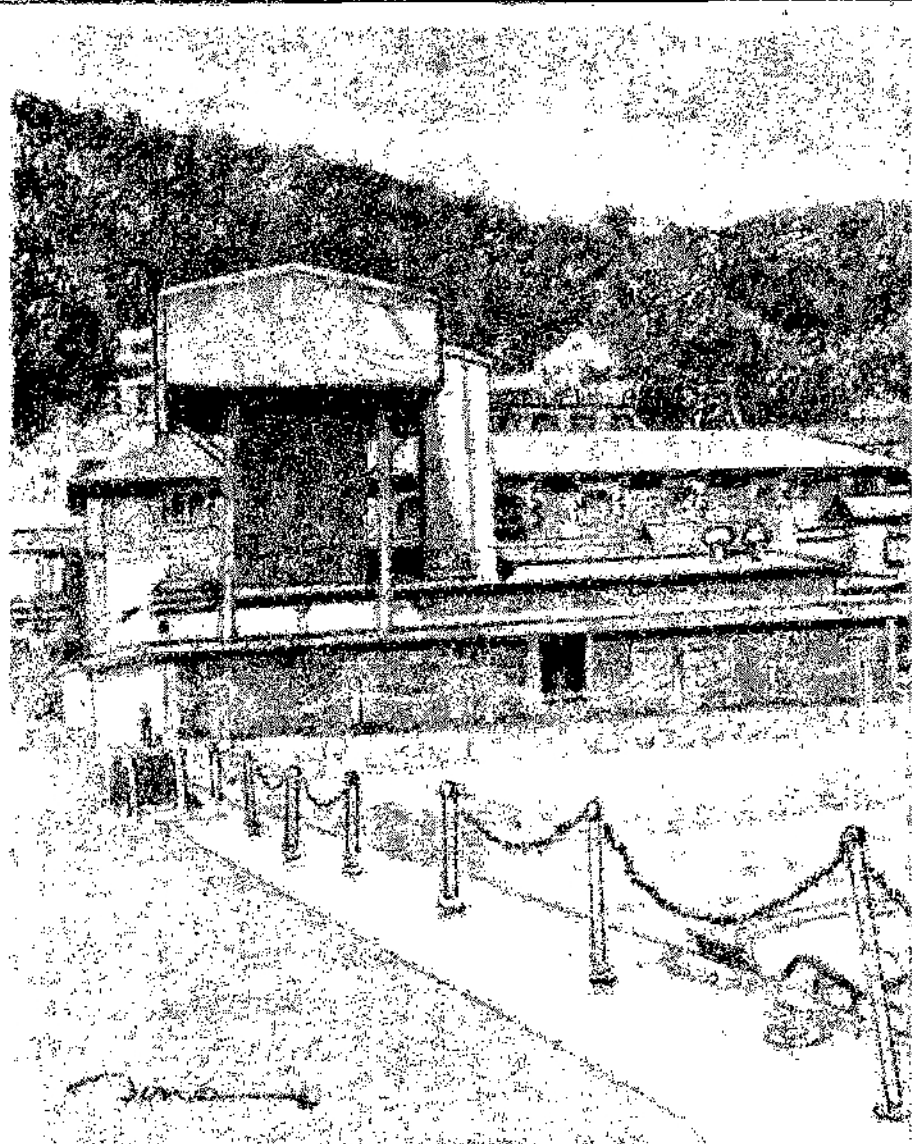


SNOEKTOWN *CALLING*

Vol 4 Issue 4

3 September 2001



S.A. Navy Diving Centre - Iona Loxton

September Sponsor - Anonymous

SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY DIVING CENTRE

The Navy's men of the deep have quietly been up to their daily business. The many deeds performed by these men often go without notice because of the very nature of the tasks and the inaccessibility of the environment in which the divers work.

The SAN Diving Centre's training program has to date been extremely successful. The part 1 (initial) divers course, the first since its inception in a new curriculum format, is progressing well. 4 months of the gruelling 6 1/2 month long course have been completed with only 1 candidate removed from the course to date. The tadpoles have sprouted legs and almost lost their tails.

A diver part two course (diving supervisor) has just been completed. Further successfully completed courses include various boat coxswain courses, underwater sabotage device disposal and explosive ordnance disposal courses. To date the SAN Diving Centre has achieved all intended training objectives.

The Divers of the SAN have taken part in a number of rather diverse activities to date. A team of Divers from Simon's Town was deployed to Mozambique to provide assistance during the floods which ravaged that country. The Simon's Town lads did the SAN proud and received major local as well as international press coverage for their humanitarian efforts. The NAVY NEWS magazine (Vol XX no 2 2001) covered the story complete with dramatic photographs.

Another high profile operational deployment of the SAN Divers was their involvement in the international (RSA and Australia) arrest of the Fishing Vessel "MFV South Tommy" for illegal fishing off the Australian coast. The vessel was boarded by a team of Australian personnel, but the boats and boat coxswains used during the operation were supplied by the SAN Diving Centre in Simon's Town.

The ongoing plunder of perlemoen (abalone) shellfish in the Hawston, Hermanus and Gansbaai area has led to a much publicised anti-poaching operation, OPERATION NEPTUNE. SAN Divers have, as usual found themselves in the thick of things. Diving teams from Simon's Town have been deployed to provide much needed assistance to the Marine and Coastal Management organisation as well as the South African Police Service in the combating of the plunder of this valuable resource.

Other community service activities have included various salvage operations. These operations are undertaken as training evolutions in order to maintain the salvage skill of the SAN Divers which forms an integral part of the mandate of the SAN to keep harbours and shipping lanes open in times of conflict thus ensuring the integrity of import / export sealines

The divers of the SAN have been involved in various rescue operations from the beginning of the year to date. All tasks undertaken have been completed with no fuss, as is the standard of the SAN Divers. With the prospect of replacing some of the older equipment as well as various planned activities scheduled for the rest of the year, the SAN Diving Centre optimistically looks forward to the rest of another successful year, serving the Nation from our realm, the Deep.

*Commander Richard Penn
Officer in Charge: SAN Diving Centre*

Editorial

The furore about the proposed closure of the ramp road connecting Jubilee Square with Cole Point parking rages on. Let's hope that ultimate logic will prevail; to leave as is.

The promotion of a paid parking scheme for Jubilee Square, as a means of generating funds for civic operations, continues to make progress. The Simon's Town Business Association has aligned itself with this promotion and it is conceivable that the final launch of the project will be implemented through this organisation. At this writing, a letter of intent has been sent to the South Peninsula Administration and their comments, though conservative, suggest that prospects are favourable.

The aftermath of the armed robbery saga continues to produce positive results. I have requested a progress report from the organising committee; let's hope it makes it to the printing deadline of this issue.

Reg Loxton
Editor,
2 Chapel Road,
786 1750



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Simon's Town Pro Musica Divina

The Simon's Town Pro Musica Divina presents the Cape Sinfonia at the Sun Valley Primary School on 17 September. The Pro Musica Divina is very proud to be associated with the Sun Valley Primary School's music academy. This wonderful project was launched this year under the brilliant leadership of Brenda Feldman. Children from all ages have the opportunity to study classical instruments as well as jazz. They also offer the services to adult students. Very talented Cape Town musicians eg Barbara Kennedy (celist) and Michael Hoofa (guitarist), teach at this academy and we can expect great things in the future. Like all new ventures of this kind, they require financing and their biggest wish at present is for a baby grand piano and sound proofing.

Also new in 2001, is the Cape Sinfonia - a symphony orchestra with a great future as well. They have offered to perform a free concert at the Sun Valley Primary School in order to raise funds for the piano i.e. all ticket sales will go to the academy. Unfortunately previously advertised plans to involve the UCT orchestra in a similar function had to be shelved for practical reasons. The orchestra will be conducted by well known Cape Town conductor/composer Peter Louw van Dijk and his son Xandl. They will perform the Impassioned Overture (Mozart), Symphony No.1 (Beethoven), L'Arlesienne Suite (Bizet) and Holberg Suite (Grieg).

The concert will commence at 8 pm in the Sun Valley Primary School hall. Tickets are R25.00 (adults) and R15.00 (children) and will be unreserved. They will be available from the school and also Simon's Town Pharmacy. For telephonic enquiries phone 082 928 0182. Please support this worthy cause and also enjoy an evening of wonderful music. The future of good music is in your hands.

Steven van der Merwe

Ward Councillor's Report

1. THE GENERAL VALUATION ROLL.
The process of compiling the new valuation roll is well advanced. Data collection for residential properties is complete in some areas and will begin soon in our area. Data collectors will visit every house to capture information on aspects of the property such as number of bedrooms and bathrooms, outbuildings, condition of the property and garden as well as its situation, views etc. It is hoped to complete all residential data collection of the estimated 550 000 residential properties in the City by 31 October 2001. Registered valuers are undertaking data collection for the 35000 non-residential properties, which includes schools, churches, business premises, factories etc.

There is no legal obligation to allow data collectors entry to your property. However, the project organisers stress that it will make the collection of the data necessary for as-

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assessment more accurate. In the other areas of the City already covered, more than 80% of residents have allowed access.

All data collectors will carry identification. If you have any concerns or questions or want more information contact the Property valuation Project call centre at (021) 415 8460 or visit the web-site <http://www.capetown.gov.za/valuation>

A new valuation roll must be complete by June 2002. It is being compiled in terms of the Provincial Valuation Ordinance of 1993 and recent amendments to the Municipal Structures Act. The basis of valuation is the market value, defined as what a willing buyer would pay a willing seller under normal conditions. All properties including State properties and informal townships must be valued.

At present there are several different rolls across the City and the base dates vary widely from 1974 in Constantia to 1986 in Simon's Town.

Before data collection can begin, the municipal record for each property must be drawn and a customised data collection form printed out for each erf. There are an estimated 50 000 properties which do not appear on any roll.

Before the roll is finalised it will be published in draft form. You as a property owner will then be able to check the value assigned to your property.

It must be stressed that it is only when the roll is completed that the political process of determining the rate in the rand can be commenced. And yes, that is going to be a painful process but we can make no assumptions or guesses now.

2. SUBCOUNCILS.

As part of restructuring local government, 16 subcouncils are to be established in the City. Wards will be grouped together with the ward councillors and some PR council-



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lors forming the political component for the subcouncil.

There has been a lot of dissatisfaction amongst both councillors and their communities about the present system of running the Council. There is a sense of alienation and confusion that the current system of executive power in the hands of ten councillors has done nothing to alleviate.

The new CEO has been on record as vigorously supporting a more customer-focused staffing structure. Certain departments that do not interface directly with the public have tended to dictate policy to the organisation - classic examples of the tail wagging the dog! I have battled with this mindset for years. Hopefully we will see a change. Certainly Council has been insistent that the subcouncils must have the maximum powers that can be devolved to them. National legislation means that law circumscribes these powers. Nevertheless we must make all we can of the functions delegated to these

bodies. These include:

- Aspects of land use management including administration of any local development, design, policy or structure plan.
- Monitoring public nuisances and pollution
- Authorising the provision of traffic calming measures on roads where such measures are permissible (such as non Provincial roads).

In terms of this policy and the proposed bylaw to establish subcouncils Area Coordinators will also be appointed for each subcouncil. Their function will be to ensure speedy and efficient communication between the subcouncils and the central administration.

The primary function of the subcouncils will be liaison with the communities they represent. It will be up to civil society to make sure they work and deliver the level of service required.

Alderman Nicki Holderness
Ward 69

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Simon's Town Civic Association

Most of you will have seen the report about the AGM in the last "Snoektown Calling".

We urgently need a representative for the very important portfolio of Recreational and Community Affairs vacated by Dr Reg Loxton. The STCA is appealing for volunteers.

The keynote of the AGM was a detailed account by outgoing chairman Mrs Jacky Weaver of the STCA's activities in the past year spanning a wide spectrum of community affairs.

Another main item was agreement that the STCA should form a Section 21 company as a financial and management base, especially for future activities that will probably involve the collection of money and its use for the public.



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Other News:

Traffic:

The committee decided at its last meeting to oppose the decision by the municipality to close the slip or ramp road from Jubilee Square down to the Cole Point parking area. Since then committee members have received protests from people wanting the slip road to stay open, including the Business Association.

They say it provides quick and safe access to Cole Point parking when Jubilee Square is full. Closing it would force motorists back into the mainstream traffic to reach the Cole Point turnoff further on. Strangers would not know how to find Cole Point and would turn back west, across the mainstream, because there is no more visible parking further east on St George's Street. Pedestrian steps should be built beside the slip road. Prominent signs should be placed to guide visitors. The wall between Cole Point and the Navy ground should be opened to make the public parking there more accessible.

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At Monday's committee meeting Ward Councillor Nicki Holderness pointed out that the slip road closure was part of an overall traffic plan for Simon's Town which had been open to public examination. Consultants had been hired at considerable expense and the plan had been available for inspection at the library for weeks. But no objections had been raised.

This was no way for the public to respond to correctly made municipal actions, she said somewhat acerbically. What was the point of long and costly public participation if people were going to object after the fact. However, there was some doubt whether the new Cape Metropolitan Council would go ahead with the plan because of a procedural error by an official.

Committee members present said they had not seen the final plan, although some had seen proposals made some time ago by the consultants.

The committee decided that in spite of the cost in time and money, there was a case for re-opening the traffic plan for further

public inspection and comment. Placing a large and complex document in the library was inadequate; there should be well-advertised public meetings.

We would like to see your views on this in writing. Please send your comments to us at P O Box 47, Simon's Town, 7995, or e-mail them to whnussey@iafrica.com under the subject heading "TRAFFIC PLAN".

Waterfront:

The owners of the Quayside Lodge have proposed several alterations to the waterfront area. They are:

- * Close the steps down to the waterfront between the Lodge and Jubilee Square so that pedestrians would have to walk through the hotel's small shopping mall to and from the Post Office side,
- * Build a second level of parking above the present parking area between Wharf Street and Bertha's restaurant,
- * Extend the deck from Django's coffee shop out over the space between the post Office and the postboxes.



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"WE CARE"

The Architectural Advisory Committee, the official panel of experts monitoring Simon's Town's architectural integrity, opposes the parking deck and the closure of the steps from Jubilee Square to the sea.

Mrs Holderness said all the land surrounding the hotel complex was public property and should stay so. It was essential to preserve public access to the sea because most of the seafront in town belonged to the Navy. The committee will ask the hotel owners to make an on-site presentation of their proposals before reaching a decision.

Refuse:

The municipality is considering "containerising" refuse, Mrs Holderness said - giving each house a large rubbish bin on wheels which the refuse collection truck can lift and empty mechanically.

The system is already used in Johannesburg, Pretoria and some other centres. It would eliminate the plastic bag eyesore. Houseowners could buy a second bin if they wished.

This would be a policy decision and ex-

posed to public participation, she said. If approved, the scheme would come after refuse collection costs were taken out of rates and charged for separately.

The Navy:

Expect considerable activity in the Peninsula in coming weeks.

Between August 18 and 24 naval representatives or their counterparts from 14 Southern Africa Development Community countries will be at Silvermine and in Simon's Town for talks on maritime matters.

On September 5 the Navy will decommission its old minesweepers and commission the new ones it recently obtained. The ceremony will be open to public view from the end of the pier where the old Cable Restorer is tied up.

On September 11 our seamen will be out and about in force carrying refuse bags to do their annual clean-up of Simon's Town - a deeply appreciated demonstration of the long and close bond between townsfolk and Navy. Please give them all the help you can. From September 21 to 25 Cape Town will be host to one of the mightiest ships afloat, the carrier USS Enterprise and her complement of about 6000. Accompanying her will be a guided missile destroyer with a crew of 800 and possibly a replenishment ship.

Library:

Our library will soon move into its new premises in the main municipal building. The committee wants the old library building to be turned into a community centre for use

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by our cultural, environmental and other civic groups and for hire. It does not, however, have catering facilities.

Post Office:

After warnings reached us from several quarters that there was some risk of our Post Office being closed because it was not generating enough revenue, the committee spread a petition calling for its retention. Signatures are still coming in. Please make full use of our PO. It offers many services, always friendly.

New Year's Eve:

It's early days but the good news is that there will be another big bash on Jubilee Square this December 31 - and this time St George's Street will again be closed to traffic, with full municipal cooperation.

It has become one of the best and biggest parties in the Peninsula. More details later.

BEACH & COASTAL PATROL

Since our beach problems have already been reported in this column and directly to the authorities (including Intersite and Spoonet), they need not be repeated. While some have since been solved, others - such as repainting - can only receive attention when the weather clears.

There are also minor problems with litter bins and sign posting, that could well be left until early summer. In any case, the SPA has budget restraints and labour shortages, that force it to prioritise work over a large area. It is therefore pointless to report again until later this year, by which time the beach situation will hopefully have improved.

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&
Chips

Thursday

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&
Salad

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Chips
Or
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&
Salad



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MORE ABOUT HIGH-SPEED SNAILS

Much to my surprise, several readers phoned me for further information on plough snails of the genus *Bullia*. It now appears that I was too hasty in giving up my "Fishy Tails" column. At least some people in Simon's Town are interested in their marine environment from the biological aspect. With apologies to others who know it all, I therefore respond to their queries as follows:

To answer the first question, plough snails are definitely found in our particular region at Glencairn. They could well be seen on other beaches, but only when their seasonal prey (mostly bluebottles and jellyfish) are washed up. Otherwise, they remain buried in sand on the lower shore to conserve energy. Just the tip of their tubular siphon projects to chemically scent any nearby presence of a potential food source

ing ability to reach and consume prey before it is swept away. Although sightless, plough snails bravely emerge, roll over and extend their hugely expanded foot. This serves as an efficient underwater sail to surf up the beach. They then right themselves to follow the scent trail in a breast-stroke fashion. After making short work of their prey with highly specialized teeth, they dig down until the tide ebbs. Finally, a retreating wave enables them to surf back home.

Since the foot is muscular, it can be used like our own feet to control their direction in cross currents by "cutting back". So who is that blind body-surfer hitting an almost level beach during a high spring tide? It is the 55 mm South African record holder - *Bullia rhodostoma* - with a time of only 4,5 seconds to cover the 45 metre distance!

The second question concerns their surf-

Bevan Pank
Science Writer

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"BRIGHTENING OUR LIVES"

There are apparently many retired residents of Simon's Town with indoor hobbies, such as needlework and painting. If done in artificial light, the former activity can cause the same eye-strain as computer work, or lengthy reading of fine print. With painting, the colours can well be false. This also happens when applying makeup and selecting clothes.

Although most lamps give poor colour rendering, a notable exception is the "day-light-blue" incandescent bulb, which filters out excess red light. It is therefore commonly used for true colour matching in design studios. In the home, it is suitable for any area without sufficient natural light to select colours.

Even better is the high fidelity "full-spectrum" fluorescent tube, which almost exactly simulates summer sunlight and sky

radiation at noon. Being so bright, it is the ideal "task lamp" for a home kitchen, study and hobby room.

The common "cool white" fluorescent tube is also bright and has a price advantage, but its colour rendering is untrue. Furthermore, our eyes are designed to function best in God's own light and only a "full-spectrum" specialist lamp can attempt to emulate His work - albeit on a very small scale.

If only for psychological reasons, it has long been known overseas to brighten our lives!

**Bevan Pank
Science Writer**



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PROPERTY WATCH #31

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

1.1 Erf No. 50, Simon's Town (Land use amendment application on behalf of Walport Schools). No change from report no. 30.

1.2 Erf No. 2830, Simon's Town (Erica Road, Murdoch Valley). Proposed alteration or lease of portion of Municipal land. No change from report no. 30.

1.3 Erf No. 2299, Simon's Town (Bourkes Beach Guest House). Application to alter from General Residential to Business. No change from report no. 30.

1.4 Erf No. 1780, Simon's Town (198 Queens Road). Application for a Land Use Exemption to convert Residential 1 House into Medical Practice. No change from report no. 30.

1.5 Even No. 4348 and 4349, Walport Glen: Application for consolidation, rezoning from undetermined use to single residential and for subdivision into 10 portions. No change from report no. 30.

1.6 Erf No. 4686, Cairnside. Application to subdivide into portions. No change from report no. 30.

1.7 Erf No. 625 Simon's Town (Military Way, Bay 64). Application to subdivide into 4 portions with a 100m wide road access through erf. No change from report no. 30.

1.8 Erf No. 2212 Glencairn Heights: Application for Bed & Breakfast establishment. No change from report no. 30.

1.9 Erf No. 2724 Forest Hill. Application for subdivision into 2 parts. No change from report no. 30.

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23 August 2001

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1.10 Erf No. 3590 Simon's Town (Quarry Road): Application for proposed rezoning, subdivision and departures change of zoning from general residential to single residential for 5 dwellings (attached) and 7 additional garages. Surrounding owners have requested certain conditions which have been accepted by the new owner.

2. 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. 30.

2.2 CFM 1404 Wildschutsbrand Farm: Application for Land Use Departure for the establishment of a restaurant and tea garden, and African arts and craft market and overnight accommodation. No change from report no. 30.

2.3 Erven No. 2204, Glencairn Heights, 3321 Glen Marine: Applications by Ericsson SA to permit the installation of Cellular Communication Base Stations and Antennae in Golconda Street and Seemeu Street. No change from report no. 30.

2.4 Erven No. 2904, 3333 3117, Simon's Town: The offer for Erf 2904 was accepted and the matter is now closed. The offer of R81 000 for Erf 3333 was withdrawn and the property is still open for sale. An offer of R100 000 for Erf 3117 is being considered.

Eve Leggatt
Simon's Town Civic Association

St. Luke's Hospice F. Bay

Good News!

Our container shop dream has at last become a reality and we are now preparing for the major move to our new site behind the white walls - opposite our office - in out-

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Container 1 - Will be used for selling superior clothing, bed and table linen, and bric-a-brac.

Container 2 - Will be used for storage purposes. Our existing container (5 years in operation) is to be utilised to store books for our frequent sales at Fish Hoek Library.

My loyal container team join me in thanking our friends in False Bay most sincerely for their continual donations and for their support, which contributes on a on-going basis to supply our many patients with exceptional care from our nursing sister and her team of care-givers. **Village Shoppe hours: 9am - 12:30pm Thursdays and Saturdays.**

Margaret E Collet
Convenor

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Thorp Donates Car

At a function held at the Lord Nelson Inn, Simon's Town on Friday 17th August, the Simon's Town Community Police Forum paid tribute to the efforts of THORP DELTA, and CHUBB in particular, and to the support for the SAPS shown by the community as a whole.

Nicky Thorp handed over the keys of a new Opel Corsa to Commissioner J. R. Strydom of the SAPS. The vehicle, emblazoned with SAPS decals will be used for a year by the Simon's Town SAPS, and will then be replaced with a new vehicle. Ingrid Le Roux of Bataleur Insurance Brokers and Nino King of SA National Fund Administrators combined to provide free insurance cover for the vehicle. Charles Bates has agreed to cover normal maintenance costs, leaving the police with the cost of petrol.

Present at the function was Marius Haremse,

Simon's Town's "Bobby on the Beat" in his replica Metropolitan Police uniform. His presence on the streets of Simon's Town has evoked much favourable comment. Blackie Swart, Chairman of the Forum thanked Martin Smolders and Alan Tayler for making the "Bobby on the Beat" project possible. In response Martin Smolder assured the community of their on-going support and handed over two bullet proof vests for use by the law enforcement agencies. He promised to deliver two additional vests in the near future.

As further evidence of the strong community spirit, Blackie Swart thanked Chubb, Dan Dilley of Gladys Dilley Estates, Cedric & Wynne Duncan, Andre Jacobsz of the Simon's Town Bottle Store, and Dr. & Mrs. Smith of the Lord Nelson for sponsoring the function.

From the Bosun's Chair

Rain, rain, lovely rain. We have had plenty this month; people are saying it is the wettest winter so far in 40 years! Sorry I can't remember that far back, but I do remember rain for 14 days at a stretch in the 50s and we were on occasion sent home from school because we were all sopnat (having walked through the deepest puddles on the way to school).

Ou Kaapse Weg has numerous waterfalls as does Boyes Drive and these are all most spectacular at present.

Several residents in Glen Road Glencairn have mountain streams which appear to be trickling through their properties and the vlel is overflowing.

Today, the 27th, we have a beautiful sunny day and a whale sighting in the yacht swing mooring area. The enormous marmal surfaced near the club ferry and startled the boatman.



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Simon's Town

THEATRE IN THE DOCKYARD

Welcome to the Ankh-Morpork Opera House! Famed for it's classic acclaimed productions, trouble is brewing, hysteria is rising and all is not what it may seem. Bodies are appearing backstage and falling from the flies without motive.

Perhaps there is a Phantom?! The famous Lancre Witches Nanny Ogg and Granny Weatherwax (who can't be doing with this sort of thing), are forced to investigate just because they happened to be in the area and wouldn't dream of interfering. Sparks fly.

Ghosts are uncovered, Phantoms laid to rest and the secret of Box eight revealed. Along the way we encounter fat men pretending to be thin men, Ingénues pretending to be singers and cats pretending to be human! Also, who is that big girl at the back with the glorious voice?

Confused? Don't be. Following "Wyrd Sisters" in 1998 and "Mort" of last year, this is the third time that Anchor Players will be performing a premier of a Terry Pratchett work. Pratchett is currently the largest selling English author in the world. So Maskerade is a brilliant black comedy not to be missed.

Running 6-16 September, at our Theatre in the Dockyard, Simon's Town. Performances Weekdays at 8pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 6:30pm. Bookings at InfoMotion 785 2466. Ticket prices R30.00 ea. Students and Pensioners R25.00.

If you would like to know more about the production or Anchor Players, contact Jo Darby on Tel: 785 3034 (h) or cell: 082 688 2012.

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Simon's Town Business Association

Notes from August Meeting

The Business Association holds an open committee meeting every 3rd Monday of each month at the Lord Nelson Inn Conference Room. Time: 18h15 for 18h30

All members of the association are most welcome to attend. The Business Association needs and appreciates your participation.

Tour Buses

After much effort and negotiation we have at last obtained support from CT City to provide parking bays in the CBD for the tour buses. This will ensure their return to Simon's Town and an increase in visitors/tourists with their spending power.

Vagrants

A problem which is increasing in town. At our next meeting we will have a talk on how to cope with this problem. It is recommended that ALL business members in the CBD attend.

Ramp Closure - Jubilee Square

In response to a letter of objection sent to SPA the Bus. Assoc. has been told that the closure is going forward as planned. This is not acceptable to this organization and further objections would be put forward in the strongest terms.

Traffic Problems

An appeal was made to all business personnel to please park in Cole Point and leave the Main Road, Wharf Street parking and Jubilee Square free for visitors/shoppers.

The amount of U turns being executed in the main street is becoming a danger, as is the excessive speed at which some vehicles traverse the main road. Plans are in progress to put in more signs prohibiting U turns, reducing the speed limit to 40 k.p.h. through town and the placing of 2 speed humps opposite Jubilee Square.

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Community Police Officer

Funds are desperately needed and to this end a programme of events is planned for fundraising:

Spring Fair

21st - 24th September 2007

- Fun Run - for the whole family
- S.A. Navy Band and O.T. Highlander Pipe Band playing Pridmore Square
- Shells on Jubilee Square

• Steel Wahine Race (Entry to be donated by S.A. Navy - courtesy Adm. Louw)

• Fashion Show (Coco's Tailor - at the O.T. Store) Wardrobe, Flappy Farm

• Fales Bay Youth Club Spring Ragata / Ocean Race / Boat Race / Entertainment

Watch the press for further details

Talk by Admiral Louw

We were honoured to have Admiral Louw address us with an update on what future plans were in store for Simon's Town Naval base.

Privatisation: More persons are being con-

sulted for Simon's Town and surveys are being done regarding the privatisation of the Dockyard. At present the facilities are not sufficient for civilian users which present a security risk. Privatisation is to take place and other systems will be needed, together with another entrance to the dockyard to separate civilian and military operations. In 2008 the first open Committee will be starting and with them contractors for undertaking it.

African Children's Choir

The Director of Education for the choir, Ms Heather McAdams, gave an overview of the organization and its aims and objectives. Extensive renovations are at present being undertaken to the old Arts building and any questions or requests to view the premises should be directed to her. The organization was welcomed and co-operation extended by the Business Association for the future.

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A Tanganyika Diary - Part 8

June 5

Delighted. The bridges haven't collapsed, the post office hasn't fallen into the dust and my order from Stewart's Stores has arrived intact. A pair yellow layette, nappies, gaiters and a smart yellow baby pot. Also feeding bottles. Gunga only sucks these 'bottle' shaped things, with a rubber teat at other end. Now all that's needed is the infant. It's been a long, long time.

July 29

It's fairly hopeless. On the 28th I struggled into the Lapsrower and we took away the rutted road to the Mission, cheered on by groups of villagers. Dr Schögel attended the continent - up to a point. When he kept urging me to "listen the pillow for the pain", I threatened to bite him. As he hurried away, Mama Ndele called out "ee korant, Doktor, ee korant". She wasn't exaggerating. At



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noon of the nineteenth my daughter appeared, looking 'Ro a little Ekeko, Ro koma Ekeko' and, "aah! wiesochi, wiesochi".

Solo's first pressing chore was to run to the Registrar of Births and Deaths - who is also the head JP, to ensure that Lela was born a South African, his second, to bring a bottle of Pilsner Beer to celebrate our daughter's coming. At eight long past 11 I was being teased outside the window - "to keep evil spirits away". At next day old women filed in to see the new baby. Teta, Mame Ndele exclaimed, was the first legitimate child to be born in the village. Many many years ago the DO's daughter had had an affair with an Indian man, and she and her baby were buried out of the territory.

Each evening Sister Annika wrote to seek her pen pals and - propped against the foot of the bed - stayed to chat about herself. A moving tale.

She was one of a very large family living in the Schwartzwald, and when her father began protesting his she ran away and sought shelter at a Franciscan convent. There the Nuns taught midwifery and other nursing skills, and in the age of 18 was sent out to Tanganyika Territory "with a sun helmet, a bicycle and a flintstone bag".

At first the natives viewed her ministrations with great curiosity, but her best contribution came, a particularly difficult one (obscurely watched by suspicious women), was successful, and young Mama Naida was finally accepted. She told me this story in four different languages, all jumbled together.

Down the Historical Mile

Of course, was the summer from Piet Ransoos, the people from the Purple Pillot have gone and what do we have in the place? - a blitting shop. Yes, so a Clara Rijbosch, made a sort of illusion and what we find: all kinds of dried foods, huge of many kinds, several kinds of blitting, worts, figs and dates - and many other dried things I don't even know. It's to make it more as having water.



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So what, says I don't have a job, and I'm on the job, how can you have a job without a job? Aren't we of the Western Cape, where the bakers come from? What if Williams agreed to do in the end, meet the Viceroy - and he said, tell Fritz he's made a big mistake and we must put matters off for a while. So as it, tradition must be upheld. And what about a smoked snook - also, all, but I don't know how, worldwide as Snook is?

Schultz wanted to know what the hell is a breaker? Wingnut told him to shut up - what does a breaker, those Gestalters know about the traditions of the Western Gospel? Daphne - mothers nearly got rough, because several knew, nobody - but nobody - talks to Schultz like that.

Clare rescued the situation by jumping up with a story that she had an aunt in Velbert where they fix the cookstoves, Matilda Daerschmidt by name, who is famous for her nookers, pasties. Clare undertook to contact Aunt Matilda for her information which Fitz can pass on to the others.

So ended the August meeting of SLAP the Society for Loiterers and Professional Nonsensitists.

Stacy Walker

SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM NEWS

Heritage Day: Monday 24th September
We would like to invite the residents of Simon's Town and Glencliff to join us between 10.00 and 1.00 on Heritage Day to acquaint themselves with the heritage of our interesting village.

Enterprises and guided tours will be free and a tea shop on the grounds will be open for refreshments.

At 15.00 former residents of Simon's Town will proceed from the Museum to Jubilee Square to place flowers around the memorial stone at the entrance to the Square - anyone is welcome to attend.
Hope to see you!

Sherry Dilley
Curator

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Historical Families of Simon's Town



RING ANY BELLS

WILLIAM RUNCIMAN - 1858 to 1936

Captain William Runciman was born in Scotland in 1824. He went to sea as a boy in 1838. His second marriage was to Alice Anne

Black, the daughter of a Simon's Town family. He brought his new wife and his two sons from his first marriage, William (born 1858) and George (born 1860), to South Africa in 1873.

It was at the end of this very voyage when

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the young William, aged 16, showed the character for which he was to become well-known. Just off Cape Town he volunteered to take a line to a ship in distress. He was a strong swimmer and the ship was taken in tow and brought safely into Table Bay.

Soon after settling in Simon's Town, William began work at the local firm of William Anderson and Company. After only 6 months he was sent to the firm's Head Office in Cape Town to learn all about the business of ship's chandling and agents. At 19 William returned to Simon's Town as the manager of Anderson's and was soon made junior partner. He became an energetic participant in the life of the small seaside community.

In these early days Simon's Town was a busy naval station and flourishing mercantile port. Ships and ship-building was an important business and there was a thriving fishing industry. Trade was also conducted with the squadrons of foreign naval vessels

that called at Simon's Town.

Being isolated from Cape Town to a great degree, the community of 'Old Snoekie' was self-contained and were thrown together for social interaction and entertainment. William married his stepmother's niece, Elizabeth Sarah Black (known as Bessie), daughter of Alexander Nicholas Black and Susannah Jarman of Simon's Town, in 1881. Their first son, Gardner William, was born in 1882.

In 1883 the Municipality of Simon's Town was established and William was voted in as a councillor, the first mayor being G.R. Budge. This first town council set about improving the amenities of the town such as water supply, drainage and sanitation. William was one of those responsible for the establishment of the Victoria Reservoir, which had a capacity of 3 million gallons.

William became Mayor of Simon's Town in 1888 for the first time. His terms of office

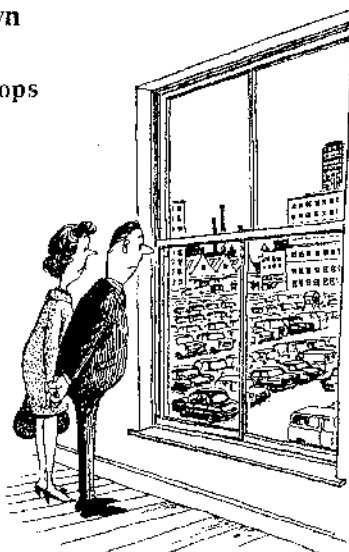
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over the next 37 years were as follows :

1888-1889; 1893-1898; 1899-1901; 1902-1904; and 1909-1925.

As a member of the Planning Committee, William was involved in the organisation of the celebration to mark the opening of the railway extension from Kalk Bay to Simon's Town in 1890. It was a day of festivities which saw many dignitaries, such as Merriman, Rhodes and Innes visit Simon's Town.

Alexander Walter, William and Bessie's second son, was born in 1892. He was to become known as Bobby.

William had chosen a site above the harbour, on the hillside, for his home. It was called 'Highlands' and was a double-storey with stables and servants quarters. The property was bounded by a stone wall and from a ship's mast in the grounds, flew the Union Jack. William walked down the hill to his offices. As his civic life expanded, he met al-

most all the leaders of the time.

William and Bessie's daughter was born in 1893. She was christened Alice Elizabeth Ann, but was always known as Peggy.

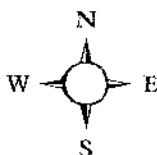
The first High School at Simon's Town was opened in 1895 as a result of William's tireless efforts to improve the standard of education in the town. He was instrumental too, in the establishment of the Arsenal Road Primary School.

In 1896 William suffered two crushing blows when first his father, Captain William Runciman and seven weeks later his wife, Bessie, died at Highlands. Bessie was only 38 and their children were aged 14, 4 and 3. William's stepmother, Alice, took over the running of the household and took care of the children. She died at Highlands in 1933, aged 88 years.

The Parliamentary constituency of the South Peninsula was formed in 1898 and in 1899

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William Runciman was elected as its first Member of Parliament. A torchlit procession made its way through Simon's Town as William's supporters celebrated his victory. Thus began his Parliamentary career which was to last 27 years.

In 1899 William became a senior partner in the chandling business and the old Anderson and Company buildings in Simon's Town were extensively renovated. The name was changed to William Runciman and Company. It was one of the largest and most successful businesses in the town, consisting not only of a Ship's Agency and Ship's Chandlers, but also supplying ship ballast. In addition there was a family grocery and a wine and spirit department.

In 1901 William performed the Opening Ceremony of the Muslim School in Simon's Town. In the same year he welcomed the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York as Mayor of Simon's Town.

William was asked to represent Simon's Town at the Coronation of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra in Westminster Abbey in 1902. He travelled to Britain and stayed with his cousin, Sir Walter (later Lord Runciman of Shoreston). The exquisite suit which William wore to the Coronation is housed in the Simon's Town Museum.

In 1903 when William was re-elected to the Legislative Assembly, he piloted The Kalk Bay Electric Scheme and the Cape Flats Railway Extensions bills through Parliament. As Chairman of the Government Commission on Shipping Losses, he assisted in drawing up the recommendations that lead to the building of the Slangkop Lighthouse at Kommetjie. He also sat on the Select Committee whose report resulted in the passing of the School Board Act, which considerably advanced the cause of education in South Africa.

William believed in and worked towards, a Federation of States in South Africa. He felt a sense of achievement in 1910 when the

Union of South Africa was proclaimed.

In 1909 William began his last and longest term of office as Mayor of Simon's Town. The following story was published in the Cape Argus : When Vice Admiral Fitz-Maurice arrived to command the Africa Station in 1925, he was formally welcomed by Mr William Runciman. Replying to his welcome the Admiral said : 'When I first came to Simon's Town as a midshipman in the Raleigh in 1880, I found Mr Runciman Mayor of Simon's Town. When as Commander I returned in 1900, I found Mr Runciman Mayor of Simon's Town. Now I come back as Admiral and I find.....' The crowd snatching the words from his lips, shouted : 'Mr William Runciman, Mayor of Simon's Town!' William never 'retired' from his business interests. Each day he walked down the hill from Highlands and spent a few hours in the office. Throughout his life he was a keen walker and walked all over the Peninsula. He loved the wild flowers and fynbos and in later years when climbing the mountain be-

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hind Simon's Town became too much for him, he would be driven to the Smitwinkelbaai Vlakte, where the ground is more level and the wild flowers proliferated.

William was a very precise man - by nature and in appearance. He was of the 'old school'. Upright, righteous, courteous, formal and proud of his Scots ancestry.

A member of the Simon's Town Museum Board of Trustees, Mr Vernie Wessels, remembers that his mother's grandfather, Mr Kindo, was kindly assisted by William Runciman. Family legend holds that Mr Kindo had been a slave aboard a ship pursued by the Royal Navy, close to Simon's Town. The crew were ordered to throw the slaves overboard to get rid of the 'evidence'. Mr Kindo managed to swim ashore. He stayed on in Simon's Town.

William Runciman helped Mr Kindo by allowing him to grow vegetables on one of his properties. The vegetable garden became a flourishing business and eventually Mr Kindo was able to buy his own home in Simon's Town. The family lived in Simon's Town until the Forced Removals of the 1960's.

William Runciman died at Highlands on 15 April 1936 after a short illness, just 4 days after his 78th birthday. His funeral was held in St Francis and he was laid to rest beside Bessie in the Old Burying Ground at Seaforth.

(Compiled from records in the Archives of the Simon's Town Museum and an article in the Historical Society Bulletin of January 1982 by D.W. Runciman.)

Cathrynne Salter-Jansen
Simon's Town Museum

WARNING

The Simon's Town Community Police Forum and the SAPS wish to inform the public that they are to adopt a ZERO TOLERANCE approach to the increasing incidence of vandalism. In particular they refer to the vandalism which is often described euphemistically as graffiti, and which is to be seen defacing public and private property in increasing volume.

The community is urged to report to the police any information they have with regard to this anti-social activity. **Offenders will be arrested and prosecuted.**

For the most part the offenders are young from fairly affluent backgrounds (spray paint is not cheap), and punishment will include cleansing, community service of an unpleasant nature, PLUS any costs involved.

Police have been reasonably successful recently in the Southern Peninsula, and culprits have served time in the emergency and other wards at local hospitals. In one case parents were required to pay R1500 for the restoration of damage.

It would be appreciated if this notice could be brought to the attention of the young people of Simon's Town, and if parents and teachers would assist in preventing the continued upsurge in this type of vandalism.

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Quality Assurance: Water in Simon's Town

Some months ago I outlined the process of water purification that is used to provide us with potable water. Subsequently there have been various comments on the apparent quality of the drinking water coming from our taps. Discussions with the Director of Health, South Peninsula Administration has elicited further information that might be of interest.

After the water is filtered it is treated with chlorine to destroy bacterial contamination.

Chlorine is not necessarily the "best" disinfectant but has the advantage that it can remain to be effective for some time after being administered. Other processes such as ozone addition or ultraviolet irradiation are instantly effective but lack staying power and re-infection can easily take place. However, even chlorine has a limited span of effective-

ness and since our water is stored in reservoirs for variable lengths of time, the water in the reservoirs is tested regularly before it is despatched to the users.

Chlorine gas is dangerous to use except under carefully controlled conditions and the facilities do not exist for its safe use at all the reservoirs. Consequently use is made of sodium hypochlorite (the powder form is commonly used for disinfecting swimming pools).

The operators at the reservoirs are instructed to test the chlorine content of the water much as we would test the chlorine content of our swimming pools and appropriate quantities of sodium hypochlorite are prescribed according to the results of the analysis. Unfortunately the water levels in the reservoirs are not as constant as in our swimming pools and it is possible that an excess of chlorine is administered if the water level is low. This relatively high concentration of chlorine may then show up in our drinking water. I know, I know? The consequences of employing relatively unskilled operators?



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Nevertheless, there is little risk of the chlorine levels being deleterious to health. The opposite is much more likely; namely that too little chlorine may allow the development of unwanted bacterial contamination arising from the use of old pipes that harbour bacterial colonies or from dead-end reticulation systems that allow the water to stagnate. During the time I have been receiving reports from the Department of Health on the analysis of our drinking water, I have seldom seen chlorine contents as high as 0,5 mg/l but often results reported as below 0,1 mg/l, which suggests that the danger of under-chlorination is greater than that of over-chlorination.

It is clear from my meeting with the department that the monitoring of water quality is being taken seriously and that every effort is being made to ensure that the water that reaches our homes is of acceptable quality - but there are problems with the implementation of the policy decisions.

John Morris, STCA



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Station 10 **National Sea Rescue** **Institute**

Station Commander: Dave Roberts

Winter is a time, in northern climes, for hibernation but at Station 10 we don't do that but we do lick our wounds, so to speak. As was stated in an earlier article "Spirit of Freemasonry" was returned to the builders for upgrading and partial refit and the wave rider, "Eddie Beaumont" has been taken out of service, temporarily for extensive maintenance and servicing.

It has been mentioned that Coxswain Geoff Burchell overhauled her motors.

The person that has been overseeing and carrying out a large portion of the remainder of the work on the hull and especially the transome, which required rebuilding, has



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been Coxswain Darren Zimmerman who has unselfishly put in many hours on this task. This "mini refit" has actually meant major work in which many crew members participated but Darren was at all times the driving force behind them and for this he deserves a huge pat on the back. Well done Darren!!

The only call-out of late was on Sunday the 19th at 18:00 when the Station Commander phoned in saying that a member of the public had reported to the Cape Town Port Captain that a vessel was seen to be sinking off Glencairn. The Station mobile 4x4 was sent out to investigate but in the dusk could not see any vessel sinking. "Spirit of Freemasonry" was launched, driven by Coxswain Darren Zimmerman and crewed by Paul Alexander, Stuart Buchanan, Chavonne Haupt and D. Jenkins with Warren and Karen Combrinck controlling back at the base.

A search of the area between Glencairn and Roman Rock Light was carried out but no

sinking vessel was sighted. It is thought that the person reporting the incident may have mistaken the beacon, newly laid by I.M.T. for survey purposes, as a sinking craft which it could resemble.

This month's crew member profile is unfortunately an introduction and farewell to **Tim Kilian** who was born and mostly grew up in Pretoria where he attended the Glen High School. For a time he lived in Bergvliet where he attended Sweet Valley Primary School and for a short time Bergvliet High before returning to Pretoria. He did his National Service with the S.A. Medical Services which stood him in good stead for later activities in volunteer firefighting and the N.S.R.I. He was stationed at 7 Medical Battalion at Centurion which was attached to the Parabats.

In 1992 Tim began work in Johannesburg in the advertising business. In 1995 he joined, as a volunteer, the Sandton Fire Service where he completed the Firefighter

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1 course and a basic First Aid Course. Through the advertising industry Tim heard about the N.S.R.I. and he thus became interested in it's activities. After he and his wife Alexander were married they decided to come to Cape Town after they visited here for the year 2000 celebrations. They purchased a cottage on the Simon's Town sea-board from where they had a magnificent view of Simon's Bay.

Tim saw the N.S.R.I. craft doing drills with helicopters and this inspired him to seek out the Station. He subsequently joined up and became a satisfied and very happy crew member and only served for a year. Alex has now fallen pregnant and they are now moving back to Johannesburg where she will enjoy the greater support of her immediate family. Tim enjoys volunteer work as it assists the community so he will probably rejoin the Sandton Firefighters.

Well, sadly their gain is our loss and Tim told me that he will miss the close comradeships that he came to enjoy at Station 10, which he felt was like being part of a special family and he will always be grateful to his fellow members of the Station and thanks especially the members of "C" crew for wonderful friendships and camaraderie and he sincerely hopes one day to return to Station 10.

On the horizon for members of Station 10 is the Inter Crew Potjiekos day on the 8th of September in which the Shorelink members are also invited to participate. This should be a fun day for all who attend.

Station 10 will also be on stand by for the False Bay Yacht Club's Spring Regatta which will be on the 23rd of September. Closer to will be the hosting by Station 10 of eight members of the Shelley Beach N.S.R.I. Station, who will stay over for a night and have come on a trip on which they hope to interact with some of the best stations on the S.A. coast.

As we go to press Station 10 will also host members from Station 11 Port Alfred for a trip on board our rescue craft. Station 11 has

the distinction of having the only qualified female Boat Coxswain on the coast and to cap that she is also the Station Commander.

At the end of this week " Spirit of Freemasonry" will be taken by road trailer to Granger Bay to go on display as an example of Cape Craft's products at a function where Cape Craft are hosting their many suppliers and business affiliates. So that should scotch the doubting Thomases in Simon's Town who felt that the boat had some or other defect.

Last but not least all at Station 10 wish Paul Alexander the very best of luck as he attends the Advanced A.E.A. Medical course and we all hope he will have great success. To my new found critic sorry this piece still lacks humour!

*Yours aye,
Don Dollery*

GLENCAIRN HEIGHTS CRIME SOLUTION OPTIONS

As a result of the survey, three security companies were approached to submit proposals for the security service that they could offer the community.

The emphasis was to be on deterrence, both physical and physiological, further security was to focus on the elimination of the opportunities to commit crime.

A: Combat Force Cape cc

- Observation posts (06:30 - 18:00) Mon - Fri
- Vehicle patrols - 24 hours Mon - Sun
- Personnel - 1 security officer on observation post and 1 security officer on 24 hour vehicle patrol.

Cost of service: R33 360pm. The cost to be divided by all residents.

B: Chubb

- Patrol service 24 hours Mon - Sun
- Bicycle/foot patrols - 24 hours Mon - Sun

• Personnel - 1 security officer per vehicle and 2 security officers per bicycle/foot patrol.

Cost of service: R14 000.00. The cost to be divided by all residents.

C: Mountain Men

•Proposal not submitted

This is an opportunity for Glencairn Heights to become the first residential area in the Southern Peninsula to unite as a community in the fight against crime. It will make a clear statement to the criminals that we are not soft targets and that we will not stand by the side and let criminals dictate the way we should live.

Our Police Forum and Civic Association fully support the initiative.

You will be given a form to vote on your security option. Please hand in at Glencairn Hardware.

Lets make it work!

Manu Choudree

GLENCAIRN "BRING 'N BUY"

Glencairn's annual charity fund-raising event is once again to take place on Saturday 15th September from 9.30am until 12 noon at the Cartwright's home, 68 Glen Road.

Since 1958 we have been raising funds in this way - firstly for the Feeding Scheme at the Glencairn Mission School (now No.7 Gray Road), then after 1969 for the Peninsula School Feeding Scheme. Latterly we have been supporting St Luke's Hospice, False Bay, and more recently included the False Bay Voluntary Emergency Medical Services.

For many years the event took place in the garden of 52 Glen Road (the home of Peggy Donkin), then to No.64 (the home of Mrs Louanne Lock), and now has settled at No.68 - where there is undercover shelter for the teas and the books, and space for selling plants and cooking Boerewors.

Also space for the children to run round the garden - and enjoy taking part in the Lucky

Dip. Let us make our 43rd year of operation a great success. Do come along and support our efforts - hopefully bringing items to sell as well as buying lots of goodies.

We would welcome contributions of Cakes, Books, Plants, White Elephant, Lucky Dip items or what-have-you - either on the day or delivered beforehand. Refreshing Teas and cookies will be on sale, and you can take home Boerewors rolls for your lunch. Last year, despite the heavy rain, we raised over R4000, so let us make this year 2001 a really bumper year!

False Bay Chess Club

Inter-ship chess games - in 1853, the Barham and Wellesley on route to London from India, played chess using signals. Easier to come to the Fish Hoek Library Hall, where the Club meets on Mondays at 8pm. Players of all standards welcome. Your Move!

PENINSULA TOURISM

SIMON'S TOWN

PUBLICITY ASSOCIATION PH 786-5798

August 2001.

Last month the text of the Chairman's Annual Report delivered at the Association's recent A.G.M. was published. The committee and members were very pleased that Dave Hurwitz agreed to stand again and made haste to re-elect him as Chairman. Besides his business interests and voluntary tourism committee work, Dave has been extremely generous in offering charities and educational groups free and reduced fare trips on his boat "Spirit of Just Nuisance".

In recent months the unkind weather has been very frustrating for the boat's crew Tony and Hylton - we are all hoping for better sailing weather especially for the first Sunday in September when the Kidney Association will be bringing a trainload of 390 kidney patients, their families and medical

staff to Simon's Town. They will be exploring the town and a number of them are hoping to take the harbour cruise. Thanks are also due to the local museums for offering reduced entrance fees to the Kidney Association group.

Some further words about the Association's exceptionally successful A.G.M. held at the End of July aboard the "Cable Restorer". After my absence on sick leave in May and June, it was a very welcome surprise to find that committee members Cherry Dilley and Jean le Roux of the S.T. Museum had made preliminary arrangements for the meeting. Sincere thanks to Cherry and Jean for their wonderful support which included producing the invitations, helping to acquire and transport the wine and welcoming guests aboard with glühwein on the night. We were grateful to Jackie Weaver from the Noordhoek Training Centre for agreeing at short notice to be our main speaker. She and her husband set up a display of attractive leather, clothing etc. made by the stu-

dents trained at the Centre. By October the Training Centre will be opening its long-awaited craft market in the thatched-roofed stalls on the Kommetjie Road at the entrance to Masiphumelele (Site 5). There will also be an entertainment arena providing a lively venue for local artists especially choirs and African dancing groups. This splendid venture should provide a number of employment opportunities for local people and the craft market will be a most welcome addition to tourist facilities in the area – we wish them great success. The other speaker was Mike Wilson, the hard-working webmaster of simonstown.com. Thanks to Mike the website is growing by the day with hits from all over the world. He gave an interesting presentation and paid tribute to Elizabeth Davey and Cathy Salter-Jensen who have rendered invaluable assistance in providing information and updating the site. After the meeting Allanah Dilley and her friendly staff of the Cable Restorer served a superb dinner. I really admired Allanah's efficiency and cool temperament – nothing

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seemed to shake her even a last-minute request for a dessert not on the menu. Thank you for a most memorable evening.

In August despite the depressing, incessant rain, Simon's Town seemed to be slowly shaking off the winter blues of May, June and July. There has been a distinct increase in the number of local and foreign visitors and a rise accommodation now accommodation now and for the forthcoming Xmas holidays. All the rain should mean a bumper flower season and we look forward to welcoming the whales – so far they seem to be keeping their distance due to the bad weather conditions. The whale observation boat is standing by to take groups from the Simon's Town jetty – all they need are calm seas and lots of whales.

Peninsula Tourism staff frequently make arrangements for journalists and film-makers to interview local personalities and to enjoy free accommodation, meals and boat trips.etc.

Not all promises of feedback are kept, so we were particularly pleased recently to receive five copies of Saga magazine sent by courier from Britain. Patricia Smith, the deputy Editor visited Simon's Town last year and has produced an excellent article on the Penguin colony (she acknowledges considerable help from Irene Toerien and Alderman

Nicki Holderness). Her article on whales in False Bay will appear in a future edition. This interesting magazine reaches a million readers in the Northern hemisphere. The Saga group regularly brings tour groups to Cape Town – many stay at the Avenue Hotel in Fish Hoek.

With the coming of Spring, September looks as if it will be a rather busy month – a great highlight will be Cole Cameron's production of "Maskerade" by Terry Pratchett for the Anchor Players. (see Forthcoming events in back cover for details of performances). Last year Pratchett fans from all over Cape

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Town flocked to see "Mort" -- an exciting and very different play. Simon's Town is fortunate indeed not only to have the delightful Simonsberg Theatre in the dockyard, but also in having the dedicated, creative team of Anchor Players' members who work so hard to bring to life challenging contemporary theatrical works.

For those who prefer more traditional fare, I hear that the Gilbert and Sullivan Society are bringing their production of "The Mikado" to the Simonsberg Theatre in November as a fund-raiser for Nerina Gardens.

Another innovation this year will be the Spring Fair to be held between the 21st - 24th September. The organizers are the energetic new committee of the Simon's Town Business Association with the assistance of the Navy. The highlight of the weekend will be on Sunday 23rd when the Navy Band and the Cape Town Highlander Pipe Band will Play on Jubilee Square. Plans for a Fun Run and Waitrons' race are well underway. There will be food and other stalls on the square. On the Heritage Day Public Holiday (24th September) the Simon's Town Museum will hold its traditional Museum Open Day with A visit by former residents of the town followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at Jubilee Square.

At the end of the month Peninsula Tourism will launch their third Enchanted Evenings and Delightful Days Festival. From Constantia to Cape Point there will be a host of exciting cultural events including historical walks, musical performances and storytelling for children on a special holiday train (with security).

The full programme will be published in the local press and copies will be available at all Peninsula Tourism offices.

As mentioned in "Forthcoming Events" in the back cover there are two events which will take place in Simon's Town. On Thursday 4th October an "Oriental Evening" will be held at the Seven Seas Club at 19.00 for

19.30. Fran Spencer-Smith will host a cultural evening. Enjoy a light supper and wine before being introduced to Beulah Becker who will present an informative talk on Persian and Oriental carpets, rugs and runners. This will be followed by an AUCTION which is a fund-raising event in aid of Anchors Away Village, a home for mentally and physically challenged people.

To conclude the evening a magnificent Oriental rug will be presented to a lucky member of the audience. Tickets are R25 per person. Contact Fran 083 357 5822 or 786-1321.

On the 3rd and 4th October Renee at Albertyn Stables has arranged Sculpture lessons for adults and children.

Roll on Spring -- we seem set to have a lot more fun than in the dreary winter months we've had to endure.

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The Night Sky

In the night sky, which may be visible between clouds, Sagittarius, Ophiuchus (the Serpent Holder), Scorpius, Aquarius and Pisces are seen on the Ecliptic. The bright Canopus in Argo (Carina), Achernar, in Eridanus (the River) and to the north Altair in Aquila (the Eagle) are all bright stars seen in September. Mars is the bright red planet near Antares, also a red star, in Scorpius, visible overhead at sunset. Mars will move towards Ophiuchus at the end of the month. As Mars sets in the west in the late evening sky, Jupiter, Saturn and Venus rise in the east.

On the 23rd of September the Sun crosses the Celestial Equator and we have the Spring or Vernal Equinox in the Southern Hemisphere, with the Sun's apparent diameter increasing from 31' 11" at the beginning of last month to 31' 41" this month.

The Planets

Mercury, magnitude -0.2, is in the west in

the evening sky, is at its greatest elongation on the 19th, when it is 8° south of the Moon, and on the 20th 0.9° south of Spica.

Venus, magnitude -4.0, is a very bright early morning sight in the pre-dawn sky with Jupiter and Saturn. On the 15th it is 3° south of the moon. Mars, magnitude -0.8, is an evening planet in Scorpius, passing into Sagittarius on the 5th. On the 25th it is 2° south of the Moon. Jupiter, magnitude -2.0 is also an early morning planet, not as bright as Venus. Look to the east before sunrise to see a wonderful sight. It remains in Gemini until the end of the year. On the 12th it is 1° south of the Moon.

Saturn, magnitude +0.1 is also an early morning planet, which is not as conspicuous as Venus and Jupiter in the constellation of Taurus. Uranus, magnitude +5.7, is a green point source of light in Capricorn. On the 28th it is 3° north of the Moon.

Neptune, magnitude +7.8, is 3° north of the Moon on the 27th, is also in Capricornus. Pluto, magnitude +13.8 is not visible without using a large telescope.

The Moon

New Moon is on the 17th; First Quarter on the 24th.

Full Moon 2nd; Last Quarter 10th.

The Moon will be at apogee on the 2nd, and perigee (closest) on the 16th. I have been asked if it can be predicted when the Spring Tides take place at the New Moon. Yes, it is later than the New Moon or Full Moon; as the Sun and Moon each produce high tides at the point of the Earth nearest to them, as well as at the opposite point. Observant people living at the coast will notice that the Spring tides occur at the same hour at the same place, when the Moon is Full or New.

The Sun

On the 1st, Sunrise is at 7:06am; and Sunset at 6:27pm.

On the 30th, Sunrise is at 6:30am; and Sunset at 6:48pm showing that the daylight is

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Meteor Showers

The Orionids are visible from the 21st after midnight.

Comets

No sightings have been made of Comet C/2001 A2 Linear for some weeks due to the weather.

As a result of a previous article, questions have been asked about more planetary details:

Mercury is 36 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 59 earth days long.

Venus is 67.3 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 244 earth days long.

Mars is 141.7 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 24hrs 37min.

Jupiter is 483 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 9.5hrs long.

Saturn is 887.2 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 10.39hrs long.

Uranus is 1784.0 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 17.2hrs long.

Neptune is 279.0 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 16.1hrs long.

Pluto is 3670 million miles from the Sun.

A day is 17.4hrs long.

The Gregorian Calendar

The Calendar, which we use today, was investigated by a commission set up by Pope Gregory XIII. After a long consultation, the plan was to be implemented in October 1581, 420 years ago, but was postponed due to objections by Giovanni Carlo Ottavio Lauro, "Supposedly this was to make unspecified 'corrections'"; also by Adriaan van Zeelst for his improvement "On 24th February 1582, the 80 year old Pope Gregory XIII sat down at a table that is still preserved at Mondragone and signed the bull that would make this the last year of Julius Caesar's calendar, at least for those staunchly Catholic countries still willing to accept a decree from the much-deflated authority of the Roman See". "The Calendar" D.E Duncan.

The commission was mainly the work of Aloysius Lilius, and his brother, Antonio, who do not have any memorial for their famous and accurate work. The year was cal-

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culated as being 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 14 seconds.

The new calendar came into effect, after the days between 5 - 14 October were eliminated, in October 1582, as there were few saints days at this time.

It is interesting to note that the Gregorian calendar is off from the true Solar year by 25.96768 seconds per year only. This was done 70 years before Jan van Riebeeck and his party landed at the Cape!

Peter I. van Blommestein

From the Police Forum

A start has been made on the compilation of a web page, attached to the Simon's Town website. We plan to update this with news bulletins, activity notices, and pictures of personalities - especially of the local police contingent. Now that the Thorp Delta Car has been handed to the police, the Bobby is on the Beat, and the first consignment of bullet proof vests has been delivered, our thoughts have turned toward new projects. On our Agenda is the resumption of shore patrols by the Navy, the acquisition of Scrambler Motor cycles for the Police, the expansion of the Bobby on the Beat project, the re-establishment of a Detective Force in Simon's Town, the expansion of the Neighbourhood Watch, the completion of the Strategic Plan for the support of the Simon's Town Police District, support for the STCA Section 21 Company proposal, security for the year end "Millennium" Party, and anything and everything that has relevance to the security of our area. Your suggestions are welcome. (email: robinsons@webmaster.co.za or phone 736 1222)

Quotations have been received from Security Companies regarding the enhanced security of the Glencairn area. It is premature to reveal who the successful tenderer might be, but the whole process is extremely interesting, in that it represents a further step toward privatising local residential security. We will be watching Glencairn develop-

ments closely in order to evaluate the efficiency and the cost effectiveness of the plan.

At the public Forum meeting on the 27th August, it was interesting to hear the progress of the new Municipal Police Force. Whilst there were no official pronouncements, it seems that the Force size, including Traffic is planned to be 3800 strong and that the first 500 are already under training. Whilst it is clear that the Force will initially be deployed in high crime areas, it is likely to relieve some of the extreme pressure on the SAPS. We can but await developments, but don't expect any of this Force to be posted to Simon's Town in the short term.

We were pleased to hear that some significant arrests have been made in respect of Abalone poaching, with high bail conditions and confiscations of equipment (boats and cars) being noteworthy.

Elsewhere we have submitted a warning notice of the intention to treat Vandalism (specifically the defacing of property by spray painting) as a serious crime and to prosecute offenders to the full extent of the law. We would remind parents, for it seems that young people are generally the offenders, that they carry responsibility for the damage caused. There are cases where damage has run to several thousands of rands.

We are now privileged to receive some statistics relating to crime in our area, and we are happy to report that these statistics show no increase on a year ago. In fact some of the statistics reflect reduced levels. Having said that, can you believe that a very recent car theft, which took place at 3.00 in the morning was witnessed by two residents, one of whom remarked afterwards "I couldn't understand why these people kept pushing the car backwards and forwards for half an hour." Neither of these observant local citizens thought it appropriate to phone the police. **PLEASE.....**

Tony Robinson

P.O.Box 175, Simon's Town 7995

Tel/Fax: 27 21 7861222

CRIME REPORT

Home Security

In an emergency, an alarm system is only as good as the response time. Although it is usually quick in our region, many of us still have expanding metal closures on both doors and windows, as well as an external security gate. These are fine, provided that their keys always be kept close at hand in case of fire. However, all are useless, if our front doors left unlocked for just a few minutes. This can happen when we work in our garage, or go to the "corner shop" for a news paper. The reason being that it is a hassle to fiddle with often as many as three locks - including one on a security gate - every time we venture outside.

Many homeowners have only a three-lever mortice lock and possibly a night-latch fitted to their external doors. If the key's number for other than a five-levered mortice lock is seen by a potential burglar, he or she can buy a duplicate at any hardware shop. In the case of a night-latch, most brands can be unlocked with a credit card. The best is a deadlock, that conveniently combines the features of a night-latch. One such type is the compact - but solid - zinc alloy "Bird" 8088-TK series, which can even be used with confidence on commercial installations and costs around R125.00. However, it should still be supplemented with a good mortice lock and even a security gate during long absences from home. This is particularly important for people without an alarm system, who should then at least inform the police of their absent period.

Although a timber front door is usually solid, the frame is not always as hard. When fitting a lock a strike case, it is therefore important to take the precaution of drilling pilot holes for the screws narrower than specified. Should the frame indeed prove to be soft, tight screws would then reduce any likelihood of the door being kicked open. Other security measures are to fit a robust chain or

door-guard and a wide-angle 180 degree viewer to the door. Last but not least is never to leave our front-door key with other than a trusted friend or relative. Maids can be coaxed into opening the door to fake a contractor, inspector, or post office technician. Even when our car is serviced, we should provide only its particular key and service book. The glove compartment should also be emptied of any other documents relating to the vehicle, or our identity. It is all a matter of using our common sense and not taking chances!

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ARMED RESPONSE

Ansie-Marie Kloppers

28.07.1973 - 25.08.2001

It is with great sadness that we learned of the very untimely passing of our much loved colleague, educator and very dear friend, Ansie-Marie.

Ansie-Marie started teaching at our school in July 1999. She very quickly established herself here as a dedicated, loyal and very caring person.

Working in the Hotelkeeping and Catering Department, she worked under extremely difficult conditions where she headed the WCED's pilot project at our school. Simon's Town School, the community, her colleagues and most of all, her learners, were always a priority in her life.

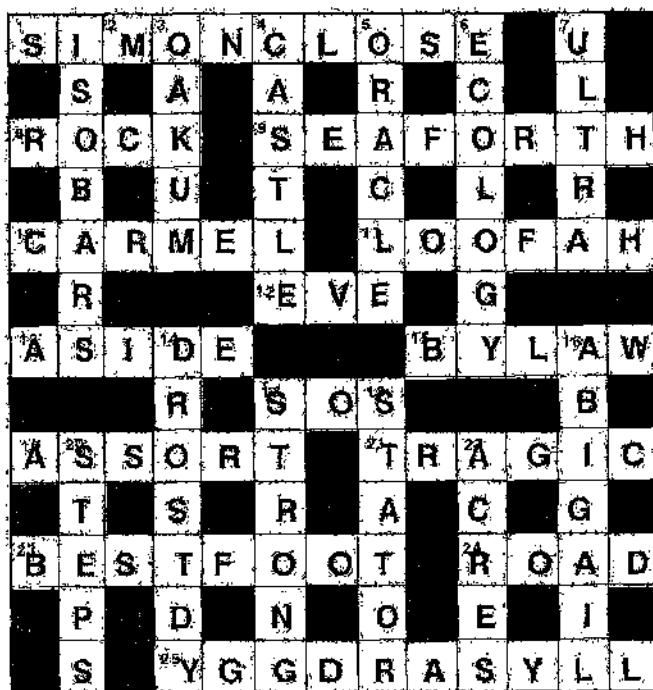
Ansie-Marie wanted the learners to know that she loved them very much - but we are sure they already know this.

We mourn with her family who have been left behind and we pray that God will give them the strength to see them through this difficult time.

We love and miss you Ansie-Marie. May you rest in peace.

Simon's Town School

SOLUTION



PUZZLE 6

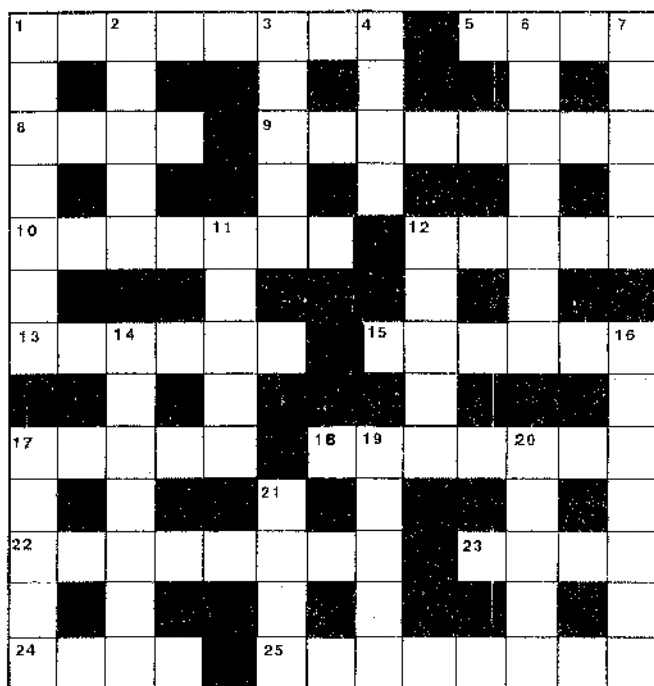
WINNER of CROSSWORD # 6 - PAM SIDDLE

Simon's Town Civic Association

Freeman, Brian	Chairman	782 5544	
Afari, Jan	Treasurer	782 2738	
Medinska, Dorothy	Secretary	786 2217	786 2183
Loston, Dr Reg	Simon's Town Trust	786 1750	
Theunissen, Col Jaco	SA Navy		787 3048
Holdenings, Nick	City	786 3298	786 3288
Basma, Sharon	Environment	786 1072	
Buchmann, Justin	SANP (CPNP)	786 1421	786 2328
Giboudree, Manu	Security/Safety	782 7241	787 3845
Johnson, Peter	Economic Development		786 1374
Lagatt, Eve	Property	786 3960	
Lombo, Luyanda	Red Hill	780-9123	780 9204
Mogis, Dr John	TBA	786 1755	
Nussey, Will	Communications	786-1368	
Palmer, Geoff	Crime & Crime Spec Proj	786-5402	
Rice, Bill	Dockyard Development	786-3309	786 3908
VanNiekirk, Dirk	Roads & Traffic	786-1320	
Weaver, Jacky	Glencore Vei	782 5335	

CROSSWORD

Puzzle 7



CROSSWORD - SEPTEMBER

CLUES - ACROSS

- 1,20 The last Archbishop of Canterbury. It's said - male - has a tee-shot along the slopes of the Simonsberg (8,5)
- 5 A tax north of the Tweed (4)
- 8 It sounds as if the rascal is running down the centre of the church (4)
- 9 See 2!
- 10,12 Dusty's position on the cricket field is south of us (7,5)
- 13 Supply Bed and Breakfast at home to the old draught horse (6)
- 15 The intricate design is underwritten (6)
- 17 See 24
- 18 Because junior, is apart (7)
- 22 Noble tally of the Afrikaans angler's catch ? (8)
- 23 The panto's last part is acted in silence (4)
- 24,17 Not the best place in this area for a short swim ? (4,5)
- 25 A dwelling for people holding a belief? Quite the reverse (8)

CLUES - DOWN

- 1 A backward chap in the grass has got a new title (7)
- 2 Miss Gardiner in Holland concerns our fleet friends (5)
- 3 A negative in the mans short address is a landed estate. Roman, perhaps (5)
- 4 Use this to fix something first-class in Holland (4)
- 6 It's against the portent to send it (7)
- 7 It's an unusual pleasure to buy someone a drink (5)
- 11 The tide comes up hard for her (5)
- 12 A hairy infantryman in Paris ? The United Party rises round the lubricant ! (5)
- 14 Virgin Richard takes the husks, boy (7)
- 16 Night gets established shortly. Most sombre (7)
- 17 Is part of the glebe veld ? Just the sloping bit (5)
- 19 Attack the music ascending (3,2)
- 20 See 1acr.
- 21,9 The dog is a fair pest! It's a grave matter, too (4,8)

PRIZE: R100 voucher valid at Café Pescado

Name: Tel. No:

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2001

1. STOP PRESS: Terry Pratchett's **MASKERADE** Presented by **Anchor Players at Simonsberg Theatre, West Dockyard, Simon's Town.** Thursday 6th & Friday 7th September 8 p.m. Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th September 6.30pm Thursday 13th & Friday 14th September 8pm Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th Sept 6.30pm
Booking InfoMotion 785-2466

2. SIMON'S TOWN MUSEUM/ HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION. Wednesday 19th September at 5.30/6 pm 'Reflections on Antarctica' Talk with slides by Capt. Bill Leith Donation 10 Wine/fruit juice served

3. GLENCAIRN BRING 'N BUY Saturday 15th September 9.30 - 12 noon Garden charity sale - 68 Glen Rd. Glencairn. In aid of St. Luke's Hospice, False Bay Voluntary Emergency Services & Tennis Club Funds. **Enquiries - Tel. 782-3298 (see page???)**

4. PENINSULA TOURISM ENCHANTED EVENINGS & DELIGHTFUL DAYS FESTIVAL Friday 28th Sept. - Monday 8th October

ALBERTYN STABLES Wed 3rd & Thurs 4th October 9am-5pm Sculpture classes for adults/children **Enquiries: Rene Watkin 786-1816**

SEVEN SEAS CLUB Thursday 4th October 7 for 7:30pm 'AN ORIENTAL EVENING' Carpet lecture auction & light suppe. Entrance R25 In aid of Anchors Away Village. **Enquiries : Fran Spencer-Smith 786-1321 or Sue at 7865798.**

Full festival programme obtainable at all Peninsula Tourism Offices.

5. FRIENDS OF THE SIMON'S TOWN COASTLINE SUNDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER AT 9.30.A.M. Morning walk along the slopes of Swartkop, Simon's Town, to inspect the survival after the fire of *Serruria hirsuta*. **Meeting place: South end of Jan Smuts Drive via Harrington Rd. (next to Simon's Town School) Enquiries Ph. 786-3890**

WED 12TH SEPT AT 7.15 FOR 7.30 P.M. "History of the early Muslim Community in Simon's Town" Illustrated talk by Ms. Zainab (Patty) Davidson Curator/Co-owner Amlay House, Heritage Museum. **VENUE: Simon's Town Museum Hall, Court Rd., S.T. Enquiries 786-3890**

SATURDAY 15TH SEPT AT 9.30 A.M. International Coastal clean-up Day. We will Concentrate on the northern part of the Simon's Town coastline. **VENUE: Glencairn station. Simon's Town Enquiries: Ph. 786-3890 or 786-3562**

SATURDAY 22ND SEPT. AT 9.30 A.M. Combined Alien Vegetation Hack with Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group near Woodlands suburb. **VENUE: Entrance to Woodlands suburb, Da Gama Park, Simon's Town (via Dido Valley Rd.) Enquiries: 786-1620**

SUNDAY 23RD SEPT. AT 9.30 A.M. Combined All-day Walk with S.T. Flora Conservation Group to Brakkloofrant and Elsie's Peak to see spring flowers. **MEETING PLACE: Golconda Rd. Glencairn Heights. Enquiries 789-1443 NOTE: BRING SUITABLE CLOTHING FOR CHANGEABLE WEATHER FOR OUTDOOR EVENTS AND SOMETHING FOR TEA AND LUNCH ON ALL-DAY WALKS.**

6. SIMON'S TOWN COUNTRY CLUB Junior Penguin classic - 4 Ball Better Ball Stableford Fund-raising golf competition at S.T. Golf Club on **30th Sept** R80 per senior player (Breakfast & lunch included) **Book at S.T. Golf Club 786-1233**

7. THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2001 An evening of light opera at The Meeting Place R100 per ticket. **Contact Olivia/Debbie 786 1986**

Deadline for October Edition Friday 22 September 2001

Next Publication: 1 October 2001

Contact Sue Sturman 786 5798 or 786 2436 for forthcoming events only - payment for Snoektown calling will no longer be accepted at these premises.