

SNOEKTOWN *CALLING*

Vol 4 Issue 11

6 May 2002

Admiralty House - Simon's Town

May Sponsor - Iona Loxton

Admiralty House

Admiralty House is the oldest and most interesting building in Simon's Town. Although the building owes its renown to its links with the Navy, its early history is also of considerable interest.

The land on which Admiralty House stands was first owned by a former Dutch soldier, Antoni Visser, who arrived in the Cape in 1718 and was granted a lease from the DEIC to graze cattle. He, however, breached his lease by building a large house on the property. On 27 May 1743, Governor Swellengrebel granted Mr Visser full ownership of the land and the house, probably as a reward for good service.

After Antoni Visser's death, Johannes Albertus Munnik bought the property. In 1785 Gerhardus Munnik sold it to his son-in-law, William Hurter, a baker by trade, for 60 000 guilders. Besides providing bread to ships in the bay, he possessed grazing rights at Olifantbosch, which ensured adequate supplies of meat. The Admiralty House garden provided fruit and vegetables and the house itself offered "very superior accommodation" to ship's captains and wealthy travellers.

When Great Britain occupied the Cape in 1795, William Hurter obtained the contract to supply the British Fleet with soft bread but, by 4 June 1796 the British Admiralty was advised that the Fleet could no longer afford to pay his exorbitant prices. When he died on 24 October 1808, Hurter's wife and sons took over the bakery and herd of cattle but the house was no longer used as a lodging house.

On 22 April 1814, the house was purchased by the Admiralty at a cost of 130 000 guilders as a residence for the Admiral Commanding. In March 1957 it was handed over to the SA Navy. Today it is the official residence of the Chief of the SA Navy when he visits the Cape and a Wardroom for senior officers. Distinguished guests are also frequently entertained there.

The appearance of the house remained unaltered until 1853, when damage by gales necessitated partial reconstruction. In 1875 the original flat roof was replaced by a slate roof. The external appearance of the house has since remained essentially the same. In 1972, Admiralty House was proclaimed a national monument.

No precise date can be given for the inception of the Admiralty House garden, but it is clear that during the past one-and-a-half centuries, successive occupants have painstakingly developed it from the surrounding sand dunes. Some of the superb indigenous trees are of such considerable dimensions that they could only have been planted during the nineteenth century.

Editorial

Well, another bush fire which highlighted the same weaknesses in our ability to cope adequately with such crises: no water pressure in Murdoch Valley, Afrikander Road in particular, and the reason: the reservoir burnt down - also, inadequate or ineffective fire breaks.

The same situation applied with our huge fire of a couple of years ago. Whom should we lobby to fire this time - or should some people be taken to court for criminal negligence? However, we need to award Men of the Match to our Navy and Police Force for responding as best they could.

Now the awkward part: the ongoing tussle and confrontation between the Business Association and the Civic Association, as to who should establish the Section 21 Co as a means of raising funds to accomplish and facilitate certain important community service. I outlined the objectives and ways and

means in the July 2001 issue of this magazine; I also dealt with the saga concerning the issue of the Section 21 Co in the editorial of the April issue.

Now that is all history; let's deal with the present stand-off: On the evening of Tuesday 23 April a meeting took place to sort out the differences between the Civic Association and the Business Association; regarding the establishment of the Section 21 Co. The debate went sideways and round-and-round, sometimes heated, with insignificant result in the end.

It would appear that the Civic Association sees itself the Holding Company and the Business Association as an operating subsidiary, beholden to the Holding Company! The Business Association will have none of this and insists that the Section 21 Co's main concern will be the CBD, and therefore the responsibility of the Business As-



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sociation. Result: deadlock!

Further meetings between the two organisations would appear futile, at committee level. None the less, a need for the establishment of the Section 21 Co is absolutely vital. Therefore I propose as follows: each organisation nominate a delegate with total mandate in writing, with an obligation to reach settlement - an honest broker acting as chairman and referee. His verdict will be final and binding on both parties. I can think of no other clever solution.

Reg Loxton
Editor
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Down the Historical Mile

Skandel! Meneer die Voorsitter, shouted Stoffel Boesman: another bush fire, more damage, a house burnt down. Will we never learn, will we ever get things right?

One could see that Stoffel was really worked up and almost beside himself, his eyes popping out and all, waving a copy of the False Bay Echo, and jabbing his finger at the fire report. Ja, said Harold Hardekop, they ran out of water in Murdoch Valley, there in Afrikander Road, because - it says in the paper - the pipes of the reservoir got burnt off by the fire. Ja, said Schultz, must have been plastic pipes. Can you believe it? - plastic pipes in the bush!

Ja, said Wingnut Williams, and the reporter talks about a lot of people we don't really know - no word from Johnny Page, our crises manager. Johnny Page always has a lot to say, but this time he only says the chain of command is too heavy and only the guy at the top of the chain is allowed to talk.

So who started the fire, Mientjie Boep-pens wanted to know. The fire chief says it is National Parks who let a controlled burn get away. National Parks say, not so - they would never burn fire breaks with a very strong south-easter blowing. So what now? Mientjie wanted to know. Surely there will have to be a court case like in the '87 fire, when the Municipality had to pay damages.

I have an explanation, said Harold Hardekop; I know what happened: a National Parks Board gang was clearing bush at Miller's Point - it was a gang of immigrants from the Transkei, and it is their custom to make a small fire to cook their lunch-time mieliepap. Unfortunately, a strong gust of south-easter blew some sparks into the dry bush, and in no time the fire was up and away. So, in the end the National Parks will be to blame when the trial takes place.



Well now, said aunt Constance Nienabler, there's a thing; of course it could never happen in Wynberg - because why? We don't eat mieliepap in Wynberg!

So the April meeting of SLAP came to a very unhappy end; shaking of heads; when are we ever going to learn and get things right the first time?

Streetwalker

Simon's Town Civic Association

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

The most urgent matter for the attention of Simon's Town residents is what to do with the old municipal buildings above Main Road opposite the police station.

The STCA has asked for suggestions before but not yet received one response. They are grand, solidly built buildings and were

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partly renovated recently and their fully fixed residents are the Library and a municipal engineers office. The STCA makes use of a committee room there, which is available to any community organisation in town, and Alderman Nick Holderness uses a staff office. The large hall the library used to occupy west of the main building is still empty. It could be used for conferences, wedding receptions and other functions. There is large, airy and very empty office space on the first floor.

The former engineering office occupies east of the main building, recently used by law enforcement staff until they were granted to Fish Hook, is also empty, though one potential client is considering it.

Would people interested in using these excellent premises, or who have ideas about how best to use them, please contact the STCA by leaving messages at the Library or at the Simon's Town Pharmacy. It is urgent that the opportunity be seized now or

it may be lost.

PROPERTY

The Internet website where property owners could find the new valuations of their properties under the imminent new rating system, has closed. Owners need not be concerned, however. At present the municipality is dealing with a large number of responses to the new valuations. All owners will soon receive written evaluations and will have the chance to make objections or corrections.

INFORMAL TRADERS

They are allowed to sell their wares from their tables at the bay side of Jubilee Square and have the most colorful feature and an attraction for visitors.

Recently a group of musicians who play typical "Kwena music" were asked to leave when they started performing there. Some local businessmen and their customers found them too noisy. They are the same

textures

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four or five musicians who play outside the Sun Valley shopping mall and at other centres for a living and are also, in a sense, informal traders.

It has been proposed to the STCA that they should be permitted to use Jubilee Square if this can be done in a way that won't offend locals. It has also been suggested that Jubilee Square be used for other activities like open-air art shows. What do you think? Ideally the square should be free of parked cars and wide open to all kinds of activity, but with parking so desperately short in town that is not yet an option.

MARINE BRIDGE SIMULATORS

There has been some confusion because it was first reported that plans were afoot to accommodate a high-tech marine bridge simulator in Palace Barracks, and later that it would be in a new building at the Simon's Town School near Seaforth. In fact, two such simulators have been mooted by two different organisations.

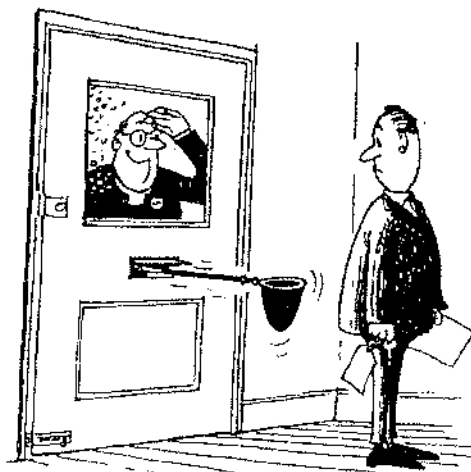
The one for the Simon's Town School site - on the present sports field right beside the main road - is a firm plan to continuously train merchant seamen in all the skills of mastering a ship.

But there is no more news yet about the one suggested for Palace Barracks. A bridge simulator is a duplicate, accurate in every detail, of a ship's bridge and its function is the same as the flight deck simulators used to train flying crews. The project is in early days and must still go through a long process of public comment, environmental impact studies and the like.

Safmarine and the Maersk Line have agreed to donate money for the construction of a simulator "at an unspecified site in or near Cape Town". The SA Institute of Marine Engineers and Architects were asked to nominate a foundation member for the board of the Section 21 company to be created for this venture, and have chosen Mr William M Swazi of BMT Defence

HEATHER LUNDERSTEDT ESTATES cc

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NAVY FESTIVAL

The Business Association are very pleased with the way their Friday night disco on Jubilee Square was run. They said there were no problems apart from complaints by some nearby residents about the noise at about 1am. The disco music was stopped just short of 2am.

There were no disturbances or drunken brawls, they said. The Community Police Forum said police found several drunken children and talked to their parents, but did not report these incidents to the Business Association.

The Navy has decided that in future it will confine its festival events to the dockyard area, leaving all outside activities to be done by private entrepreneurs. This decision is because the Navy Festival is becoming too large for the town to cope with, especially the big traffic flow.

THEATRE

Simon's Town's theatre group, the Anchor Players, held their annual general meeting last month and elected Mike Wilson as chairman. He is also the man behind the simonstown.com website. Jeff Batt was chosen vice-chairman.

A local group will be performing The Compleat Works of Shakespeare in abridged form at the Baxter Theatre later this month. Their recent performance at the Masque Theatre was highly rated so if you haven't seen it, catch up at the Baxter.

WATER

There have been no serious incidents of pollution in the municipal water supply although occasional "spikes" of high chlorine levels have occurred inexplicably. The municipality is trying to find out why.

SIGNAGE

The STCA has had some success in get-

ting the municipality to make people comply with the new signage legislation, which has been ignored more than it has been observed. Two big metal signs at Seaforth have been removed and estate agents are cooperating, albeit grudgingly.

The new law says no sign on the wall of a building may exceed one quarter of the wall's size. There are signs at the northern entrance to the town which breach the law and the STCA is taking it up with the authorities.

LAW AND ORDER

The Community Police Forum's representative on the STCA since its inception, Manu Choudree, has resigned because he has taken up other community policing chores which will leave him little spare time. He will be replaced by Mrs Dorothy Mecinski, who is also the STCA's secretary. Manu reports that the CPF is running well and crime is being well contained in Simon's Town by the police and their support groups.

Complaints have come to the STCA from women who were harassed in the Cole Point and Jubilee Square parking areas by vagrants purporting to look after vehicles. Manu pointed out that there has been an influx of vagrants here because more intensive policing has driven them out of Fish Hoek and other areas. The answer to this problem is not known. They are citizens, free to go where they wish as long as they behave.

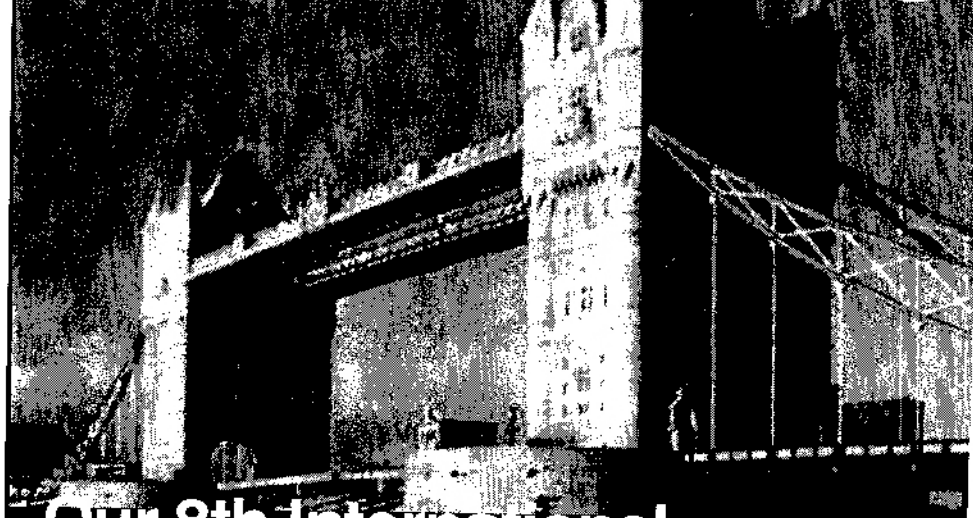
RED HILL

The community have spent about R3000, a small part of donated money, on water tanks and a pipe system and now await a water supply from the municipality. Some are being taught permaculture to provide food for themselves and also for the markets.

ENVIRONMENT

The different authorities responsible for keeping beaches, bins and streets clean have agreed to consolidate these services,

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which should lead to improvement. The fees to businesses for the removal of rubbish have been increased, which has led to some of them simply dumping refuse.

Paths around the Glencairn Vlei are being cleaned to make them safer and easier to negotiate and to encourage wildlife. The vlei's main problem is the infestation of reeds. Means of removing them are being investigated, from manual destruction to controlled burning. The reeds inhibit birds from nesting there.

Lastly, the STCA urgently needs somebody to take over its Newsletter.

***Until next time
Wilf Nussey***

News from Dr van der Merwe

Dear patients and friends,

21 April 2002

Sixty five days left, but I am not counting. Anita and the children have been and gone and we had a great time.

I had become used to not converting what I was paying for something (in pounds) to Rands - to my dear wife this was an enormous shock. She almost had a heart attack on having to pay £1.40 per scoop of ice-cream (R22.00) after a visit to Madame Toussauds. I finally convinced her that we would never have this opportunity again and that we should enjoy it.

My little Rover Metro, put on a extra couple of miles, travelling from Warwick Castle in the Midlands to Bury St. Edmunds in Suffolk. It was great being together and also exploring all the interesting aspects of England's history. Charl loved all the swords and Nareen enjoyed all the shopping with

her mother.

We were in Peterborough Cathedral for an Easter Service on the morning of the Queen Mother's death. As though the service was not special enough, they sang "God save the Queen" at the end of the service - full blast. All I could think of was - wow! It was even more touching when an elderly lady sitting in a wheel chair, insisted on being helped upright in honour of the deceased royal.

Sorry to hear about the recent fire. I was very happy to hear that nobody was injured or that there was no loss of life. The memories of 2 years back, must have added to everyone's fear.

Now for some lighter news.

The British Medical Journal recently published a list of 174 conditions described by 570 GP's during a poll, as "non-diseases". Its purpose was to draw attention to the increasing tendency to classify people's problems as diseases (I suppose therefore burdening the NHS with unnecessary consultations).

Top of the list came ageing; work-related problems followed by boredom; bags under the eyes; ignorance; baldness and freckles. Big ears; greying hair and ugliness completed the Top 10!

Jet lag; cellulite and anxiety about male genital size made the Top 20. The chief executive of the "Patients' Association" said: "this poll is worrying for patients because they have faith in doctors" - some faith!

Hopefully the next 9 weeks will fly past and I will return to my beloved Simon's Town. I trust that Dr. Hess is doing as good a job as Rainer Gunzel did. See you on 27 June.

**Greetings
Steven
SDocvan@aol.com**

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Ward Councillor's Report

The Provisional Valuation Roll for the City has been completed and has been tabled at Council for authorization to proceed with the next phase of the process.

The main criteria used for assigning value are: 1. Size of land; 2. Location; 3. Overall size of building; 4. Method of construction

The Roll will be available for public inspection at venues across the City from 21 May for a period of three weeks, and then at the six municipal valuation offices until 28 June.

All property owners will have notices of the values assigned to their properties mailed to them. The notice will also advise them of their right to object to the valuation and to the process to follow. These notices will be mailed mid May. At the same time the Provisional Roll will be available on the web. The six week period to lodge objections is twice the period required by law: owners

will have until 28 June to lodge any objections.

At the venues where the Roll will be available details of property transactions as well as locality maps will be available for scrutiny. Municipal valuers will also be on duty to answer your queries.

Venues for this process in our area are:

- Muizenberg Civic Centre, Atlantic Road, Muizenberg 22 May to 13 June; Weekdays 10am to 5pm (except for 11 June, hours from 12 to 5pm).

- Ocean View Civic Centre, Carina Street, Ocean View Saturdays from 10am to 1pm. The municipal valuation offices (from 14 June) include: • SPA: Ground floor, Old Plessey Building cnr. Victoria and Main Road, Plumstead.

Please note that the General Valuation Call centre, which is manned by multi-lingual



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staff, will be in operation until the end of June, to deal with queries relating to the valuations and the process for objecting. This process is defined by national legislation. The number of the centre is 415 8460, office hours only.

A further exercise being undertaken is the assessment of tariffs. Draft tariffs for various services have been noted by Council for release for public comment. This is an extremely important aspect of determining the final rate to be set. National legislation requires certain services to be tariff-funded but there is debate as to whether a component of that service could or should be factored into the rates. The modeling exercises being undertaken by the technical team must include all these factors.

At the same time a multi-party task team of councillors has been developing a rates policy for the City. The draft rates policy framework document was advertised and over 300 written submissions were received

and 5 days of well-attended hearings took place.

Some of the issues were:

- Deciding on different categories of users
- Rebates for certain persons and organizations such as the elderly, the poor, charitable and sporting bodies
- Stimulation of business
- Environmental and tourism promotion and development

The modeling exercise must now assess these submissions to achieve the aims of low average rates and services increases and rebates for deserving categories of persons and organizations. The draft policy will be part of the budget process in May and June 2002 and so will be available for further public comment.

There has been much public concern over ill-advised statements made by certain politicians. At this stage of the exercise any talk of a number of cents in the rand to be set as



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the rate is pure speculation and gravely irresponsible. The Council is committed to a completely open process which will be as equitable and transparent as possible.

Nicki Holderness
Ward 69 ~ City of Cape Town

Simon's Town Business Association Report



At the April meeting of the Simon's Town Business Association, Rhett Molyneaux, developer of the Marine Oil site, presented a progress update and gave members an overview of proposals for the development until the present time.

Mr Molyneaux was approached by a local agent in September 1999, and recognising the potential of the site, made an offer to

purchase subject to rezoning. The biggest issues as far as rezoning is concerned are environmental. Only two objections were made by the community, the concerns being traffic and noise. A traffic impact study has been done. To date to address the environmental concerns, an entire dump at the back of the site has been removed and soil samples sent to London for analysis. One building built in 1947 had to be removed as it was badly polluted. During the past 8 months all the scrap has been cleared up and the structurally sound buildings washed.

Following reassessment of the development, it has been decided to keep the older buildings and refurbish them. It will be called Simon's Bay Village. Negotiations are underway with SPM to purchase the corner land. A Black Empowerment Group has committed to a petrol station.

Much thought and planning has been put

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into access roads to the development and plenty of provision has been made for parking including buses, bearing in mind the surrounding businesses and tourist attractions. The first phase is to develop a shopping mall in the front using the existing old administration buildings. The developer would like to make this a destination site with the idea that shopowners or crafters would live in the building and trade or have working crafts downstairs. The site will also accommodate light industry and an abalone/oyster farm in conjunction with a specialised seafood restaurant.

The back section is earmarked for about 80 townhouses with pedestrian access into the village. These will be realistically priced. A family supermarket is planned for the back area. The site will be developed slowly and the developer does not want to jeopardise small businesses in the Simon's Town area and would like to add value to their businesses by increased trading in the area and involving local people as much as possible.

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The site has business rights to the railway siding and access to the beach and this lays open many opportunities. Other possible ideas are a retirement village, wine emporium and office block facilities if there is a need.

Rezoning is expected in the next few months and then transfer of the land can finally take place. If one thinks of other similar developments, this site has great and unique potential which if fulfilled as planned can only add value to our beautiful part of the Peninsula.

Other matters discussed at the meeting included the Simon's Town Website, Breakfast Club, the jetty lights and allowing of tour buses to stop on Jubilee Square. The Disco on the Square run during the Navy Festival raised R6270 towards our Community Policeman. Well done to the huge efforts by the Fourie Family and Malinda Coetzee. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman were to meet with the Civic Association in connection with the formation of the Section 21 Company. The Quarterdeck has applied to extend their deck by 2.5m to meet increased demand. Members were urged to support the Navy Magazine by using the opportunity to advertise their businesses.

The next meeting will be the AGM on 20 May at 6:30pm in the Upper Conference Room, Quayside Hotel. Refreshments will be served.

Trish Inggs

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2. Corporate

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Since there is on average a 50% cost saving in the private wards of a district hospital, perhaps you are missing out. At least the 80-bed False Bay Hospital in Fish Hoek serves imaginative food! Furthermore, its recently renovated Bay Ward is quieter and more user-friendly. After all, there are only 16 beds, including one for youngsters and two which are actually baby cots. Also renovated, but in the maternity section is a double and one single bed. It boasts incubators and even an Underwater Birth Unit.

Although the False Bay Hospital is more renowned for old-fashioned comfort, it has modern equipment. For example, its cardiac monitors are very high-tech. There are two well-equipped operating theatres with ancillary services, such as autoclaving and x-raying. It only lacks an Intensive Care Unit, and relies on Victoria Hospital for this important facility. Hopefully, all could change in time, if more of us locals - with the support from doctors and surgeons - make the magnificent Bay Ward our first choice.

Bevan Pank

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Memories of Happy Days Part 3

Schooling was not compulsory for girls in 1924, so I stayed happily at home, in a world of grown-ups. Dad was a passionate "ham" and I learnt the alphabet through tapping out Morse code for him to improve his skills at taking down messages. Mother had been a student teacher and was an ardent Montessori devotee. She would spread the Cape Argus on the floor, underline the word "the" in red and leave me to pick out every "the" in the newspaper. By the time I was underlining "Parliament", I could read.



Ma, however, found this frivolous: the Child had to go to school; suitable clothes were bought. Thanks to Morse code and those searches through the Argus, I skipped "Subbay-and-Subbee", and the new life began in Standard One; this involved Discipline and proximity to hordes of other children of every shade and condition. Ma discovered that we sat two to a desk, and began a new routine: you Never knew who was sitting next to you - so every Friday evening she got to work on my scalp with paraffin and a nasty metal fine-tooth comb.

A howl of anguish would invite a smart smack against the long-suffering head.

But life wasn't all Stürm und Drang. Week-ends brought entertainment - in the home, naturally. Everybody could do something: sing, play an instrument, recite. Dad was good at intoning in a passionate bass voice, and it was spine tingling to hear his rendition of Gunga Din: "though I've belted you and flayed you, by the living God that made you, you're a better man than I am, Gunga Din". Helty played the piano - by ear - vamping strenuously with the left hand, foot pressed all the way on the loud pedal. Noline sang, usually the Bells of St Mary, carolling out "Ah! hear they are calling" with both volume and soul. I fancied that I did a fair imitation, until Ma enlightened me with a clip against the ear and a "toe-toe! Don't be cheeky".

The bioscopes weren't yet a threat to home entertainments. Once a week people went to see Tom Mix or heart-throb Rodolph

Valentino. You got a good shilling's worth: two newsreels, a scary serial, comedy short, and a main feature. All this, with thrilling background music from the resident pianist: thunder of herds, menacing low notes, tender Hearts and Flowers.

Then wireless arrived, with entertainment from Abroad. Bioscope became cinema, wireless became radio - with indoor aeri-als. Broadcast House was in Longmarket Street and was called, grandly, the Cape Peninsula Broadcasting Association. "Aunty Lex" (the glamorous Gladys Dickson) ran a Children's Corner with help from Uncle Buster. But my true love was the cinema, with Auntie Helty to the Globe, where things were pretty free and easy: people changing seats at will or wander- ing out for a packet of peanuts in the shell. Nobody hissed "Quiet!", because there was no sound.

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Simon's Town Community Police Forum Annual General Meeting

Some thirty persons attended the meeting held at the Lord Nelson on Wednesday 24 April. Although the attendance represented an improvement on previous years, it was disappointing that the community generally stayed at home.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The chairman of the Forum, Dan (Blackie) Swart reflected on a year of some positive achievement. The "Thorp" car was a highlight, providing an ongoing addition to the small fleet of police vehicles. Nicky Thorp has intimated that he will shortly replace the vehicle with a new one. Chubb's donation of four bulletproof vests has been widely reported, and their sponsorship of our Bobby on the Beat is a significant contribution, not only to crime prevention, but also to tourism in the town. The Forum has raised sufficient funds to purchase a further nine

bulletproof vests which were handed to Captain du Pisanie after the meeting. These funds included a donation from Dr. Loxton of R4000, a generous gesture that was appreciated. The Chairman thanked all the members of the public who had responded to the appeal. He expressed gratitude for the donation of R3000 from the Millenium Committee, and to Mr & Mrs Barnet for their donation of R1000.

The Christmas braai for the police and their families, to which the public was invited, proved to be a success despite limited attendance by the public. To be fair there are many functions at that time of year, and on this occasion the braai clashed with the Navy Band Carol Service on Jubilee Square.

STATION COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Captain du Pisanie reported that thefts of, and out of, motor vehicles were on the increase. Residential burglary was also more prevalent. He observed that the fire at the Court has created a great problem for the police. He also reflected with sadness that Det/Insp. Manasse who was murdered in Fish Hoek was formerly stationed at Simon's Town. His biggest single concern was the shortage of manpower.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Ian Howse, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Watch, reported an increased attendance at monthly meetings. He is discussing ways in which the community can provide some assistance toward the manpower shortage at the police station. His election to the Forum Committee would bring the Neighbourhood Watch and the Community Police Forum much closer together.

PRESENTATION

On behalf of the Forum, Councillor Nicky Holderness presented Certificates "for Serv-



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Simon's Town

ice over and above normal duties" to **Nicky Thorp** of Thorp Delta, **Martin Smolders** of Chubb, **Dr. Reg Loxton** for his donation and for allowing the Forum space in Snoektown Calling, and **Marius Harmse**, our Bobby on the Beat.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Law, the Forum Treasurer, reported that the bulletproof vest appeal had swelled the funds in March, which is the year-end, but that the vests, plus various repairs and supplies for the police station would deplete the balance considerably in April.

Income for the year was **R20 270** (mainly donations and grant).

Expenses were **R11 596** (functions, telephones, donations & misc).

Surplus for the year **R8 674**.

Plus opening balance **R8 064**

Cash at Bank **R16 738**

Less bullet proof vests **R8 928** (ordered, received but unpaid at 31.3.2002)

Less misc provisions **R3 310** (police sta-

tion expense, AGM function etc)
Unallocated at 31.3.2002 **R4 500**

During the forthcoming year, the police and the Forum Exco are to plan and launch a campaign designed to enhance community awareness, and to further improve the partnership between police and public which is essential in the fight against crime. It is anticipated that this campaign will require funding and sponsorship. The Forum will motivate a request for increased Government funding (currently R3000 per annum).

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

For personal reasons Dorothy Mecinska is unable to seek re-election. Her enthusiasm will be sorely missed.

The committee was expanded by the addition of four members, one of whom, **Manu Choudree**, was co-opted after the previous AGM. The other three members are **Ian Howse**, representing Neighbourhood Watch, **Geoff Palmer** who will take on the

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new portfolio of marketing, a function which will entail the planning and designing of the awareness campaign, and **Heather Lunderstedt** in the role of Public Relations which will encompass the implementation of the aforesaid campaign. In fact both of the latter roles have marketing connotations.

The remaining members were re-elected. They comprise **Blackie Swart**, Chairman; **Tony Robinson**, Vice Chairman and **Peter Law**, Treasurer. **Captain du Pisanie**, as Station Commissioner, is an automatic member. Mrs. **Melany Rowen**, a Police Reservist, was elected Secretary.

All our new members are welcomed most sincerely. We look forward to even greater achievements in the ensuing year.

GENERAL

Councillor Hoiderness congratulated the Forum on its performance and enthusiasm and asked if efforts could be made to draw in the Ocean View police and forum.

Alan Lindner suggested that it may be pos-

sible to help other Peninsula precincts emulate the success that Fish Hoek and Simon's Town were engendering.

The question of the frequency of Forum public meetings was raised. There was some concern that four meetings a year may not be adequate, and the committee will review this issue at its first Exco meeting on 15 May. It is necessary to balance the need for accessibility with the time taken up in attending meetings. It is perhaps worth noting that relevant meetings for some or all of the Forum committee are its public meetings (presently monthly), Neighbourhood Watch (monthly), Fish Hoek Crime Committee (Gococ) (Weekly) and Exco, which are held ten times per annum. A representative is required to attend the Civic Association Committee Meeting (Monthly). The meetings are important to the cause of good communication, especially given the fragmented structure of our policing agencies. The Forum is conscious of the need for visibility.

Tony Robinson



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Property Watch No 38

Matters currently being dealt with by the South Peninsula Administration are:

1.1 Erf No 60 Simon's Town (Glencairn): Land use departure application on behalf of Waldorf Schools. No change from Report No 37.

1.2 Erf No 2298 Simon's Town (Boulders Beach Guest House): Application to rezone from General Residential to Business. No change from Report No 37.

1.3 Erf No 1180 Simon's Town (198 Queens Road): Application for Land use departure to convert Residential House to Medical Practice. No change from Report No 37.

1.4 Erf No 4495, Cairnside: Application to subdivide into portions. No change from Report No 37.

1.5 Erf No 625, Simon's Town (Military

Road, Bayview): Application to subdivide into two portions without formal road access to one erf. No change from Report No 37.

1.6 Erf No 2212 Glencairn Heights: Application for Bed & Breakfast establishment. No change from Report No 37.

1.7 Erf No 2464 Forest Hill: Application for subdivision into two parts. No change from Report No 37.

1.8 Erf No 3477 Simon's Town (Goede Gift): Application for proposed subdivision into four portions. Access to site proposed by means of driveway excavated over Municipal Erf 941 and ramped over Quarry Lane to a level of 3m above the site. Approved by South Peninsula Administration subject to further appeals. No change from Report No 37.

1.9 Erf No 4403 Simon's Town (88 Dorries

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Drive): Application for departure from single residential to convert existing accommodation for self catering letting and to reduce the building line from 4.5m to 10m. Referred to Building Survey Department. No change from Report No 37.

1.10 Erf No 1400 Simon's Town (Kleintuin Road): Application for temporary land use departure in terms of Section 15 or Ordinance No 15 of 1985 to allow portions of premises to be used as a sales outlet for curios and other crafts. Open to interested parties for comment. It is understood that objections have been received.

Other Property Matters:

2.1 CFM 983 Wildschutsbrandvlei: Application for land use departure to permit arts and crafts shop, pottery studio and sales outlet and a place for curio sellers. No change from Report No 37.

2.2 CFM 1404 Wildschutsbrand Farm: Application for land use departure for the es-

tablishment of a restaurant and tea garden, an African arts and craft market and overnight accommodation. No change from Report No 37.

2.3 Erf 3333 Simon's Town: Offer of R75,000 has been accepted. Matter now closed.

2.4 Consolidated and Amended Town Planning and Zoning Scheme Regulations for Simon's Town and Fish Hoek. No change from Report No 37.

Eve Leggatt

Simon's Town Community Police Forum May 2002

CALLING ALL BUSINESSES

Inspector Leon McDuling of Law Enforcement has requested us to ask any member of the public to report harassment by vagrants, whether begging, demanding, unofficial parking, threatening, drunk, loitering, littering or similar unacceptable behaviour. His number is: **782-1124**.

Business people who observe such incidents taking place are specially requested to phone **Inspector McDuling** who is serious about wishing to do something about the growing vagrancy problem. Businesses are well placed to observe these incidents, and to report them immediately. Don't try and deal with the problem on your own.

The Simon's Town Community Police Officer, Sgt Donovan Roberts has a good record in this regard, and he does all he can. It is worth noting however, that as vagrants are usually in contravention of municipal regulations, it is part of the Law Enforcement peoples' job to deal with this issue.

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786-3798 to make your booking.*

The police agencies and the Forum are well aware of the social problems surrounding this vexed question. The Unicity seems determined to address it. We certainly hope so. In the meantime we think it is important to manage the anti-social behaviour, and we are pleased to report that all elements of the police think so too.

Please play your part and phone Inspector McDuling. Call any member of your Forum if you don't get satisfaction - we need to know.

EMERGENCY CONTROL CENTRE

We were delighted to see Rob Micklesfield at our AGM. It reminded us to remind you of the great work they are doing. In the somewhat confused and fragmented policing structure that exists, the ECC provide easy access to the appropriate service that callers need to get connected to. They are dealing with over 150 calls a month. If you need fast help call them on **782-0333; 782-0444 or 782-0555**. They are also always looking

for volunteers to man their phones.

FRAGMENTATION

We keep letters in the paper that reflect public confusion over police structures. This seems especially to apply to the term Law Enforcement. The confusion is easy to understand, particularly at this time when the new Municipal Police Force is operating alongside the Traffic Department and the Law Enforcement people.

Most of us, quite correctly, view the term law enforcement as an all-embracing description of the work that all policemen do. It is unfortunate therefore that the City Council, when it formed a force to enforce municipal bye-laws decided to adopt this generic term which has led to so much confusion.

Of course the present period of transition to the new Municipal force has heightened confusion. We still see officers in the uniform of the Traffic Department, and of the Law Enforcement Branch, as well as the

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new black and white gear sported by the new force. Much of the protracted nature of the transition seems to be a result of contractual obligations that the city has to its longer serving members. Despite this it does appear that the different units ARE working closely together, and that one day they will merge into a single force with a common uniform. **The sooner the better.**

All the feedback we are getting on the new Municipal force is positive. They seem well equipped, reasonably well paid and well trained. If they lack experience, that is to be expected. They are enthusiastic and smart and we believe they will make a serious contribution to the restoration of law and order. They are becoming more and more visible.

OUR AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

You'll have read about this elsewhere in Snoektown Calling. A lot of work will go into the planning before we launch it, and it is too soon to provide any details. However it is no secret that part of such a campaign must address the willingness of each of us to take responsibility for our security. A few pointers to illustrate our meaning:

1. The Mountain Men are operating in Glencairn. They have had immediate and significant success. However they are appalled at the casual approach of residents - garages left open, windows open, cars parked in the street at night when garages are available, unlocked cars, even one with the keys in the ignition, just inviting criminals in.

2. The police say that people reporting the theft of car radios frequently don't know the make of the radio, much less the serial number.

We often encounter victims of such crimes as theft from car that don't bother to report the occurrence. "What is the point," they say. The two most important points are, **firstly**, that the police compile crime patterns to enable them to see where best to

deploy resources. Unreported crimes skew these patterns, making it difficult to plan. **Secondly**, people don't seem to realise that a very high percentage of cases are solved, not by tracking down the criminal as a result of clues found at the scene, but by arresting known or suspected criminals in possession of property. By reporting your identifiable property as stolen you help the police match criminals to crimes, and thus put them away for longer.

3. Talking about identifiable property - how carefully have you recorded serial numbers of obvious targets - computers, TV sets, VCR's, cameras, radios, motor vehicles and the like. Have you taken photographs of valuable jewellery?

WARNING

We recently warned of a door to door electrician taking appliances away for repair and deposits, and never returning. We understand that a group of men in a bakkie are selling compost door to door, but short delivering, overcharging and using threatening behaviour. Do be careful who you open your door to.

DRUGS

Most will have seen the stories about young school going children and teenagers being forced to allow drug pushers to burgle their parents' homes to pay for their habit. Apart from the obvious tragedy of the youngsters addiction, this trade in drugs is so wide spread, that it is impacting on crimes like housebreaking and theft in a major way. You may not have teenage children of your own, but don't think this problem won't affect you. You are just as likely to be a victim of drug induced burglary as the parents are. What can we do?

The biggest problem is that parents simply will not accept that it could be happening to their children. Many become abusive when children are arrested. This week, one father told Alan Dillon of the Mountain Men, "I hope you can sleep at night."

The solutions have to start at schools and in the homes. Information is required, but the dangers of drug abuse need to be outlined to youngsters. Insp. Store is developing a program for our local children at school, but he would also welcome any input from the community. (786-2127).

Tony Robinson

News from Simon's Town Naval Base

ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY SHIP GREY ROVER VISITS SIMON'S TOWN

The British Royal Fleet Auxiliary Ship, RFA GREY ROVER, paid an informal visit to Simon's Town on April 30. Routine maintenance and repairs will be carried out on the ship during her stay in Simon's Town and will depart on May 15.

With a compliment of 15 officers and 33 ratings, the RFA GREY ROVER'S primary role is to replenish and support the British Royal Fleet at sea - under all conditions and while under way. She has a length of 140.6 m; a beam of 19.2m and a full load displacement of 11 706.3 tonnes.

The ship will not be open to visitors due to maintenance and repairs.

BRIDGE WATCHKEEPING PROFICIENCY AWARD

The Bridge Watchkeeping Proficiency Award for 2001 was awarded to Lieutenant Commander Bubele Mhlana at a ceremony held at the Naval Base Simon's Town Wardroom - the first black African Officer to receive this award.

This award is presented each year to the combat officer who is able to achieve his Bridge Watchkeeping qualification in the shortest possible period. Lt Cdr Mhlana was

able to achieve his qualification just seven months after completing the Combat Officers' Qualification Part 1 course.

Bubele Mhlana was born on 2 September 1972 in Umtata where he completed his schooling at Ngangelizwe in Umtata. He matriculated in 1990 and integrated into the SANDF on 27 April 1994. He completed his basic training at SAS SALDANHA and joined the Mine Counter Measures Service where he served on board the SAS UMHLOTI.

When asked what his objectives for the future were Lt Cdr Mhlana replied that his immediate goal is to assume command of a naval warship.

With such a positive, confident attitude, I am in no doubt that he will achieve this goal.

Lieutenant Commander Theo Sopangisa

ROYAL NAVY SHIP VISITS CAPE TOWN

The British Royal Navy Antarctic Patrol Ship, HMS ENDURANCE, arrived in Cape Town

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at 9am on 22 April for a goodwill visit and departed on May 1- unfortunately she did not visit Simon's Town. During this visit the SA Navy vessels SAS PROTEA and SAS ISAAC DYOBHA conducted sea exercises with HMS ENDURANCE before she came alongside in Cape Town harbour. The visit is designed to expand the SA Navy's international contact with the British Royal Navy and to enhance contact with the South African community.

The exercises that took place off Cape Point included boarding exercise between SAS PROTEA and HMS ENDURANCE. Other exercises included replenishment at sea and helicopter exercises.

With a compliment of 18 officers and 102 men and women, the ship's function is to support British interests in Antarctic waters, especially around the Antarctic Peninsula. HMS ENDURANCE is designed to operate in environmentally sensitive areas and is therefore able to assist the British Antarctic

Survey to carry out its scientific research programmes.

This modern vessel is fitted with equally modern hydrographic surveying equipment. The Hydrographic Office at Taunton processes the data gathered and charts are compiled for use by Mariners around the world.

HMS ENDURANCE is able to carry two Lynx helicopters; displaces 2,500 tonnes; is 91m in length and has a beam of 17,9m. Her red colour is for easy recognition in the ice, especially from the air. Powered by twin diesel engines she has a top speed of 15 knots and long-range capability. The icebreaker bow enables the ship to cut through 0,9m thick ice at 3 knots.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2-3 May - Chief of the SANDF visits Simon's Town. **17 May** - Royal Dutch Navy ship scheduled to visit Cape Town. **30 April - 15 May** RFA Grey Rover visits Simon's Town for repairs and maintenance.

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Station 10 Simon's Town

APRIL 2002

Such is the spirit of N.S.R.I. that on Sunday 21 April 2002 "C" crew arrived at the Station house and there was a young woman waiting at the door. After introductions all round she proved to be Kim, a member of Station 5 in Durban, who in her capacity as a S.A. Naval swan was attending a course in Simon's Town.

Come Sunday she decided to make her way from the Silvermine mess where she was quartered all the way to Simon's Town to see how the N.S.R.I. Station functioned. She stayed and spent the day as part of the crew participating in all activities. Kim adjusted

so well that she again joined "A" crew in their turn of duty on the weekend of 28 & 29 April. It has now got to where Station 10 will sorely miss Kim when she returns to Durban!! Please take our best wishes to all your N.S.R.I. colleagues at Station 5, Kim.

Station 10's "Spirit of Freemasonry" participated in a joint exercise conducted at Gordon's Bay with rescue craft from Station 16, Strandfontein, Station 9, Gordon's Bay and helicopters from 25 Squadron S.A.A.F. The exercise took place off the Gordon's Bay small boat harbour. After launching at approximately 6:30am the "Spirit of Freemasonry" was directed by Cape Town port control to attend a yacht which had no engine power about 2 miles South of York Shoal. The yacht was taken in tow and docked at the False Bay Yacht Club fueling jetty at 8:07am. "Spirit of Freemasonry", under Coxswain Darrin Zimmerman, then set off for the exercise at Gordon's Bay. According to reports from Station 10 per-

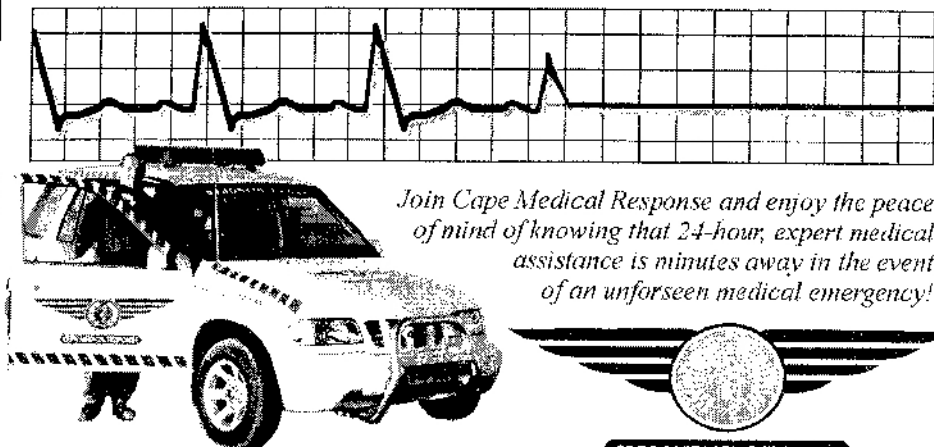
sonnel the exercise was a great success and most beneficial to all members who participated.

On Monday 23 April Station 10 was called out after the Station Commander had been informed by the personnel at Cape Point light house that a motor fishing vessel was adrift approximately 2 miles South of Roman Rock light house.

At 21:27 "Spirit of Freemasonry" launched with Coxswain Darrin Zimmerman, in charge once more, and immediately made radio contact with the casualty "Lady Anne", which was taken in tow and towed to the yacht club fueling jetty and brought alongside there at 22:42. The skipper of the vessel was very grateful that they had been helped so speedily when a fairly strong South Easterly was blowing.

Station 10 welcomes the future assistance of the **Western Province Nomads Golfers**

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who have taken Station 10 under their wing to assist in two very special (to Station 10) projects. Those are the fund raising for a new much needed 4x4 Mobile vehicle and the overdue replacement of the wave rider small craft. The old 4x4, which is still in very good nick, will be handed over to Kommetjie N.S.R.I. Station.

Please folks remember the Station 10 fund raising golf day which will take place at Simon's Town Country Club on the Monday after the Youth Day holiday on the 16 June so that is the 17 June am. The competition will be American Scramble which is a fun golfing format where all members of a four ball play as a team taking alternate shots.

There will be prizes for nearest the pin on the short holes and a prize for the longest, straightest drive and prizes down to 7th place or so. Halfway house will be a free burger

or boerewors roll and coffee or tea. Players can purchase burgers or boerewors rolls for lunch and cold stuff can be purchased at the Club bar.

All you chaps that go out on the briny or have relatives or friends that do, support a good cause and join the fun. We ask the business people to treat us kindly when we come to ask for your assistance with prizes or sponsorship and remember that we are all volunteers trying to keep a good thing going.

Many folk would be either gone or grieving but for the good agencies of the National Sea Rescue Institute. There have been a plethora of Golf days of late but all we can ask is - Give ours a thought!

**Thanks and yours aye,
Don Dollery
Shorelink member
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Losing Business

As foreign tourists soon discover, not all restaurants in Simon's Town are over-priced. Unfortunately, these exceptions are so popular during summer months, that they often become fully booked - and especially for lunch. Visitors are then obliged to either pay higher prices elsewhere, or leave town at the expense of other business.

To relieve the situation, one highly competitive restaurant applied to build an upper deck. However, it was made quite clear that Municipality rejected this facility, on the grounds that there was inadequate parking space. Although the most obvious solution is to enforce parking for a limited period, it would not necessarily benefit visitors.

This is often the case in Fish Hoek, whereby parking only becomes readily available when business staff leave for lunch. Few of them are prepared to park in the avenues and then walk the short distance to work.

Of great concern at the Waterfront are late delivery trucks. All too often, they take up or block parking in areas reserved for customers. Even worse, they smother lunch patrons with diesel fumes.

Nevertheless, Simon's Town had its best ever season this year. It could be even better, should we voluntarily park at Cole Point or slightly beyond, and at least leave Jubilee Square to visitors. This slight inconvenience is in our own interests, by ensuring that shops profit sufficiently to remain open during the leaner off-season months.

Surely we will all suffer in the long term, by monopolizing central parking and chasing away moneyed visitors?

Bevan Pank

The Night Sky

This month Orion (the Hunter) together with Taurus (the Bull) and Gemini (the Twins) are all below the Western horizon soon after sunset (by the middle of the month). The Crab is low in the Western sky and is not prominent due to its composition of only 3rd magnitude stars. These constellations on the ecliptic are followed by Leo (the Lion), having the bright star Regulus as its forepaw and second magnitude Denebola at the end of its tail. There is then Virgo (the Virgin) with Spica its brightest star at 1st magnitude. The light from the Virgo cluster has been travelling to Earth from the time of the dinosaurs (50 million years ago). In the Virgo supercluster there are over 2000 galaxies which are the core of the local supercluster with out own local group as an outlying member. There are 50 galaxies and 16 Messier objects which may be viewed through a small telescope. It is best to start at the tail of Leo with the bright Denebola and then to scan eastwards. What did you find? M98 is not far from your starting point. M99 is a galaxy viewed "side-ways on", rather like looking at Saturn from below the rings, but M100 is a beautiful spiral galaxy. Only a small telescope is needed to see it.

To the south of Virgo is Corvus (the Crow) with its five bright stars looking as though it has just flown off the Ecliptic! Overhead is Libra (the Scales) followed by the large bright dominating constellation in the east, Scorpio (the Scorpion). Everybody living in the southern hemisphere always associates it with winter. Thereafter, we see our old friend the 13th sign of the zodiac Ophiuchus (the Serpent Holder). I am sorry the Babylonians were not able to see this constellation! The Serpent itself may be seen north of Ophiuchus. Sagittarius (the Archer) is just above the horizon at 9pm.

Looking south, the Southern Cross, with the pointers alpha and beta Centauris are almost overhead, west of them is the second

brightest star in the sky, Canopus, which is part of the keel of the great ship Argo, used by Jason and the argonauts to sail across the sky. Vela (the Sails) and Pyxis (the Compass) and Columba (the Dove) are all clearly visible.

Argo had to pass through narrow straits guarded by the clashing rocks called the Symplegades; fortunately Jason was advised by a goddess to send a dove through before he attempted the passage, so Columba was sent ahead to investigate, but her tailfeathers were caught in the Symplegades! Jason and crew followed safely afterwards.

During a year the Sun and the planets appear to make a circuit of the sky, passing through the 13 signs of the Zodiac.

THE PLANETS

At the end of April the planets Saturn, Venus and Mercury appeared to be in a straight line at dusk, with Mars opposite Saturn, but not in line with the others, a rare phenomenon.

enon.

Mercury at magnitude +2.3 will appear low in the west after sunset. On the 4th it will have its greatest elongation and on the 13th will be 3° north of the Moon. On the 16th it is stationary but on the 27th will be in inferior conjunction.

Venus, at magnitude -2.9 is also visible in the west in the evening sky. On the 7th it is 2° north of Saturn. On the 10th 0.3° north of Mars; on the 14th 4° west of Aldebaran (the eye of Taurus the Bull); on the 15th 0.8° north of the Moon.

Mars, magnitude +1.6, is much dimmer in May than it was in April and will be found low in the west in the evening sky. On the 14th it is 0.5° north of the Moon. It moves into Gemini late in May.

Jupiter, magnitude -2.0 is in the west in the evening sky. On the 16th it is 2° south of the Moon. On the 31st Pollux appears above



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Jupiter and Castor above Venus at dusk.

Saturn, magnitude +0.1 is in the west at dusk with the other planets, Mercury, Venus, Mars and Jupiter. Saturn is 1° south of the Moon on the 14th, on the 23rd it will be too close to the sun to be seen, but will reappear in the morning sky in June. At dusk on the 5th Mars, Venus and Mercury are in line above the western horizon with Saturn off line opposite Venus. On the 14th Jupiter is about 40° above the western horizon at dusk with Venus, Mars Saturn and Mercury in line below it, this last happened a number of years ago.

Uranus, magnitude +5.9 (visible with the naked eye) will be found in the east in the pre-dawn sky. On the 5th it is 4° north of the Moon.

Neptune, magnitude +7.9, is also in the pre-dawn sky in the east, being 4° north of the Moon on the 4th and the 31st.

Pluto, magnitude +13.5 is not visible unless a telescope of +10" is used. It will be found in Ophiuchus from midnight.

THE SUN

On the 1st of May Sunrise is at 7:20am and Sunset at 6:06pm.

On the 31st Sunrise is at 7:45am, and Sunset at 5:45pm.

There will be a total eclipse of the Sun on the 4th December. At Simon's Town it begins at 7:32am and ends at 9:35am. 60 percent of the Sun will be covered at Simon's Town; 80 percent at Windhoek and Durban; 90 percent at Johannesburg and Pretoria and 100 percent from Lobito, Bulawayo, Plumtree, Beitbridge, Messina, Makonde and Shingwidzi, Thohoyandou, Massingir, Mabalane, Canipedo and Chibuto. An excellent book on eclipses is obtainable from Mr Cliff Turk, PO Box 13018 Mowbray 7705. Special eclipse goggles may be ordered by writing to Mr Turk.



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Friday 24 May

Bobotie

Bread Pudding

Friday 17 May

Potjie

Apple Pie

Friday 31 May

Steak Egg & Chips

Jelly & Custard

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from 17H30 onwards on Fridays**

THE MOON

New Moon is on the 12th; First Quarter on the 19th. Full Moon is on the 26th; Last Quarter is on the 4th. Perigee is on the 23rd and Apogee on the 7th.

METEORS

There are two showers this month, the Alpha Scorpiids and the Eta Aquarids which have poor observing conditions, however the Chi Scorpiids are expected to have good meteor viewing from the 27th May until the 20th June from 9pm. If anyone sees any Eta Aquarids they are the remnants of the tail of Halley's Comet, and the source of the radiant will be in Aquarius.

In the charts I use, the prediction for the Eta Aquarids is "poor viewing" - but as many of the previous "good viewing" predictions have not been correct - it might be worth having a look on 5 May at 4am, and then you will be able to say that you have seen some pieces of Halley's Comet, 16 years after you saw the comet itself in 1986!

As comet Halley moves in a retrograde orbit, the comet dust visible to us as meteors moves into our atmosphere at 65km per second. Rather fast!

Peter van Blommestein

Snoektown Calling Backnumbers

Due to a constant demand for backnumbers of this publication it has been decided to make such numbers available on a more accessible basis.

Some of the issues are in very short supply! Phone Peter or Mike at 786-1981. The price per copy is R3 and

From the Bosun's Chair

I was very fortunate recently to have a ten day break in my favorite venue, Knysna. Sadly they have a water crisis at present with no rain for over six months.

We took the ferry across to Featherbed reserve on the Western headland where you are taken by a 4 x 4 towing three trailers up a winding track to the top of the escarpment from which the view of the whole Knysna estuary is outstanding.

There are 150 metre stages where one can abseil down sheer cliffs but only by prior arrangement with a local club who specialise in this sport, certainly not for those who suffer from vertigo.

From the top of the peninsula one leaves the trailers and hikes down through thick forest where many birds of bright plumage are to be seen. The absence of rain is very evident here with the trail being very dusty and many of the indigenous plants visibly wilting in the at times very hot Autumn sun.

The hike is mostly downhill with one or two places of interest where one has to climb to view spots such as Honey-moon cave which is high up in a cliff with the most stunning view over the wild water outside the Heads. Most fairly fit persons can cover the hike without undue discomfort. On arriving back at the Featherbed restaurant from where one starts off one is given a good lunch with whichever beverage takes your fancy.

At 1:30pm the ferry "Spirit of Knysna" arrives at the landing stage below and takes one back to the mainland. The whole expedition takes about 3 hours from start to happy finish. Try it its worth the effort.

The Old Simon's Town Municipal Offices

The foundation stone of the building was laid in August 1896 by William Runciman when it was erected as the Simon's Town Secondary School, on the site of Black Town, by Messrs Squire and Barraball. The Town Council had swapped land at Mount Pleasant, upon which the Royal Navy built a second naval hospital, for the ground at Black Town, which had been established by the Navy to accommodate freed slaves. The school opened its doors in 1897 and by 1904, when compulsory education was introduced, it had 209 pupils.

The Headmaster's House was completed in 1907 and Ernest Moseley Binckes moved in with his wife and two children.

From the time of the smallpox epidemic in 1906, numbers at the school had declined steadily for a variety of reasons and continued to do so until Monty Green arrived as Headmaster in December 1929 with his wife, Enid and children, Robert, Sheila and Doreen (Tiny). Under Monty Green's guidance the numbers at the school began to increase once more, so much so that in 1934 it was decided to close in the space

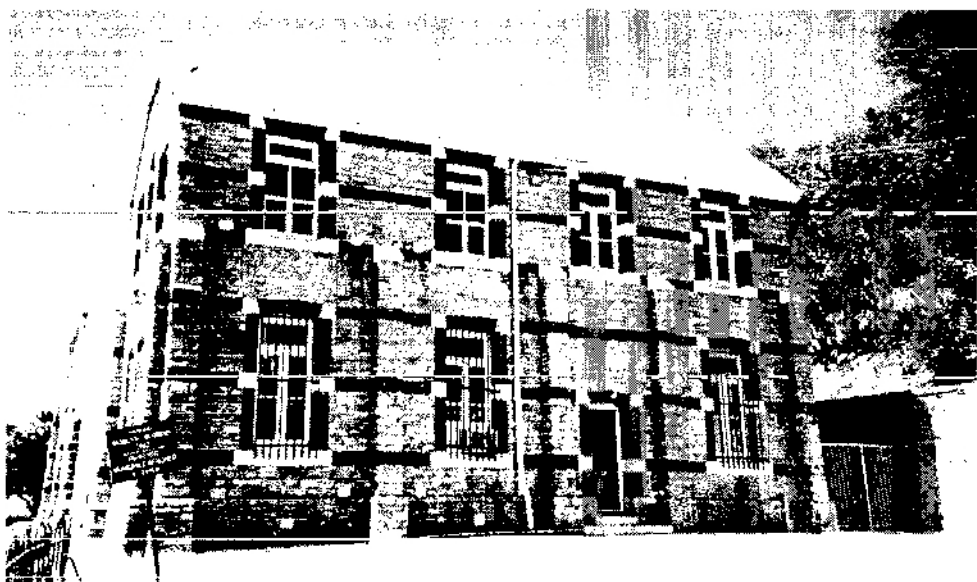
between the gables and a common room for the teachers and four new classrooms were built.

With the outbreak of World War Two, an air-raid shelter was built by covering the 4 foot passage at the rear of the building with a concrete roof. Superintendent Horrigan of the Dockyard Police instructed the pupils in what to do if there was an air-raid.

Monty Green remained on as Headmaster until 1951, when both he and Enid became incapacitated by ill-health. Another long-time staff member of the school was George Savage, who was the caretaker for twenty years and who, apart from his cleaning duties, helped the mothers serve cups of milk, cheese and peanuts to the pupils at break-time. He became ill at the end of 1952 and passed away early in 1953.

The new Simon's Town Secondary School, built at Seaforth, was opened in October 1953 and went from strength to strength until it was reclassified a "High School" in 1964.

Until 1953 the Council Chambers were



housed in Juter's Building (Patel Bros.) opposite Jubilee Square. From 1944 the Council made it known to the School Board that it wished to purchase the Simon's Town Secondary School building. In 1953 the Simon's Town Municipality finally bought the property for 12 000 pounds and moved into the old school building. Mr K.P. van Breda was the Mayor at the time. The Headmaster's House became the Town Engineer's Office.

The Municipal buildings were utilised by the Simon's Town Municipality until it was disbanded in 1996. In 2001 the Simon's Town Library moved from its premises on the west side of the Municipal complex, into the main section of the former Municipal Buildings.

Information from the Archives of the Simon's Town Museum.

Cathrynne Salter-Jansen
Simon's Town Museum

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CRIME REPORT

Simon's Town SAPS

CRIME UPDATE:

On Tuesday 16 April at 8:45am, a well known Scarborough resident was found murdered on his property. It appears a sharp object was used to bludgeon him to death. The incident is being investigated by the SAPS Violent Crimes Unit.

A combined operation was held between members of SAPS Simon's Town Waterwing and the Parks Board Corporate Investigation Unit on Thursday 11 April. One arrest was made and 65 perlemoen, to the value of R10,400-00, were confiscated.

On Friday 12 April at approx 11am a would-be housebreaker was apprehended by the "Mountain Men" who are now operating in this precinct. Management and staff wish to thank this organisation for its help in the on-going fight against crime.

CRIME INTELLIGENCE

Insp Carstens reports that no information has been forthcoming since his recent appeal in The People's Post. After successful operations it is obvious that drugs are available (this includes "hard" drugs) and turning a blind eye to the problem is not going to make it go away. Get involved and supply any information you have to your local police or to **Insp D Carstens on 786-2118 or 083 518 1659.**

SIMON'S TOWN MAGISTRATE COURT

Insp Spreeth is currently in charge of court orderly duties and reports that it is functioning well under the circumstances. The station management and staff wish to express their thanks to R/Sgt Crouster, R/Const's Losper and MacFarlane for their sterling efforts at the Simon's Town Magistrates Court. Without them, it would be impossible to fulfil this important function.

SHIFT DUTIES

Due to the acute personnel shortage, Station Management deemed it necessary to make certain changes, one of which was to appoint *Insp Rina Wehmeyer*, Community Service Centre Commander.

Her loss to the Admin branch cannot be expressed in words but her highly efficient work ethic will lead to an improved shift capability.

SIMON'S TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The last meeting on 9 April was well attended and Mr Ian Howse is currently doubling as Chairman and Secretary. Any person who would like to volunteer as secretary is asked to attend the next meeting on **14 May at 5pm at the Lord Nelson Inn.**

PROJECT SABENA:

On Wednesday 10 April class no 1/2002 ended their self-defence classes at the SA Naval Gym, Simon's Town.

Women from the United Kingdom, Switzerland and France added an international flavour to the project. The highlights will be carried over to their compatriots when they return home. Participants were also able to



see firsthand how Mrs Heidi Luyt (a mere 53kg) was able to succeed against an assailant weighing 126kg. (Thanks here to Insp Craig Finlay and Insp Clint Abnett of the SAPS, Waterwing who volunteered to carry out the "attack").

During the period 1999 - 2000, 900 women and girls were trained by the Project Sabena team, which consisted of Insp GT Store, Insp Carstens, CPO GJ Watton and Mrs H Luyt, all of Simon's Town SAPS.

The year 2000 saw the demand for the classes rise to such levels that 5 per week were being held in order to accommodate would-be participants.

Due to work commitments Insp Carstens and Mrs Luyt could not always hold the project and Insp Store and CPO Watton gave instruction to every class. At one stage classes were held on Tuesday mornings & evenings, Thursday, Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. (The evening and Saturday morning classes were all "after hours").

Eventually exhaustion, the loss of CPO Watton and other work commitments led to the project being scaled down and only one class was held during 2001.

Even though classes were scaled down, a large demand from the public still existed. To accommodate this demand Insp Store decided to hold one class per 6 weeks.

The instruction team also had to be re-established and presently consists of Insp Store, Mrs Luyt and Janitor NB Daniels of SAPS Simon's Town.

The second group of classes is being held on Friday afternoons at St Kirian's Church, Fish Hoek and is concentrating on teenagers from Mountain View, Ocean View.

The third class started on 16 April at 6:30pm is being held at Simon's Town School and is aimed at working women.

In closing, the members of the Project wish to extend their thanks to all who participated in the classes. Remember together we can make a difference!

Insp GT Store
786-2118

*Proudly sponsored in the
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Chubb
ARMED RESPONSE

Glencairn Heights

Since the last report in *"The People's Post"* dated 24/04/02 there has been an increase in crime reported in the Glencairn area.

The good news is that there have been two arrests made in Glencairn Heights where the Chubb Bicycle Patrol Officers assisted the Simon's Town Police. There has also been a further incident where the Chubb Officers arrested a known housebreaker for drunkenness and handed him to the SAPS. He was subsequently released and re-arrested later for housebreaking and theft in Noordhoek.

The Chubb Community Patrol Service has been running in Glencairn Heights for approximately two months as requested by the community. The service is 24 hours and consists of foot, bicycle and vehicle patrols seven days a week with the armed response

units on standby in the near vicinity.

We have adapted the service to incorporate roving surveillance, vacant home checks upon request as well as focusing on the vagrants at the shopping centre and those that rummage through the refuse bags on Wednesdays.

On Saturday 11 May between 9am and 12pm we will have all the Patrol Officers at the shopping centre to meet the community. Please feel free to come and meet them and have any of your security needs answered. A sales representative will be present to sign residents that have not yet joined the service.

Is your peace of mind worth R40-00 a month?

Chubb Muizenberg

Hamiltons Net Cafe

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Now open in Simon's Town Main Road, Hamiltons New Cafe has four high powered pc's each with AMD Duron 900 chips and plenty of memory, which is ideal for multiplayer gaming and an ISDN Internet connection for internet use.

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Chubb Hints

IN THE HOME ...

- Ensure all valuable and important documents like driving licences, marriage certificates, weapon licences, IDs and the first few pages of passports are photocopied, authenticated by a Commissioner of Oaths and securely locked away. If you do not have a fireproof home safe, lodge these copies with your bank for safekeeping.
- Ensure that perimeter doors are fitted with adequate locks. The front door should have a safety chain or safety catch and, if the door has no vision panel, a door viewer. If keys to perimeter doors are mislaid, those locks should be replaced or "re-keyed" without delay.
- Avoid the use of two, three and four-lever locks for external doors; rather use cylinder locks or cylinder deadlocks or locks of the five or six-lever type. Consider temporary use of lock blocks for doors with lever type locks, to prevent would-be intruders from gaining access by using commonly available numbered keys.
- Fit suitable "spacers", locks or bolts to all sliding doors, to prevent them from being lifted off their tracks (the most common method used by burglars on sliding doors and windows).
- Ensure all windows are fitted with adequate locks and catches and burglar bars that cover all glass. Additional securings should be fitted if windows can be easily forced open.
- Fit preferably a wrought iron gate, or an expanding grille gate, over the front door and to any glass doors which cannot be burglar barred.
- Fit preferably a wrought iron gate, or an expanding grille gate, to separate the bedroom wing as a 'safe area' into which the family can retreat at night or in an emergency.

Neighbourhood Watch News

A friend's daughter of 9 years asked why I was so interested in watching my neighbours. This is clearly what the NW meant for her. The literal meaning reveals a lot that we may be missing.

Watching our neighbours; some pointers.

- Do I know when they are out without them having to phone me each time? How can I leave a sign designating my absence without letting would be intruders know as well?

Am I familiar with the daily sounds around me; dogs, cars and voices? If there is a change am I able to pick it up?

- Do I have the emergency phone numbers close to the phone and immediately visible without having to look them up? Is the Peninsula number in my head 107?

- Is my alarm system working and always armed?

- Do I know that I can phone my local NW leader when I am worried about a situation and would perhaps feel easier about this than contacting the police?

- Does my street/suburb have an effective NW; if not what can I do about it?

Other issues could be added to this list but the bottom line is "do I feel safe in my house and if not why not?"

The number of vagrants coming to Simon's Town is on the increase. They cannot all be accommodated in Happy Valley Home so they sleep out. These are truly our homeless "neighbours" in the biblical sense so what can be done to find a solution? All methods have failed thus as the numbers continue to grow. The problem won't go away. The head of the Dept of Social Services has offered to give guidelines on the

While approach to managing home care patients to the NW plan to take up this offer and work towards a solution.

Our SAFO clearly need our help with coping back up at the station during the week in normal office hours. Volunteers to assist with incoming phone calls will be able to clear area we tackle and you are asked to contact us. However if you can give an hour or more to free up our police to respond to emergencies. This will help us to see just how our SAFO operate and raise our awareness of the crime in Stoke's Town.

Halloween costumed officers at your door asking for candy or food must be redirected to Happy Valley Home. Collections with donation lists for schools etc are only allowed to do this if that form is stamped by the Simon's Town SAFO with that day's date.

Persons wandering about in your area who are not known to you should be regarded with suspicion and reported to the SAFO or the NW leader nearest to you.

Ian Howse
786-1442

St Luke's Hospice

To our wonderful friends and supporters in Fales Bay, I am delighted to inform you that in April 2002 our financial intake has proved the best ever - thereby assisting our speciality sister Margot and her group of caregivers to provide comfort and medical care to our increasing number of Hospice patients.

Please visit our Winter Trading ours
May - October

Container Shop - requests for office in Out-Patients Drive, Fales Bay Hospital open
Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm except for

resting days and public holidays.

Village Shoppes - 51/53 Renwick Road Fish Hawk open every Tuesday and Saturday 9am - 12.30pm all weather conditions. Closed Public holidays. Do come along to meet our voluntary team and find yourselves our bargain!

Margaret Collet - Convenor

Simon's Town Business Association Annual General Meeting



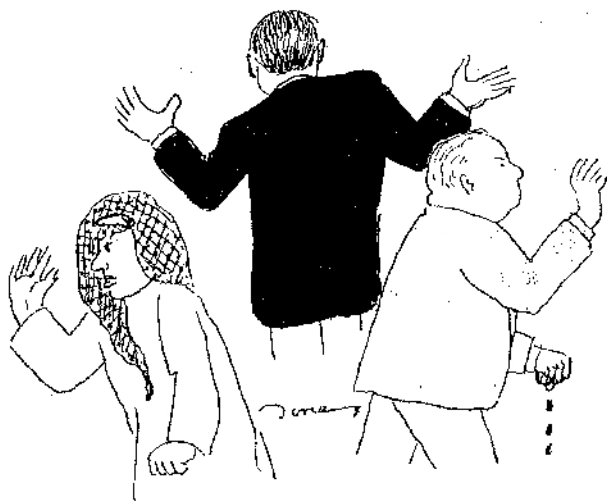
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Business Association of Simon's Town will be held at the upper conference room of the Queenside Hotel, No 1 Wharf Street Simon's Town on Monday 20 May at 6.15 for 8.30pm.

Ordinary Business: Present: Absent

1. Opening
2. Apologies
3. To confirm minutes of previous annual general meeting of 21 May 2001
4. To receive and adopt Chairman's report
5. To receive and adopt the statement of annual accounts for the year ending 20 May 2002
6. Election of chairperson
7. Election of office bearers
8. General Business
9. Refreshments

I feel that it is important that all Members and Business People of Simon's Town attend the above meeting.

Peter Johnson
Chairperson



WEST BANK STORY
There is space for all,
No need to erase at all;
Must the carnage go on...
and... and on?

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LEXMARK
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Committee Members and their Portfolios:

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Dan (Blackie) Swart	Chairman	786-2508	
Tony Robinson	Vice Chairman	786-1222	robinsons@webmaster.co.za
Peter Law	Treasurer	786-3880	plaw@pixie.co.za
Cap. Du Pisanie	SAPS	786-1822	
(Alt. Insp. Store/Carstens)		786-2127	
Manu Choudree	Private Security	782-7241	
Geoff Palmer	Marketing Campaign	786-5402	geoffpsa@iafrica.com
Heather Lunderstedt	Public Relations	782-7680	
Ian Howse	Neighbourhood Watch	786-1442	ianhowse@iafrica.com
Melany Rowen	Secretary	786-2171	
Insp. L. McDuling	Law Enforcement	782-1124	
Supt. D. Cronje	Traffic	799-5141	

SIMON'S TOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Peter Johnson	At Ease Book Shop	786-1374	Chairperson
George Bowes	St George's Jewellery	786-1495	Vice Chairperson
Hester Fourie	The Sheriff	786-1576	Treasurer
Marian Butcher		786-2412	Secretary
Malinda Coetzee	Central Hotel	786-3775	PRO

SIMON'S TOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Fran Freeman	Chairman	782-6644
Ian Allan	Treasurer	782-2736
Dorothy Mecinska	Secretary	786-2217 or 786-2133
Cdr Jaco Theunissen	SA Navy	787-3049
Nicki Holderness	City	786-3298
Sharon Nosma	Environment	786-1072
Justin Buchmann	SANP (CPNP)	786-1421 or 786-2329
Manu Choudree	Security/Safety	787-3845
Peter Johnson	Economic Development	786-1374
Eve Legatt	Property	786-3960
Luyanda Lombo	Red Hill	780-9123 or 780-9204
Dr John Morris	TBA	786-1765
Wilf Nussey	Communications	786-1368
Bill Rice	Dockyard Development	786-3909
Dirk Van Niekerk	Roads & Traffic	786-1320
Jacky Weaver	Glencairn Vlei	782-5335

MAY 2002

Day of Week Dag van Week		High/Hoog- water		Low/Laag- water		Sun/Son		Moon/Maan	
		a.m. vm.	p.m. nm.	a.m. vm.	p.m. nm.	Rises Op- koms	Sets Onder- gang	Rises Op- koms	Sets Onder- gang
		h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.	h.m. u.m.
1	Wed/Woens	0556	1831	1214	—	0720	1806	2151	1152
2	Thur/Don	0643	1927	0040	1301	0721	1805	2248	1247
3	Fri/Vry	0745	2046	0146	1406	0722	1804	2347	1333
4	Sat/Sat	0920	2222	0319	1545	0723	1803	—	1413
5	Sun/Son	1101	2336	0456	1718	0723	1802	0045	1448
6	Mon/Maan	1207	—	0602	1816	0724	1801	0142	1518
7	Tue/Dins	0026	1252	0645	1856	0725	1800	0238	1546
8	Wed/Woens	0104	1328	0719	1929	0725	1759	0333	1613
9	Thur/Don	0136	1359	0750	1958	0726	1758	0427	1639
10	Fri/Vry	0207	1429	0819	2027	0727	1758	0522	1706
11	Sat/Sat	0236	1459	0848	2056	0728	0757	0618	1735
12	Sun/Son	0306	1529	0918	2126	0728	1756	0716	1807
13	Mon/Maan	0336	1559	0948	2158	0729	1755	0816	1844
14	Tue/Dins	0408	1632	1021	2232	0730	1754	0917	1926
15	Wed/Woens	0443	1708	1056	2311	0731	1753	1018	2015
16	Thur/Don	0522	1750	1136	2357	0731	1753	1116	2112
17	Fri/Vry	0609	1842	1224	—	0732	1752	1210	2214
18	Sat/Sat	0708	1950	0057	1325	0733	1751	1258	2320
19	Sun/Son	0828	2114	0218	1445	0734	1751	1341	—
20	Mon/Maan	0958	2235	0351	1612	0734	1750	1419	0027
21	Tue/Dins	1116	2340	0510	1724	0735	1749	1454	0136
22	Wed/Woens	1218	—	0612	1821	0736	1749	1527	0244
23	Thur/Don	0033	1310	0703	1911	0737	1748	1600	0352
24	Fri/Vry	0121	1357	0749	1957	0737	1748	1635	0501
25	Sat/Sat	0206	1442	0832	2041	0738	1747	1713	0611
26	Sun/Son	0250	1524	0913	2124	0739	1747	1755	0721
27	Mon/Maan	0333	1606	0954	2208	0740	1746	1843	0830
28	Tue/Dins	0415	1647	1033	2251	0740	1746	1936	0936
29	Wed/Woens	0457	1729	1113	2336	0741	1745	2033	1035
30	Thur/Don	0539	1813	1152	—	0742	1745	2133	1126
31	Fri/Vry	0624	1902	0024	1234	0742	1745	2233	1210

Last Quarter/Laaste Kwartier May. 04 0918
New Moon/Nuwe Maan May. 12 1247

First Quarter/Eerste Kwartier May. 19 2143
Full Moon/Vol Maan May. 26 1352

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12**

Winner of Crossword 12 - Mike Dunford

- Landscaping and planting
- Pruning specialists
- Buffalo plugs R63.50 delivered.



OUTDOOR CONCEPTS

Specialists in Landscape

- Tree shaping
- Indigenous gardens

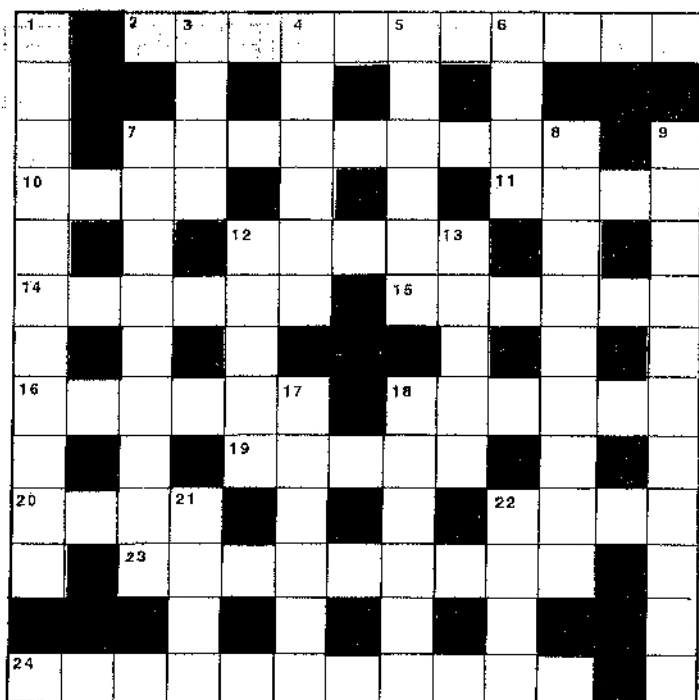
- Bush clearing and fynbos preservation
- Consultations on garden problems

Call: 786-1496 or 082 693 9698 today for a free consultation

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE

12a



CLUES ACROSS

- 2 Coarse linen spread out covers a cul-de-sac in Froggy Farm (6,5)
 7,15 Where a pretty Scottish child should live in Glencairn (9)
 10 A thousand insect egg interlock (4)
 11 Badly need a sandbank (4)
 12 Narrow ways, like '9' (5)
 14 Wanted - '11' disturbed before the Press boss (6)
 15 See 1
 16 Calls to mind that it's all right in the first lady's (6)
 16 Somebody getting out of bed is part of a stairway (6)
 19 Muslim B.Sc.'s carry arms, for instance (5)
 20 Pulled the article of Andrew (4)
 22 Jacques, the French composer, has stomach for the tumbrel (4)
 23 Musing aloud, "Therefore airbed!" Query - no hesitation! (9)
 24 Mountainous replenisher of SA Navy ships (11)

CLUES DOWN

- 1,15 Danger Point wreck "women and children first" in this Glencairn thoroughfare (10,6)
 3 Rate poorly the 'E' in Q.E.D (4)
 4 Successful attack in the street (6)
 5 Weakens a cricketer in backwater (6)
 6 A fat pig? Just the reverse (4)
 7 Sack the stockings! They get water to the conflagration (9)
 8 Ray's scene could be necessary (9)
 9 The alley where the vicar should live, opposite the West Dockyard (7,4)
 12 Flat, up and down (5)
 13 Agitates prisons (5)
 17 "The point, I have a Scottish name," he says apelike (6)
 18 Swallow up the sailor's sphere (6)
 21 Go labour (4)
 22 R-rub up your rustic dialect (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 Friday 24 May • 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 MAY 2002

WALKING TOURS OF THE HISTORIC MILE, Simon's Town **every Tuesday and Saturday** (booking essential) Phone Bobbie 786-3189 (Tuesday) or Audrey 786-1805 (Saturday).

SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM WINTER LECTURE SERIES Wednesday 15 May 5:30 for 6pm. "Three Graves Near Matjiesfontein - a soldier, a cricketer and an entrepreneur" by Boet Dommissie R10 per person (includes glass of wine or fruit juice before lecture).

SEVEN SEAS CLUB Sunday 19 May 5:30 for 6pm Jazz Evening with Willie van Zyl and SPJ Band. Members and friends welcome. Tickets available at the Club, R45 per person and includes curry & rice. Bookings no later than 15 May.

CHARITY BRIDGE DRIVE at St James Retirement Hotel on **Wednesday 5 June** at 1pm (in aid of False Bay Hospital - to help buy oxygen flow meters). Wonderful prizes, excellent tea. To book or for more info call 782-6741.

FRIENDS OF SIMON'S TOWN COAST-LINE

Thursday 16 May 7:15 for 7:30pm talk by Frank Wygold on "Alien Vegetation is for the Birds" at the Museum Hall, Court Road, Simon's Town. For more info call 786-1072.

Saturday 18 May at 9:30am morning walk on Elsie's Peak. Meet at the parking area of 7-11 shop, Glencairn. For more info call 786-3890. For walks and hacks during May contact Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group on 786-1620.

SOPHEA GALLERY MAY EVENTS Space Limited, booking essential 786-1544

Thursday 9 May at 7:30pm Mount Kailash, Holy Mountain - video of BBC

documentary of the final pilgrimage to Mount Kailash. R35 including refreshments. **Saturday 18 May** Start of "Sacred Journey, Sacred Place" exhibition. Free Entry.

Tuesday 28 May at 7:30pm "Sacred Words to take on Sacred Journeys" - an evening of poetry and verse. R35 including refreshments.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE Thursday 9 May at Methodist Church Simon's Town 1pm - 1:45pm.

FALSE BAY CHESS CLUB Started in 1947, still playing. Monday meetings, 8pm in the Fish Hoek Library Hall. All standards welcome.

PENSIONERS' FREE MONTHLY SHOPPING BUS To Pick 'n Pay Longbeach Mall & Sun Valley, from Murdoch Valley (Ixia Crescent terminus) via Simon's Town & Fish Hoek and return. Next trip **Thurs 9 May**. For times and pick up points call 786-3137.

FOUND

*In Breda Street on Sunday 21 April 2002, a seriously injured pale grey and white tomcat. He was kindly euthanased at Fish Hoek Veterinary Clinic.
Elize Engles Clews 786-3487.*

Deadline for June edition

Friday 24 May 2002

Next Publication Monday 3 June

Contact Sue Sturman on 786 5798 or 786 2436 for **forthcoming events only**. Payment for Snoek Town Calling will no longer be accepted at these premises.