Little Mac and we went off to Admin. in Nachingwea, armed with a sheaf of requisition papers. Mac began by ordering six sprawling Arcon easy chairs; I pointed out that our rooms were small: two would do. Mac ticked off a full set of Meakin crockery; there was a choice between bilious blue, sick pink and yellow, Mac said we would take all three, "to ring the changes". I found my voice and opted for the yellow. There was also cutlery galore.

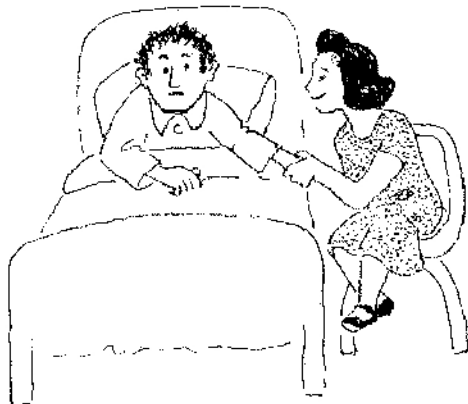
When we moved on to Office Requirements, I began to feel that something was not quite kosher: a gross of pencils, great piles of stationery, boxes of erasers; two dozen pencil sharpeners. All this time Little Mac seemed in particularly high spirits, and going back to Mile 11 he handled the Landrover like racing car.

January 24

The goods arrived without much delay, Tamasi has packed away everything that belongs in his kitchen, and I find the Arcon chairs the height of comfort.

I have been told that Little Mac has been in hospital suffering from mepachrine poisoning - quite severely. According to reports, he had neglected to take his regular dose for several days - he's a maleesh sort of chap - and then decided to swallow the whole bang-shoot at one go: about six days' worth, maybe more.

When he finally came to his senses he found his hand being firmly held by "Fupi", a diminutive, aggressively determined young woman who said that he'd proposed to her and they were engaged. Being disinclined to argue (except about politics), Little Mac said in that case they might as well get married. "Well, blow me down," said Tony Sharp when he heard the news. I fancy he is somewhat grateful for Mac's mepachrine betrothal: Fupi has been relentlessly pursuing him, though the nimble-footed lad has always managed to stay two steps ahead.



Tygerberg Children's Choir Christmas Carol Concert at Simon's Town School

This internationally renowned choir is coming to perform in the Simon's Town School Hall:

- **Date - Friday 1 December**
- **Time - 7pm**
- **R25 Adults, R10 for scholars**

This choir has been invited to represent Africa at the International World of Choirs in Vancouver in March 2001 as one of the four performing choirs - not to compete in the 50 choir competition. This confirms their excellence.

Come and hear these wonderful children sing. Tickets available from the secretary, phone **786 1056**.

An Appeal!

Estelle Byrne would like help with trees for the **Seaforth Burying Ground**. Many stone pines have died recently and the south easter now creates havoc with shrub and tree growth. We need young myoporum or minetonga trees, as they can survive these extreme conditions, they grow quickly and will form a wind barrier for indigenous trees to survive.

Phone **786 1212**. Offers of help welcome.

Estelle

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Simon's Town SAPS Safety Hints Part 2

Attacks on pensioners and senior citizens are an ongoing phenomenon. This month we continue with part 2 of our safety hints:

Safety When Using Public Transport

- Avoid deserted or badly lit pedestrian subways and overhead bridges.
- Be observant on railway platforms - luggage is often stolen while the owner is distracted on purpose.
- Stand near other people who are also waiting for transport. Look out for persons who act suspiciously. Inform the driver or give the alarm if necessary.
- Make sure that the windows and door of your train compartment are locked.
- Keep your handbag and other valuable items on your lap.
- If the bus or taxi is reasonably empty, sit as close as possible to the driver, but don't give out personal information.
- When you arrive at your destination, note who gets off with you. Beware of possible pursuers.
- If you are being pursued, go to the nearest building and request help.
- If you have to travel in the evenings, use well-lit streets to get home.
- Choose taxi services that you know or that were recommended.
- Beware of unauthorised porters at airports who offer their services. If you do, make sure you keep them in sight. Arrange to be met at your destination.

What The Elderly Should Always Do

- Do not strike up a conversation with strangers, or open your door for them. Persons with illegal intentions make

clever plans to win the trust of others.

- Always insist on positive identification.
- Never allow anyone to enter your house on the pretext that he needs to use the telephone urgently.
- Inform your neighbours of your departure and arrival when you go shopping.
- The display of notes and expensive jewellery makes you an easy target.
- If you receive a strange or suspicious telephone call, never give out information.
- Swindlers are always looking for easy targets to become part of a scheme that promises quick profits. Be aware!
- Never pay money in advance. If something has to be done in your house, use someone recommended by friends.
- Be careful when you sign a contract or let a stranger invest your money. Do not discuss your money matters with strangers.

Senior Citizens on Holiday

Take the following precautions to make your trip as safe and pleasant as possible.

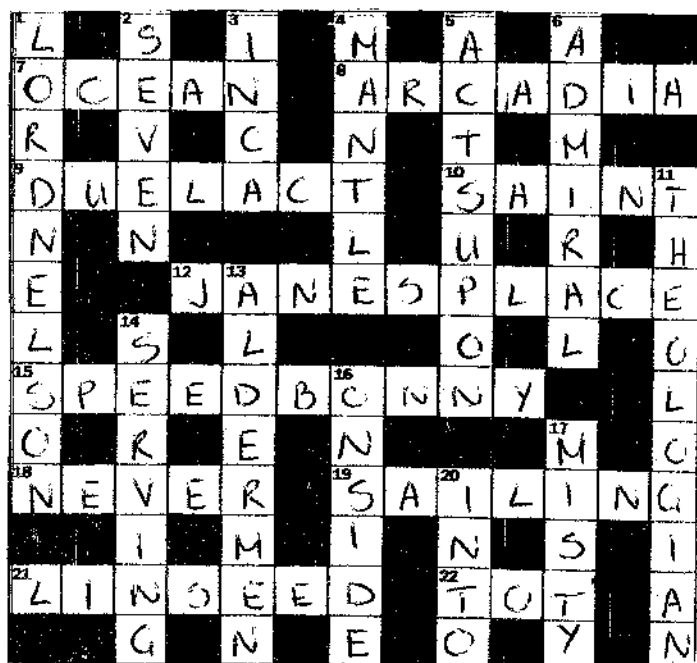
- A few days before your departure, make a list of things to do, as well as things to be cared for in your home.
- Inform a family member and neighbour of your travel plans and contact numbers.
- Never leave any windows open, regardless of how small.
- If no one is able to switch your lights on in the evenings, leave one or two inside lights on with curtains slightly open. If possible, install a programmable light unit.
- Ensure all accounts are paid in advance.
- Place all firearms in a safe if you are not taking them with you.
- Do not cancel newspapers or similar deliveries. Ask a neighbour to collect these.
- Arrange for someone to meet you at your house when you return and enter with you.

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**WINNER for Crossword No 11 -
Claude Randall**

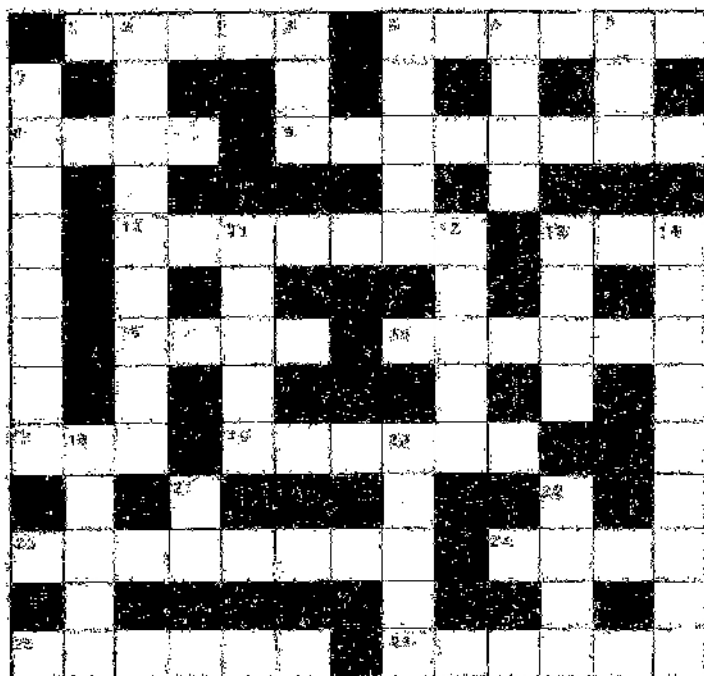
Simon's Town Civic Association Committee Members and their Portfolios:

Chairman:	Mrs Jacky Weaver	782 5335
Vice-chairman & Property Report: For the ex-GCA:	Geoffrey Palmer	786 5402
	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
Red Hill:	Amos Lombo	780 9204/W
		780 9123/ H
Security/Safety:	Cdr. Blackie Swart	786 2508
Cultural Affairs:	Cpt. Terry Korsten	782 1889
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

P U Z Z L E

12



Across

1. A 2-street puzzle (2)
2. Does he carry the bag & the bag? (6)
3. Anti-society fruit (4)
4. Pretty precious shirt (8)
- 10 & 23. Commonly-seen local bird (7 & 8)
12. Black substance injurious to wings (6)
13. Any wild animals home (4)
- 18 & 24. So most win north of here (8, 9)
21. Of mine (3)
25. Spiritual beings allegedly to be found in 4 down
26. See 19 across
27. See 18 across
28. Number of palm trees bordering Jubilee Square (6)
29. Famous old-time Venetian merchant ship (5)

Down

2. Opposite of morality (3)
3. A cock's noise (2)
4. Remove dirt (5)
5. Nuisance was a great one (4)
6. Anger (3)
7. Model photycient outside vultavette gang shop (8)
11. Action (3)
12. Gave for nothing (5)
13. Useful implement (4)
14. Name of the building housing the Simon's Town Museum (5)
15. Resident's establishment (3)
20. The 16th Greek letter (3)
22. Public relations expert (2)
23. Being alone (4)

PRIZE: RSCC voucher valid at Club Pacesite

Name Tel. No.

- Entries in plain envelope addressed to Grosklova Calling Grosesword Puzzle and delivered to Simon's Town Book Store before Tuesday 28 September.
- First correct entry drawn will be the prize winner.
- Only one entry per person permitted.
- Result and solution in the following issue of Grosesword Calling.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2000

1. ANCHOR PLAYERS SUMMER SEASON

SHE'S COMING..... Don't miss **DIANE CHANDLER** in **CELLULITE AND SEQUINS** her award – winning show at the Simonsberg Theatre, West Dockyard on **10 November** only. Book now before the house-full signs go up. Tickets at Peninsula Tourism Simon's Town Bureau Phone 786-2436 / 786-5798.

Newsflash – **Edwina Windsor** visits our town. This hilarious, adults-only one man/woman Show will be "performed" at the Simonsberg Theatre on **24 November** at 8.30 pm.

6 - 16 December Brace yourselves for Simon's Town's **first original pantomime – ONCE UPON A TIME. COM** Tickets at S.T. Info Bureau Ph.786-2436 or 786-5798.

2. WALKING TOURS OF THE HISTORIC MILE, SIMON'S TOWN Every Tuesday and Saturday (Booking essential) Ph. Bobbie 786 3189 (Tues) Ph. Audrey 786 1805 (Sat) **GHOST TOURS** - Tues to Sun 4pm (Booking essential)

FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN LIBRARY Mini Booksale **18 November** from **9am** at **Library Premises**. Please note the venue. Come and browse and buy and so support your library and increase our funds for the forthcoming move to new premises.

3. FRIENDS OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Conducted walks in Cape of Good Hope section of the National Park are on the third Sunday of each month. October – March 8am. No charge (apart from R20 admission to park) The next walk is **19 November**. Enquiries: **786-1774**.

4. FRIENDS OF THE SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE

Enquiries Ph. 786 3890 – All welcome
Wednesday 15th November. at 7.30 pm
Illustrated talk "The Noisy Sea - Conversations Between Whales & Dolphins" by Leoni

Juritz-Hofmeyer of S.A. Museum.

Venue: Museum Hall, Court Rd., S.T.

Saturday 18th November at 9.30 am

Alien Vegetation Hack at Boulder's Park.

Meet: Boulders Car Park, Simon's Town.

Sunday 26th November at 9.30 am

Combined Walk with Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group at Vlooberg area.

Meet: On top of Redhill, Simon's Town, next to Pinehaven Village.

Saturday 9th December – Environmental Activities including the following:

Marine Education Walk at 9am at Long Beach, S.T. led by Yves Lechanteur. (Enquiries 715-9783).

Short Fynbos Walk at 3pm. Meet at Boulders Car Park (in order to avoid parking problems please try to share transport).

Social Dinner at 7.30 pm, Oatlands Holiday Village (For tickets at R45 per person contact Elaine 786-3562; Sharon 786-1072 or Yvonne 712-9997).

Sunday 10 December at 9.30am

Alien Vegetation Hack at Boulders Park

Meeting place: Boulders Car Park, Simon's Town.

5. NSRI DANCE

Saturday 25 November at 7.30pm

Tickets R70 double, R40 single

Ph. Warren 082 350 8266; Nadia 082 843 1152; Karin 083 631 8641 or Phil 786 1663

6. CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT with the NAVY BAND

16 December at 6.30pm on Jubilee Square. Silver collection in aid of St. Lukes.

Deadline for December edition

Thursday 24 November

Publication Date - Monday 4 December

Contact Sue Sturman

Tel 786 5798 or 786 2436

(Simon's Town Publicity Assoc)