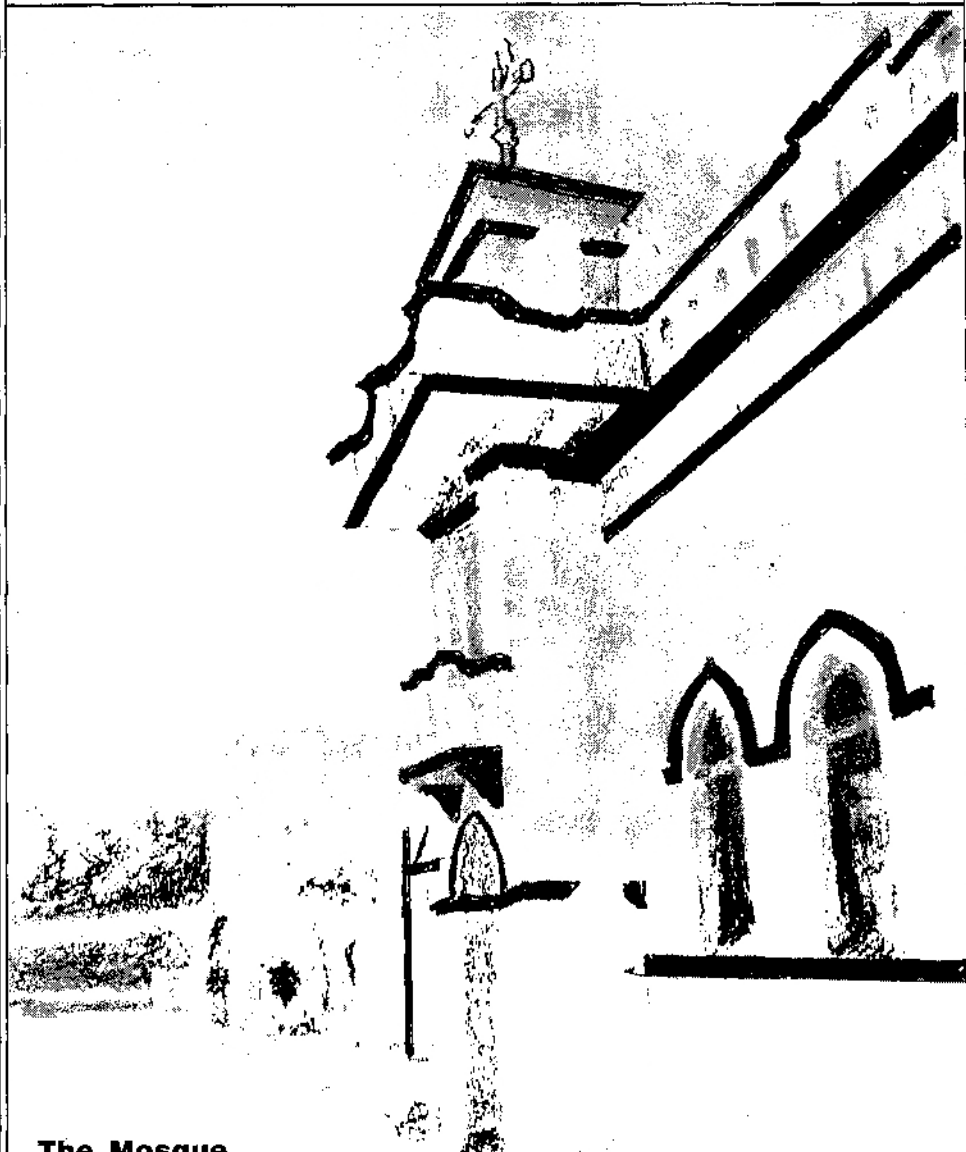


SNOEKTOWN *CALLING*

Vol 4 Issue 8

4 February 2002



**The Mosque,
Simon's Town**

February Sponsor - Simon's Town Millennium Committee

The Nooral Islam Mosque

Religious services for the Moslem community were first held wherever there was accommodation.

1888 - An old house in Thomas Street was renovated for use as a place of worship.

1904 - A wooden minaret was erected and from there the Muezzin called the faithful to prayer.

1911 - The Moslem community bought the building.

1926 - The existing mosque was completed. Hadja Bakaar Manuel reported that it was a long and hard job and that voluntary labour and donations had to be relied on.

The Simon's Town Moslem community thanked all sections of the population of the town for their assistance and contributions towards the building of the Mosque. Its name "The Nooral Islam Mosque" means the Light of Peace.

THE MOSQUE ^{NOORUL ISLAM} ^{THE LIGHT OF PEACE}
AT SIMONSTOWN 1888
AT THE SERVICES WAS HELD IN AN OLD HOUSE
IN THOMAS STREET. PRIOR TO THIS TIME
THE SERVICES WAS PERFORMED IN DIFFERENT
PARTS OF THE TOWN, ~~WHICH~~ WERE. EVER
OPPORTUNITY ARISED TO OBTAIN LARGER
ACCOMODATION. THE HOUSE IN THOMAS STREET
WAS MADE FITABLE AND COMFORTABLE AS FAR
AS CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOWED. AS IT WAS NOT
ADVISABLE TO MAKE MUCH EXPENSES.

Simon's Town Mosque continues to be used by Moslem residents here and by those working in the area, even after the removal of most of its congregation out of the town, under the Group Areas Act of 1967.

This is the handwriting of HADJI BAKAAR MANUEL. The Imam goes on to describe, in some detail, the gradual building of the Mosque and ends with these words:

THE MOSLEM OF SIMONSTOWN WAS COMPELLED
TO ERRECT A SUITABLE BUILDING, THIS THEY
DID IN SIX MONTHS, BY HARD WORK, AND
COLLECTING FOR THE BUILDING FUND.
HADJIE BAKAAR MANUEL WAS SELECTED THE MANAGER AND
CHAMANAN OF THE NEW SCHOOL. THIS POST HE HELD, WITH
DISTINCTION UNTIL 1961 WHEN HE RETIRED. OWING TO
HIS HEALTH AND OLD AGE..

Editorial

First, the easy part: accolade to the Millennium Committee, for the highly successful New Year's Eve bash on Jubilee Square. Well done!! I was impressed by the very high proportion of young people and teenagers, probably the majority of the revellers, suggesting that they felt safe and secure due to the visible presence of uniformed police and security personnel, plus discipline at the entrance points. The venue, of course, is unique!

Now the difficult part: the furore about bus parking on Jubilee Square. Let's examine the principles involved: business in our CBD is difficult - indeed, it has never been easy; it's a battle to survive, never mind make handsome profits. The consensus among shopkeepers is that tour buses make a significant difference to turnover - so, more business is only better. To force buses to park in the Naval yard at Cole Point is nonsense and cannot ever work. Tour bus operators, and bus drivers in particular, will only park on Jubilee Square - let's

accept this as fact!

Now, if we decide that the businesses of the CBD should be given the opportunity of survival, then the remedy is simple: free access by tour buses to Jubilee Square. If we decide the contrary - NO BUSES - then we accept the awful consequences: regular business failure and empty premises. What price aesthetic ambience, that much touted myth.

Now finally: I am advised that Armscor is, or will be, taking over the Navy dockyard. Unfortunately I have had no response from Armscor HQ in Pretoria as to programme, objectives etc. of their management and development plans. Silence is all.

Cheers

Reg Loxton, Editor

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Down the Historical Mile

The Chairman of SLAP said: mense, this is the beginning of the New Year and we have important decisions to make. As a start, let's renew the things that weren't done:

1. A postbox in Union Street, especially for the ancient Simonites that have difficulty negotiating Wharf Street. Last time round the Postmaster said they couldn't put a postbox in Union Street: too close to the old Post Office.

Action: *Business Association.*

2. A gap in the dockyard wall in the Cole Point area, next to the pedestrian entrance, with a big sign: FREE PARKING.

Action: *Business Association.*

After all, a lot of work was done by Piet Pompies. Ja, Mr Chairman, said Piet Pompies; as Alderman Holiness recommended I went to the Library to study the mysterious Traffic Management Plan. Well, I looked all over the place, all day, but could

find nothing. In the end the Chief Librarian told me to move on or I'll get arrested for loitering. So, Mr Chairman, the moral is, if you want to keep something secret, put it in the Library!

Now mense, another very important matter: this thing called "Aesthetic Ambience", referring to Jubilee Square, on several occasions by Alderman Holiness, Mike Munnik, Wilf Nussey and others, and we don't know what it is!

It's a plant, said Clara Fijnbosch; all plants have two names. No! shouted Mientjie Boepens. It is a traditional koi dance - you know, a sort of tribal dance. She's heard of it being done at Riem-vas-maak the new capital of the Koi Volkstaat.

Rubbish, said Stoffel Boesman. It's a konfyt made from prickly pears, quite common in the Kakemas area, where the only plant that grows naturally in profusion is the prickly pear. Anyway, concluded the Chairman, it's a

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thing; better we ask aunt Constance Nienamer (from Wynberg) to work it out for us. Perhaps it's a kind of sport or card game.



*Our ambience is awef'ly aesthetic,
To defend it we wax quite frenetic.
Some would say it is rather pathological;
They think that it cloyes
but they don't know the joys
Of having an ambience aesthetical.*

Streetwalker

Snoektown Calling Supporters Club

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Margaret & Janet Cartwright - R50 per month

2. Associations

Nil

3. Corporate

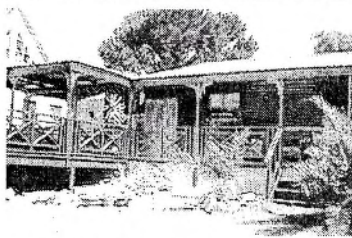
Simon's Town Millennium Committee - R2500

Seven Seas Club

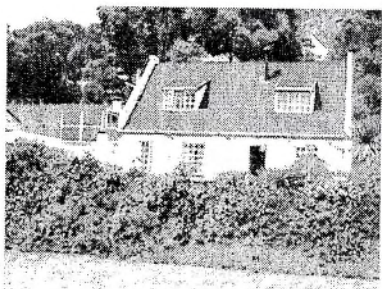
Members and guests attending the S.A. Army / Cape Town Highlanders Band Concert on Sunday 17 February are advised that hot dogs will be available at the Club prior to the concert and can be enjoyed on the premises or taken away, piping hot from the microwave, after enjoying pre-concert refreshments at the bar.



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Simon's Town Business Association

2001 was a difficult year for many businesses in Simon's Town. The economic slowdown has caused many consumers to curb their spending and this has had a negative result in our business community. Unfortunately we have seen businesses closing down or moving activities to their home base in order to curtail expenses and support themselves and their families.

In addition to the above problem, it became a major concern to the business sector to fund our local CPO (Community Police Officer). As the Business Association is the "employer" of our local CPO and responsible for his monthly salary, we have found and continue to find it very difficult to continuously raise the required funds each month. Many businesses do not contribute to the CPO fund for their own reasons, and no financial assistance is forthcoming from the other local associations.

Our CPO is not only for the benefit of the

Business Association, but also for the whole community of Simon's Town. He adds a measure of security and safety to our streets, which in turn benefits everybody, including residents. Every resident and business in Simon's Town is encouraged to help us support this worthy addition to our local SAPS, whose visible presence helps keep crime at bay. Any contribution, no matter how small will be welcome.

In an effort to generate funds for the CPO the Business Association has commenced work early this year to organise various fundraising events. Dr Reg Loxton presented one of these ideas to our meeting on 21 January. He suggested that a Section 21 company be formed to regulate parking in our town and to generate funds from this parking initiative. This idea was given full support by the members present at the meeting. Other fundraising initiatives were decided upon and the Association's calendar for 2002

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is as follows:

- 21 June - Fashion Show/Dance
- 21-25 September - Spring Fair Festival
- 31 December - End of year party
- February - Start of monthly breakfast club (We look forward to your support).

All of the above functions are designed to generate funds to support our CPO. *YOUR SUPPORT* will be highly appreciated. For information about or contributions to the above fund please contact our treasurer, Mrs H Fourie 786-1480.

Any information you may require regarding the Business Association - fax 786-3905.

Peter Johnson
Chairman

Simon's Town Millennium Committee

Income from the New Year's Eve Jubilee Square evening amounted to R146 727, including a bar profit of R19 646 and

R600 for the food stalls. Ticket sales amounted to R126 320 which means that 3158 tickets were sold.

Expenses for the evening amounted to R24 628, including the disco, security, toilets, publicity etc, a few outstanding accounts yet to be paid, so the Committee agreed that the figure of **R115 000** would be distributed in the following manner:

33.3% - To the Simon's Town Millennium Fund which will be used for the benefit of the Town.

33.3% - To the 5 organisations who organised the function: Simon's Town Museum, Simon's Town Publicity Association, Church of Sts Simon & Jude, Simon's Town Wesleyan Methodist Church and Simon's Town Civic Association.

33.3% - To be distributed to the following charities:

NSRI Station 10 - R6000; Simon's Town School - R5000; Snoektown Calling - R2500; False Bay Hospital R3000; Volunteer Ambu-

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lance Service - R2000; Red Hill Pre-Primary School - R2000; S/Town Community Police Forum - R3000; Happy Valley Home - R2000; St Luke's Hospice False Bay- R1000; Fish Hoek Assoc for the Welfare of the Elderly - R4000; Simon's Town Home Nursing- R500; Simon's Town Community School - R500; Anchors Away Village False Bay - R500; The Girl Guide Association W/Cape (Simon's Town) - R750; 2nd Simon's Town Cub and Sea Scout Group - R750; Simon's Town Community Police Officer (Donovan Roberts) - R1000; Bobby on the Beat (Marius Harmse) - R350.

The Millennium Committee would like to thank the South Peninsula Administration, particularly the officials and staff of the Traffic Department, Amenities and the Cleansing section for making this party possible.

Capt Du Pisanie and the SA Police Service, Simon's Town, who handled the security, are to be praised for the efficient and friendly manner in which they kept an eye on everything during the evening, reporting no seri-

ous complaints or incidents.

It was hard work for a lot of people but what a joy to be part of the Team working for the benefit of our Town and for various charities, churches and organisations not only in Simon's Town but also Fish Hoek, Glencairn and Red Hill.

Cherry Dilley
Chairman

Glencairn Heights Community Patrol Service

Chubb has launched its community patrol service with two patrol officers on bicycles and one in a patrol/reaction vehicle in the area for 24 hours, seven days a week.

We now have a fighting chance against crime, as our strategy is proactive and it provides a forceful form of resistance to any criminal. There is also a reactive component in the service in the form of the reaction ve-

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hicle and with both forms of policing supporting each other, we will have the competitive advantage over the criminals.

We will discuss with Chubb the possibility of incorporating surveillance into the service being provided by using the existing personnel. **Do you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can engineer this service to achieve maximum efficiency?**

We have united as a group in the fight against crime. The joint partnership, which is our strength, has to be maintained and built on and only then will we ever have a realistic chance of making Glencairn Heights a safe and secure area.

Take action, get involved, let's make a difference and not become victims of crime. Together we will make a difference. Please support the community patrol service.

Manu Choudree

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Classic Valentine's Concert

An auspicious and exciting concert featuring three British soloists - John Birch (organist of the Royal Albert Hall, London), Alexandra Bass (founder and director of Alibas, London) and Stephen Roberts (one of Britain's foremost concert and oratorio baritones) will take place at St Francis Anglican Church, Simon's Town on Thursday 14 February at 7:30pm.

They will perform with musicians from Concerts Four-by-Two, a baroque ensemble directed by the well known harpsichordist Shirley Gie and led by Lucia Scott from the Philharmonic Orchestra.

Among the works to be performed will be two works by JS Bach, the Double Harpsichord Concerto in D Minor and the Cantata "Ich habe Genug". The Concerto for Flute by CPE Bach will also be played.

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The Meeting Place (786-1986) and the Quarterdeck (786-3825) in Simon's Town will put on a special pre-concert supper from 6pm, booking essential by Tuesday 12 February. Tickets R40, unreserved, are available from Simon's Town Pharmacy (786-2133) or AP Jones. Don't miss a musical treat in the beautiful Church of St Francis of Assisi with its rare acoustics. For info call **Juliet Bass on 786-2362**. **NB:** those who received a pink slip with info from Simon's Town Museum and Historical Society - the date stated was *incorrect*.

Simon's Town Civic Association

Marine Oil Refinery: The developers of the defunct factory property in Dido Valley will have an open afternoon from 3pm to 7pm on Thursday, February 7, to tell all about the mall, townhouse complex, abalone and oyster farm, craft centre and various other facilities they plan there. If you want to learn or have something to say, be there.

The STCA's half-year general meeting will be in the Town Hall at 7pm on Wednesday, February 27.

The Navy Festival in March will include an event guaranteed to raise the hair: a downhill extreme mountain-bike race in which some 15 top world riders will compete, with TV recording the thrills and spills. One of the routes being mooted is the steep and rough Old Red Hill Road. Parachutes may be in order.

Now, some general news:

The first formal return of apartheid-seized property to its original owners was made in the Town Hall on December 17. The properties are in Cardiff and Waterfall roads. This is a highly significant event marking the righting of a cruel political wrong.

The STCA's representative on the Simon's Town Trust is now Dirk van Niekerk, an engineer whose Committee portfolio is roads and traffic. He replaces Dr Reg Loxton, who has

Join us on the
14th February
for Dinner before the
“Classic Valentine’s Concert”
at St Francis Church in
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Booking for dinner essential,
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We are offering:

- Meze Platter - selection of dips, quiche, salad and Mediterranean samoosas
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stepped down. The Trust exists to assist the
elderly.

Good news for Da Gama Park residents and
those of Glen Marine and Glencairn is that
Vodacom and Ericsson have withdrawn their
applications to erect cellphone transmitter
masts in those areas respectively. Experts say
the masts are harmless but there is still wide-
spread public fear that they issue harmful
radiation.

Our indefatigable Jacky Weaver reports that
the Glencairn Vlei is at last showing signs of
proper attention and improvement after con-
siderable neglect and waste of money. A
pathway around the vlei, an attractive and
important wetland and bird site, has been
cleaned up. Attractive new signs have been
erected. Research shows the water entering
and leaving it is adequately clean. The vlei is
now part of a project to clear alien vegeta-
tion from all wetlands in the South Peninsula
catchment area and plant indigenous flora.

Municipal law enforcement officers will be
asked to launch a blitz on estate agents plac-
ing their signs on Jubilee Square, which is
forbidden.

There has been some confusion over the
new, extended parking area at **Seaforth
Beach**. Initially it was decided there should
be no parking fees. Local people disagreed
and now parkers will have to pay. New toi-
lets will be built there and the old unsavoury
block pulled down. The old pump house has
also been condemned.

Resettlement: At last, says Councillor
Holderness, there is movement in the plan
to develop **Dido Valley** for resettlement by
the Red Hill squatter community and for eco-
nomic and affordable housing for people
working in Simon's Town, mainly Navy em-
ployees.

The City Council has appointed a project di-
rector, Mr Martin Harris, whose task is to pull
together all the loose strings surrounding the
project, identify sources of money and de-

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SPECIALS

velopers, and by March submit a full package to the council to act on.

Still to be sorted out are the claims of tenants of the former **Luyolo** housing on the slopes above Simon's Town waste depot. They have lodged a community claim. Some want land in the middle of Simon's Town, some want land elsewhere, some want money. They have to achieve resolution by March next year.

Also awaiting resolution are claims to portions of land on top of **Red Hill**. It is complicated by municipal ownership of the land, the existence of a public road through there and the surrounding presence of the Cape Peninsula National Park. The Land Claims Court will be involved and settlement could take a long time.

Wilf Nussey

Ward Councillor's Report

The Editor has asked me to give an update on the Land Restitution process in relation to Simon's Town.

In 1994 the government passed The restitution of Land Rights Act. The Act defined the qualifications for claims. It also established a Land Claims court which reviews each case and establishes the final settlement of the claim. In addition to the Act, the Constitution also endorses such land tenure reform.

Those who qualify for restitution are individuals, communities and their descendants who, because of racially discriminatory laws in the past, lost their land rights on or after 19 June 1913. Obviously this includes the Group Areas Acts of 1950 and 1966. Tenants also can qualify.

Another condition of restitution was that claims had to be lodged by 31 December 1998. Each claim is then investigated to establish if it qualifies and then to negotiate a settlement with the claimant. It is important to remember that the claim is against the State and not against the current private property owner. Restitution can take the form of:

- Restoration of the land of which the claimant was disposed.
- Provision of alternative land.



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- Payment of compensation.
- Alternative relief comprising a combination of the above.
- Priority access to government housing and land.

When Simon's Town was declared a white Group Area half the population of that time was forced to move elsewhere. Certain of these former residents have applied for restitution in terms of the Act; many have not. Some have felt that it was an abortive process, some did not know about the process and some have died.

The process itself has been long drawn out, complex, bureaucratic and exceedingly painful. Finally however, certain claims were resolved at the end of last year.

Properties in Cardiff Road and in Waterfall Road are to be returned to their original owners. These properties are currently owned by the State and have lain derelict since the then Department of Community development bulldozed the houses. The erven have all been re-surveyed by Public Works Depart-

ment. They will have to be rezoned and subdivided and I understand that PWD will assist the Land Claims Commission in this process.

Certain claimants preferred to be paid some financial compensation in lieu of land restitution. This has been done in some cases. A community claim has been lodged by the former residents and tenants of what was called Loyola Location (situated on the steeply sloping land in the kloof above the bus depot.) Resolution of this claim is taking some time as the claimants have not yet formulated the final conditions of settlement supported by all.

In terms of the transfer of the State and in Dido Valley to the local authority (still not finalised) land claimants must have an opportunity to access housing in this area.

Another outstanding claim and one that has considerable implications, is that of former residents of Red Hill. This refers to the area behind the old General Botha Camp. This large section of land is owned by the local

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authority but is surrounded by National Park property. It does not have any services and is primarily in what is identified as the water catchment area.

It is my understanding that the Land Claims Commission has been instructed to speed up the resolution of claims and it is hoped that by March of this year that all of Simon's Town claims will be resolved.

It is of concern to me that there has not been better liaison in the past between central, provincial and local government in respect of Land and Restitution Claims in Simon's Town and the settlement of the claims in regard to allocation of land. What is necessary is a co-ordinated approach with opportunities for cross-subsidisation and a proper assessment of service infrastructure. A meeting was held with the Minister of Public Works in this regard but nothing has come of that. Simon's Town offers an opportunity for a harmonious and appropriate development in resolution of Land Claims.

Alderman Nicki Holderness

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From the Bosun's Chair

Christmas has been and gone as has new year. Come to think of it, so has January. More frightening is the fact that we have only some 275 shopping days to Christmas so get out there and start shopping.

On the home front we are experiencing some strange weather patterns for this time of year. More wind from the North, North-west and West with above average rainfall for what is our midsummer where the South East Tradewind should be blowing almost **non-stop** (heaven help us).

Water temperatures in False Bay are presently 21° - 33° which is way over the average of 16° for this time of year. With it has come above average catches of Chokka, Kabeljou and Geelbek. The latter in larger numbers than in the last 15 years or so. Even the kelp beds in the Bay are receding as kelp is a cold water loving plant.

Cape Point is also alive at the moment with Yellowtail, Katonkel and small Tuna being

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abundant. Katonkel have also not been caught in large numbers for years in this area and are most welcome. Yellowfin Tuna as well as the Longfin Tuna have disappeared temporarily, maybe not liking the warm water.

On the yachting front there is a sudden rush of world cruising yachts visiting Simon's Town. Over two days recently we had seven new arrivals looking for berths at False Bay Yacht Club. National flags of France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Australia, Britain and more stand out proudly in the stiff breeze. Most fall instantly in love with Simon's Town and surrounds and we have had cruisers staying over almost a year. Naturally they are an asset to Simon's Town, spending their money in the area which for them is great with the Rand being so weak. Only recently a Brit remarked that a beer here was costing him 29p and a meal for two a mere £3.50 and that included a bottle of wine. A packet of fish and chips wrapped in traditional newspaper in the UK costs more than that, £4.00 I am told and that as a take-away.

Property Watch No 35

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

- 1.1 **Erf 60 Simon's Town:** (Land Use Departure application on behalf of Waldorf Schools. No change from Report No.34.
- 1.2 **Erf 2298 Simon's Town** (Boulders Beach Guest House): Application to re-zone from General Residential to Business. No change from Report No.34.
- 1.3 **Erf 1180,198 Queens Road, Simon's Town:** Application for a Land Use Departure to convert Residential House to Medical practice. No change from Report No.34.
- 1.4 **Erf 95 Cairnside:** Application to subdivide into portions. No change from Report No 34.
- 1.5 **Erf 625 Simon's Town** (Military Way, Bayview). Application to subdivide into

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two portions without formal road access to one erf. No change from Report No.34.

1.6 Erf 2212 Glencairn Heights: Application for Bed & Breakfast establishment. No change from Report No.34.

1.7 Erf 2464 Forest Hill: Application for subdivision into two parts. No change from Report No.34.

1.8 Erf 3590 Simon's Town (Quarry Road): Application for proposed rezoning, subdivision and departures change of zoning from general residential to single residential for five dwellings (attached) and 7 additional garages. Surrounding owners have requested certain conditions which have been accepted by the new owner. No change from Report No.34.

1.9 Erf 3477 Simon's Town (Goede Gift): Application for the proposed subdivision into four portions. Access to the site is proposed by means of a driveway excavated over municipal erf 941 and ramped over Quarry Lane down to a level 3m. above the site (existing steps connecting

Quarry Lane to Goede Gift to be replaced contiguous to the ramp. No change from report No 34.

1.10 Erf 30, (50 Fairbairn Street, Glencairn Heights): Application for departure from height restriction. No change from report No 34.

1.11 Erf No 4403 Simon's Town (88 Dorries Drive) Application for departure from single residential, to convert existing accommodation into "granny flat" and to reduce building line from 4.5 to 1m. No change from report No 34.

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.34.

2.2 CFM 1404 Wildschutsbrand Farm; Application for Land Use Departure for the establishment of a restaurant and tea garden, an African arts and craft market and overnight accommodation. No change from Report No.34.

2.3 Erven 2204 Glencairn Heights; 3321 Glen Marine: Applications by Ericsson S.A. to permit the installation of Cellular Communication Base Stations and Antennas in Golconda Street and Seemeu Street. Application withdrawn, matter now closed.

2.4 Erf 3333 and 3117, Simon's Town: The offer of R81 000 for Erf 3333 was withdrawn and the property is still open for sale. No change from Report No 34.

2.5 Vodacom application to erect cellular transmitter mast in Da Gama Park. Application withdrawn, matter now closed.

Eve Leggatt

False Bay Chess Club

"Sweet Lord, you play me false". From a game of chess in Shakespeare's The Tempest. No such dirty play at False Bay Chess Club, despite its name. Monday meetings at 8pm in the Fish Hoek library hall.



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News from ST Naval Base

2001 has come and gone with many milestones being achieved. The arrival of the Type 351 minesweepers, a successful Navy Festival with phenomenal support from the community, the Naval Ladies Association's numerous successful fundraising events of which the proceedings went to the community, to mention but a few.

2002 looks very promising and we need you, our most avid supporters to continue your support to ensure that we are able to meet some of the milestones ahead.

We've started the year with a bang with the Navy Band's trip to Germany, the Change of Command of the SA Naval College and the SAS GALESHEWE.

The Navy celebrates its 80th birthday this year and what better way to do so than at the Navy Festival. This year the festival is scheduled for 22 - 24 March and we want you to become an integral part of the festival. Please feel free to make suggestions and recommendations on ways to improve the event. It is after all your festival too.

Fortunately this year the Navy Festival coincides with ATLASUR V and we look forward to ships from Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay being on display.

In line with the President's theme "The year of the volunteer", we are trying to reinforce the concept of volunteering by encouraging our personnel to contribute towards improving their environment and to make a positive impact on the community they serve. The Annual "Clean Up Day" is scheduled for September this year and we look forward to getting together with the people of the Town to contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment.

Once again we would like to thank you for your support over the years and look forward to continued strong relations in the future.

Calendar of Events: 3 March: Join the SA Navy Band for a concert in the Admiralty House Gardens at 16:00 on Sunday 3 March. Tickets cost R50,00 per person. You are encouraged to bring picnic baskets and enjoy the music in the magnificent gardens. Enquiries: Lt Cdr Lisa Hendricks on 787 3827.

16 March: The Navy ball will once again be held aboard the SAS OUTENIQUA. Tickets cost R350,00 per couple. Enquiries: Karen Knight on 787 3860.

20 March: The Navy Band Dry-dock Concert. Entry free. Bring your family and enjoy an evening of music with the SA Navy Band.

22 - 24 March: The Navy Festival Ships open to the public, gun run and mast displays, Jensen swim, band concerts, dog shows and lots more. Enquiries Karen Knight on 787 3860.

24 March: Church service. A multi-denominational church service will be held in the Dockyard at 10:00 on Sunday 24 March. Enquiries: Lt Cdr Linda Hendricks on 787 4129.

Change of Command Parade: SAS GALESHEWE: Commander Mickey Girsra handed over command of the SAS GALESHEWE to Commander Andries Uys at a Change of Command Parade held in the SA Naval Dockyard on Monday 21 January 2002.

Cdr Girsra joined the Navy in 1983 and has served in a variety of capacities such as radar operator, Gunnery Officer, Weapons Officer and Operations Officer, before being appointed Officer Commanding SAS GALESHEWE.

He maintains that being in command of a strike craft is the best job in their world.

"The experience of command was definitely worth the 16-year period which I served prior to that onboard various of the other strike craft in Durban and in Simon's Town."

Cdr Uys joined the Navy in 1988 and served as Navigator, Weapons Officer and Operations Officer onboard various strike craft. Prior to his appointment as Officer Commanding SAS GALESHEWE, he served as Staff Officer Warfare Systems at Fleet Force Prepa-

ration. He is very excited about his new appointment and looks forward to a rewarding period as Officer Commanding. We wish him fair seas and God speed.

SANDF to participate in Peacekeeping Exercise in Tanzania: Two South African ships carrying Army, Air Force and Medical Health Service contingents aboard, will depart for Tanzania next week to participate in a multi-national peace-keeping exercise. The exercise is scheduled to take place in Tanga Bay, off Dar-Es-Salaam, over the period 11 - 24 February.

The South African participants comprising 309 personnel include: SA Navy - Combat Support Ship SAS Outeniqua, Durban based Strike Craft SAS Adam Kok, Inshore Patrol Vessel (IPV) Tobie, Two Harbour Patrol Boats and an Operational Diving Team. The SA Army, with a company HQ and an Infantry Platoon, the SA Air Force with an Oryx helicopter and the SA Medical Health Services with two medical teams will be on

board the SAS Outeniqua.

The SANDF contingent will arrive in Dar-Es Salaam on 7 February where they will be joined by sixteen SADC countries in addition to Kenya. France will co-ordinate and supervise the training in Dar-Es Salaam prior to the exercise. The exercise will be conducted in accordance with a United Nations mandate and in compliance with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Donor countries include France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The goals of the exercise are to share among participating nations experience gained in peacekeeping operations; to develop regional co-operation in the field of peacekeeping; to demonstrate political willingness to contribute to peacekeeping; to enhance friendly relations between participating countries.

The main objective is to make up, conduct

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and monitor a peacekeeping capability with the support of other nations.

Those interested in monitoring the progress of the SANDF contingent can do so on the website simonstown.com while emails can also be forwarded to the SAS Outeniqua via webmaster@simonstown.com

Navy Band Tour to Germany: The South African Navy Band departed for Germany on Sunday January 20, 2002 for a two-week tour to participate in an International Music Show. They will conduct concerts in Bremen; Hamburg; Neubrandenburg; Oeynhausen; Bünde; and Dortmund.

The tour, including air tickets and accommodation was sponsored by private businesses in Germany on the initiation of Horst Jakat of the Bünde Shanty Choir. This is the first international tour for the entire band and the members are extremely excited about the opportunity to travel and meet other musicians from around the world. Thus far 35 000 tickets have been sold for the concert in Bremen.

The Navy Band's various repertoire includes marching music, big brass, jazz, African marimba drums, kudu horns and a variety of African songs. They perform songs in six languages including English, Afrikaans, three African languages and now German too. They are truly representative of South Africa's rainbow nation. The band conducts music training programmes in Ocean View, Site 5 and Nyanga in order to encourage the youth to expend their time and effort in music rather than destructive habits. Their community development programme has been highly successful thus far and they hope to expand it to greater heights in 2002.

The public are invited to join the Navy band for an evening of music at Admiralty House Gardens, Simon's Town on Sunday 3 March, R50,00 per person. People are encouraged to bring a picnic basket, sit back, relax and enjoy the music in the beautiful gardens.

Neighbourhood Watch - Simon's Town

As the new chairman of the Simon's Town Neighbourhood Watch (NW) I have been asked to say something about what NW is doing in our area and how we can all make it more effective. Perhaps also to give regular reports on how we are assisting our SAPS.

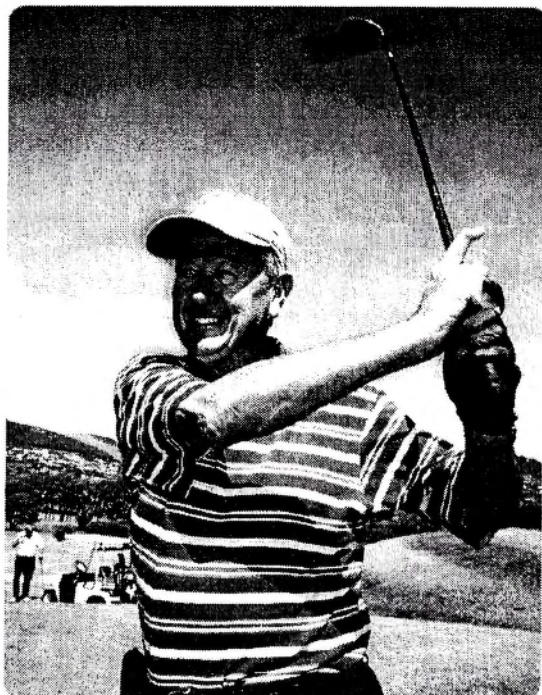
The Simon's Town SAPS serve a very large area extending from the CBD to Cape Point, through Scarborough to Glencairn, Welcome Glen and Glencairn Heights with responsibility for the public areas of Da Gama Park. The Military Police take care of the naval property in Da Gama Park. NW operates in all areas except Welcome Glen, Glencairn and the CBD.

Weekends and public holidays are busy times for our local station. This is when, for example, the SAPS could use volunteer switchboard operators to free up staff for call out duties. NW could recruit residents to assist here.

We all know that the role of NW is to be the eyes and ears of the police and this is indeed done with a measure of success. A greater awareness is needed among residents as to how they can assist the SAPS and this will be the theme of these articles.

Presently they are looking to recruit and train 10 police reservists to make a total of 14. If you are younger than 60 years and are reasonably fit, prepared to do a minimum of 8 hours work per month, you could be eligible. It would be ideal if each suburb had their own reservist on the spot and in regular contact with the SAPS. This reservist would be able to train us all in how to make the NW system work to maximum efficiency. Communication is a good start. In 2 areas there are already NW newsletters being distributed on a monthly basis. In this way contact is maintained, interest is raised in local issues and the area starts to become a community.

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Crime is not the only issue addressed by NW. For instance in Simon's Town fire is a very real concern and needs co-operation of all the residents.

In some NW areas residents have taken on the responsibility of monitoring the supply of essential services such water and electricity, sewage, roads and side walks, squatter control and of course fire control. In this manner of labour division more people get involved and things get done.

In the area of Simonskloof for instance by working with the SPM and Unicity 4 new fire hydrants have been installed, 3 repaired, damage to roads repaired and the Parks Board, Fire Dept and SPM are working with the residents to keep the area safe from any future fire threat. More about all this next month.

Ian Howse
786-1442

Charity Art & Craft Show

The 2002 show will be held **21 - 24 March**; the venue is still to be finalised. Due to relatively poor door receipts at the last show in December 2000 it has been decided to stage the show at the same time as the Navy Festival. Entry forms will be posted to all past participants and will be available at the Simon's Town Library from 7 February. Entry is limited to artists/crafters who live or work in the Simon's Town area. For more info call Cameron 786-2223.

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

JANUARY 2002

The Americans may celebrate Thanksgiving on the last Thursday of November but for Station 10 this month is a time of thanksgiving to all those members of the greater public that support us so generously in our many boat collection boxes placed at strategic points at restaurants and shops throughout

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the South Peninsula and to those shop and restaurant owners and owners of other businesses that are prepared to allow us to place our boats on their counters and who so loyally support the Reg Hopkins boat collection on behalf of Station 10. We at Station 10 salute you all!!

To all those generous folk who supported our Christmas cake raffle, knowing that the chances of winning the cake were fairly remote. To all those wonderful ladies that passed the raffle lists around and to some Simon's Town shop owners i.e Salty Sea Dog, At Ease, Simon's Town Pharmacy and Simon's Town Hardware as well as the Central Hotel that had the lists on their counters go our heartfelt thanks and so too to the senior citizen residents of Carlisle Lodge in Fish Hoek who so whole heartedly supported our cause. The cake raffle realised R1400.00 thanks to Mrs Vivian Beaumont who made the beautiful cake and donated it to our cause. The lucky winner was Sandy Niedermeyer of the British Hotel who had never won anything before. Well done and thanks for your support! We commiserate with all of you who did not win, we thank you for your support and wish you better luck next time.

Station 10 personnel are also very grateful to the organisers of the New Year's Eve Party on Jubilee Square, the Millennium Committee, for the very generous donation given to Station 10 for providing a presence on Jubilee Square to give medical support for that event.

Station 10 is also heavily indebted to the Beaumont family for the further generous donation given after their wedding anniversary celebration where the proceeds from various competitions were also donated to our cause. We are most grateful to Dave and Vivian for their continued loyal support thank you both so much.

We also thank Mr. John Hanson- Moore of Express Gifts in Fish Hoek for his very generous donation of R1298.63 which was a portion of the firm's profit for the year 2001.

Station 10 is grateful for all the above amounts which will go towards the necessary replacement of the 5 metre surf rider craft and the much used 4x4 Mobile ambulance and radio listening post vehicle. These valuable items of equipment although well maintained, run and looked after need to be replaced by more up-to-date equipment in order that Station 10 retains a viable and vital ready presence.

There comes a time in any well oiled organisation that to lose well trained personnel is a sadness which creates a gap which is very hard to fill. Such is the case now at Station 10 with the loss of two well trained personnel who are about to embark on a journey into life together and who will go overseas for a few years. They are Jane van der Riet and Christopher Myers.

Whilst we all wish them the greatest happiness in their journey together we are very sad to lose them as trained crew and very special friends. We sincerely hope you will return to us someday in the future both yourselves and some new crew members. Bon voyage!!

So far this summer our work load has been light and whilst we are grateful for the respite and we are happy that John Citizen is not getting into great difficulties at sea, the apparent lack of calls is disquieting. However the calls we received were speedily dealt with.

On the 28th of December 2001 red flares were sighted in False Bay in the near vicinity of Millers Point. The "Spirit of Freemasonry" launched at 13:19 and reached the casualty at 13:29. The casualty was a fishing vessel which had lost engine power. The vessel was towed to Kalk Bay Harbour without mishap. Darren Zimmerman was the boat coxswain and Dave Roberts drove the 4x4 mobile. On the same day the mobile attended a call to a diving accident at Windmill Beach. The patient was given oxygen and handed over to Ambulance personnel and then proceeded to Kalk Bay to assist with the other casualty.

On the 19th of January the mobile went out to attend a possible drowning at Seaforth Beach. A search carried out by a diver proved to be negative and the Mobile returned to Base.

Again on the 19th of January a call from Port Captain Cape Town that a hobycat and Rubber duck were in trouble in Fish Hoek Bay. After a telephone call to Fish Hoek Sailing Club it was ascertained that a hobycat was holed and leaking but was under tow by Fish Hoek Surf Lifesavers and was 100 metres off the beach. No boat was launched.

On the 20th of January at 14:10 we were paged by Port Control with respect to a hobycat that was capsized off Clovelly and drifting onto rocks. We telephoned the observer who said that a rubber-duck was on the scene. Mobile 4x4 was dispatched but when it got to the scene the hoby was up and sailing.

One or two medical calls were attended to over this period. On the 25th of January at 17:30 a call was received via Port Control that five swimmers were seen to be in difficulty in the fairly rough sea off Boulders Beach. "Spirit of Freemasonry" launched at 17:45 with Coxswain Lee Adcock at the helm. The Rescue Craft reached the area but could not close the swimmers due to rough sea condition. The cox'n was then told that most of the swimmers were ashore but he never the less put two swimmers in the water. They patrolled the area but found nothing and then were told by the mobile crew (Chops Craig) that the swimmers (all girls) were ashore and wondered if they would get their names in the press as by now units of Paramedics and Ambulance Services and N.S.R.I. had come to their assistance. But all was well and the units returned to base. The summer still stretches ahead and things may yet occur at sea. Just see that you are not mentioned in despatches.

Yours aye!

Don Dollery

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Glencairn Festival - To Celebrate a Centenary of Development

A schedule of events for New Year's Eve Wednesday 31st December 2003 and New Year's Day Thursday 1st January 2004, already includes many exciting activities for all the family.

One hundred years ago the Glencairn valley was very different from today. The railway had only recently been built to Simon's Town. A glass works would soon be built on land adjoining a railway spur up the valley. Higher up the valley there was Welcome Cottage and its corn mill and bakery on the banks of the Else River and one or two other houses elsewhere in the valley.

The modern development really started with the sale of 56 plots of land in November 1901. Thereafter the foundation stone of the church was laid in 1903 and Hotel Glencairn, as it was originally called, opened for business in 1904. The community really

began with the opening of these public buildings.

It seems appropriate therefore to celebrate the valley's hundred years of history and development, hence 'The Glencairn Festival'.

This advanced announcement is to invite anyone who has either lived in, or has a story about Glencairn Valley to please contact us. We hope to compile any interesting personal stories in a memorial book that will also include an overview of the history of the valley, and stories of today's residents.

If you yourself or anyone you know elsewhere in South Africa or overseas could contribute a story or anecdote which would add to our historical heritage, please contact the committee on fax: 021 782 2321, or email justnuisance@intekom.co.za

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Clr N Holderness thanking Ernest Nel & Charmaine Philander for their hard work during the holiday season, particularly over the New Year weekend.

ERNEST NEL, who you must have seen regularly beaver away on Jubilee Square with his portable bin and brooms, wearing his red beret with its many badges and his Simon's Town T-Shirt, deserves to be mentioned for his loyal service to the Town. He has worked here for the past 10 years, first for Simon's Town Municipality and then for what is now the South Peninsula Adminis-

tration. He has always been in charge of the Square and takes great pride in keeping it neat and tidy. There used to be 4 street cleaners dedicated to Simon's Town - now we only have Ernest.

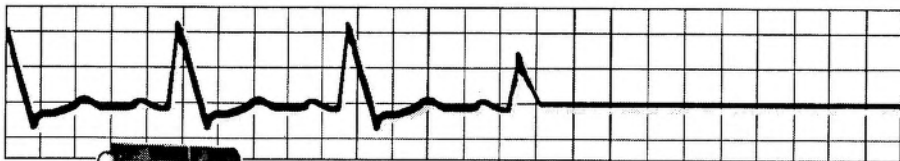
Whenever there is a function like the New Year's Eve Party, Band Concerts, or Just Nuisance Day, Ernest willingly assists the organizers with additional chores like putting out the chairs, or washing them if they are dirty.

For the past four New Year's Eve functions Ernest has helped for the whole day on the 31st, right through the night, clearing up the mess, and then again on New Year's day because as he says - he must make sure the Square is properly cleaned!

Thank you Ernest for your diligence and loyalty to Simon's Town.

CHARMAINE PHILANDER has been employed as a casual by the SPA for the past 11 years. She joined Ernest at the beginning of December and worked the same

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long hours over New Year - our thanks to you as well Charmaine.

If you see them on the Square, wearing their new Just Nuisance T-Shirts, give them a wave and a smile - they deserve it!

News from Doc van in UK

Dear Patients and Friends

Greetings from a very cold England ! Arriving on the evening of 15 December, Peter Fewell's brother Father Michael welcomed me into their home in the west-end of London. Despite all the kindness, I could not help feeling slightly alone (ag shame) when I realised that I am very far from my beloved Simon's Town and my family. The next morning I could not help myself and tried out their church's lovely organ - what a pleasure.

The next day I commenced duties in Solihull and off course, the first patient I see in the UK, is a patient whom I saw in my surgery in Simon's Town 2 years ago - small world.

Since my stay this far, I am amazed at the things that make news in England. The train drivers are on strike because of a salary dispute. They are complaining about a £30,000 a year salary !! The doctors in the state sector earn £22,000 a year and teachers £21,000.

It seems that the UK is going through the same problems in medical financing as South Africa. The NHS is seemingly not doing well (they obviously have not experienced South Africa's) and many people are also opting for a private insurance (costing about R3500 per couple) - this excludes GP visits and medication (you have to wait in the Q at the NHS GP).

I felt that sickening well known feeling when I heard on the news that a young father of two small children was killed when he chased after thieves (trying to pinch his parents-in-law's car). Cell phone muggings also seem to be the in thing as well - sounds familiar does it not. I was shocked to find that

there were no dustbins on Birmingham station. Upon request as to what I should do with my Burger King waste, I was told to throw it on the floor. They do not allow bins due to bomb scares!? I think this Island is getting too small for all the people (and increasing numbers). I was also pleased to read that the schools are planning to bring in elocution lessons, since the children's verbal command of English is not keeping up with their written (no kidding!) - you can't understand half the time what the nurses want! About bloody time - don't you think Mr. Higgins? Still, England is a fascinating country with so much to offer, and a privilege indeed to be here. God save the queen! (especially this being her jubilee year).

I hope that my patients have become used to Rainer Gunzel. He is very levelheaded chap from Namibia originally. He is a good doctor, since he also studied at Stellenbosch. Rainer also did a diploma in anaesthetics and worked in the UK after that. He did a post-graduate degree in Homeopathy in Germany in 2001. So, besides being an excellent GP he can also make you eat flowers or put you to sleep. Now, behave yourself and be nice to him!!

I can most certainly do with a braai. Yes, I know that its only been 5 weeks but the boereblood runs thicker than red wine (I think ?) and the biltong and droewors "what" Trish gave me (to coin a term), is finished. See you in June and in the meantime, soak up some of that lovely sun for me.

Steven van der Merwe

The Liquor Licence Saga

A recent editorial in Snoektown suggested that the STCPF should comment on the liquor license at the new bottle store adjacent to the Glencairn 711. At the outset we agree that the process was less than satisfactory, but as you will see the circumstances were unusual.

To begin with the license was not a new one. It was an existing one, transferred from within

Simon's Town to the new store, within the same police precinct. This limits the legal power of the police to refuse to approve the license, unless there is concrete evidence to justify objections. Such evidence would need to be produced in court. In the case of a new license the police would advertise the application for objections. We feel quite strongly that notwithstanding the fact this was a transfer, the police should have published the fact, and they have undertaken to do so in future, although they are not legally required to do so. There are also not likely to be many recurrences of this nature, but if there are, we are assured that the issue will be made public in good time.

The statement that the issue is now a fait accompli is not correct. If any person has evidence that the liquor laws are being transgressed, or that a nuisance has been created, they should report it to the police (Inspector Store) who will investigate and take appropriate action. It is also not true to say nothing more can be done, but please be aware it is not enough just to say you don't want the bottle store there. In order to oppose it, the police require genuine, solid offence of transgressions. To our knowledge no such reports have been made to date.

Whilst it is true that the public airing of this matter was late, it was not too late by any means. The STCA conducted a poll which I believe resulted in some sharply divided opinion, but no concrete facts on which to base objections. The STCPF debated the issue at their public forum in February 2001, at which Inspector Store related the situation as I have described it above. These facts were minuted. Subsequently an erroneous article appeared in a local newspaper, stating that the STCPF had no objection to the new store. What is true is that the CPF had no grounds for objection, but did not by any means convey its approval. The matter was then raised again at the public forum, and at the CPF Exco, where the police reiterated their position, that there were no grounds to intervene, but they would do so if substantiated reports of transgressions were to be made. That remains the situa-

tion.

Sponsored Police Car: There have been some rumblings in the community about the use to which the sponsored police car is being put. It is possible that this stems from the original proposal, that the Community Police Officer would use the car for patrol work.

There are a number of reasons why this has not occurred. Understandably, Nicky Thorp, who has made the car available at no cost to the community, has insisted that in order for a replacement to be forthcoming, it must be returned after 12 months in good condition and should not therefore be used for patrol work. Furthermore police regulations prohibit the CPO from driving a police vehicle, and in any event, the police insist that the CPO continue to be employed in the CBD. The CPO is funded largely, by the business community to police the CBD, where he has been extremely vigilant and successful. One has to agree that to put him in a car would defeat the object of the exercise.

In these circumstances the STCPF decided that the Simon's Town Station Commissioner, Captain du Pisanie, should use the car in place of the vehicle that he previously used. This released his previous vehicle for general patrol work in support of the other vehicles available to the police. Those are the facts, and we believe that this generous donation has materially assisted our local police.

Even were we not bound by the contract between Thorp Delta and the SAPS, it is likely we would have chosen to deploy this vehicle in this way. It makes good sense, and the net result is an additional vehicle for patrol work, which is precisely what we wanted to achieve. We might add that it is the responsibility of the police to deploy men and materials in the way they consider most advantageous to the fight against crime, but the CPF are keenly aware that the police need to be seen to be making the best use of the personnel and equipment that is pro-

vided by public subscription or donation.

We trust that this explanation, which was offered to the public forum recently in reply to a question from the floor, will clarify the position.

End of Year Braai: It was unfortunate that the braai clashed with a number of other events on the chosen day, but it is obviously impossible to avoid that on a Saturday in December. Nonetheless we were disappointed that so few members of the community came along to have a beer and a braai with our policemen and women, although the turn out was definitely better than previous years. Particular thanks are due to Neil Grant (great to see you back in good health and good spirits, Neil) and Johan Fourie (our Sheriff) for the liquid refreshments they provided, to Andre Jacobsz of Simon's Town Bottle Store for the containers and the ice, and to Cdr.(Ret) Charlie van der Merwe of the 7Eleven, who donated the rolls. Thanks are extended to all those mem-

bers of the public who did put in an appearance. Our police force was there in strength; supported by spouses and partners, and a number of the younger generation. Reports indicated that they all enjoyed the occasion enormously. Finally thanks are due to the S. A. Navy for allowing us to use such a marvellous venue.

Low Cost Security in Glencairn Heights: Manu Choudree's tireless efforts in Glencairn have resulted in a proposal to provide 2 bicycle security men (Chubb), armed response and car patrols, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; this at the small cost of R40 per household per month. We think that is excellent value, but still there are those who can't grasp that this is a cost we have to bear if we want security. After all the initial enthusiasm it will be interesting to see just how many people will support this initiative. If it is not supported it will fall over, and Glencairn Heights will be back where it started, until there is another outbreak of crime...



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Crime in Simon's Kloof: No less than ten cars broken into in one night, in Simon's Kloof alone; 21 in January in the entire police area. Why. To begin with a resident observed a suspicious car, clearly casing the place. A red car, CY plates, no number recorded; **but** reported **after** the crimes were committed. When are we going to get the community to believe that the police **want** to hear about your suspicions **before** the crime occurs? Capt. Du Pisanie believes we would have caught these guys if the information had come in, in time. We also hear that cars were carelessly left out when they could have been garaged. Simon's Kloof has probably the most active and effective Neighbourhood Watch, but clearly not effective enough. Or do you still think that it's purely a police problem? There are some good leads in these cases, and we hope we'll be reporting arrests soon.

ATM Thieves still targeting visitors: The facts are not yet fully available, but there is no doubt that the Business Association

sponsored CPO, Sergeant Donovan Roberts has yet again demonstrated commitment and resourcefulness beyond the normal call of duty. Off-duty, but hearing that there had been a crime committed in Simon's Town he went to the Long Beach Mall, and as luck would have it (as it always does when commitment is present) came across the persons who had recently relieved a tourist in Simon's Town of cash and credit card. Despite a smack on the head he succeeded in making an arrest and recovering R3000 and the credit card. You'll be hearing more about this, but in the meantime can we urge all the people who accommodate tourists in our area to advise them to be cautious at ATM's. We don't want to scare our tourists away but surely we have a responsibility to them. We are a little concerned by the attitude of the banks to this issue (not all of them), and we'll be addressing this issue in line with a heartfelt plea from Malinda Coetzee of the Central Hotel. The Business Association struggles to raise the funds to pay for our CPO, and really deserves your



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support. There are so many pleas for contributions these days, but this is one you simply cannot ignore – a crime free town is a crime free Simon's Town.

Serious Crime Rears its Head Again: So soon after the horrendous shooting in Murdoch Valley a crime which police think may be linked occurred in Thomas Street. A couple were followed home by three light brown complexioned men and accosted as they arrived. Jewellery was stripped from the lady concerned, but fortunately no injuries occurred. The armed men made their escape, but the police have some good leads to follow and after the recovery of a stolen car, are hopeful of early arrests. Are you alert to vehicles following you home? Are you aware of suspicious behaviour? Please be observant, and **please** tell the police.

Thanks to the Millennium Committee: At a recent function at the Museum the committee handed out various donations to community based organisations. The STCPF would like to congratulate Cherry Dilley and

her committee on the success of the Millennium Party, and extends its thanks for the generous donation.

Bobby on the Beat: We would like to hear some comment about our Bobby – we think he is doing a great job, and that Chubb need to be congratulated on a great innovation. They have promised some more protective body armour for our police force, and we really hope it will arrive soon. The recent killing of a detective in Fish Hoek has shocked us all, and we need to ensure that all our police personnel are properly protected. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of all police personnel killed in the line of duty, but especially to those who are so close to home. **Wake up Simon's Town; crime is here; let's fight it together.** Be alert, be observant, don't delay, don't be embarrassed; tell your police force about it.

Tony Robinson

False Bay Water Quality

Now that the festive season for day-trippers is over, perhaps discerning visitors who stay awhile – and ourselves – can enjoy less crowded beaches. Furthermore, it is very unlikely that our sea-water quality should not be as good as in previous years. This applies to the entire Cape Peninsula, whereby the values for faecal coliforms (e.g. *Escherichia coli* and *Enterococci* – faecal streptococci) to indicate bacterial pollution have long been generally well within accepted norms and standards. In fact, their compliance was comparable with the most stringent criteria of the European Union. This is a series of very tough "guideline" – rather than "mandatory" – tests off each popular bathing beach, in which 80% of samples must contain no more than 100 faecal coliforms per 100ml of sea water.

Here are values in our region for the October to March summer period from 1997 to 2001, as reported by the Cape Metropolitan Coastal Water Quality Committee. The asterisks indicate where they exceeded the

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limits: Glencairn 33-12-48-8-41, Long Beach 263*-262*-14-15-48, Seaforth Beach 18-109*-17-110*-43, Boulders Beach (this year) 48, Fisherman's Beach 14-4-2-8- <2 and Millers Point 8-12-30-4-4. For comparative purposes last summer, lowest values up the line were at Dalebrook Pool (8), Kalk Bay (8) and Kalk Bay Pool (4).

Although there have been "hiccups" at Long Beach and Seaforth, these could just as well be caused by a seal carcass as a faulty sewage line. Unfortunately, it takes only one brief instance of a high count to adversely effect the average annual figure. Although only indications, the highest values are still most acceptable by international standards. It should also be borne in mind that harmful pathogens seldom survive for long in sea-water. Nevertheless, we shouldn't swim immediately after rain near any storm-water outfall. This is because fresh faeces may be present in the runoff – and particularly from dogs, when walked by inconsiderate owners who don't carry scoop packets. Furthermore, swimming in the yacht basin is not a good idea, since

some rebel from this otherwise highly disciplined fraternity might flush his onboard toilet at the time.

During our rainy winter months, values can be expected to exceed the Water Quality Guideline (WQG) limit. Yet during the October 2000 to September 2001 period, all 40 sampling sites in False Bay passed the mandatory "95th percentile" test with flying colours. Even the stringent "80th percentile" test was only failed by a small margin at Muizenberg Station, Sonwabe and the Springbok Café sampling site at Melkbaai near Strand. The bacterial pollution problems off these three beaches are now being solved at source, just as they were at Kalk Bay.

There is also a report on the Mussel Watch Programme, which is organized by Marine & Coastal Management. Mussels are regularly collected from various sites and their tissue is examined for the presence of heavy metal contaminants. Traces of cadmium are only significant at Boulders, Buffel's Bay (of

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all places) and below the Simon's Town bus terminus. Strangely, the presence of zinc is just as significant at Boulders. Elsewhere, it is insignificant and this also applies to copper and lead. Unfortunately, figures for the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons are not yet available, because the testing methods are apparently very expensive.

Although not mentioned in this report, many other potential problems are monitored. They include excessive ammonium, nitrate and phosphate concentrations, as well as areas with low oxygen levels. Much of these field studies are conducted by the UCT Department of Oceanography in collaboration with an Armscor subsidiary and good neighbour – the Institute of Maritime Technology (IMT) – as part of its ongoing "Seawatch" programme. With support from the Navy's Hydrographic Office, IMT intends to also monitor Gordon's Bay and all will be revealed shortly at its next public meeting. Watch the press for details, because although most people in the "Deep South" are notoriously insular to their marine environment, we Simonites should take the initiative and attend.

As further proof to others up the line that we are not insular, let's help Muizenberg to rid its tarnished – and entirely false – image of pumping raw sewage into the sea. Its seasonal patches of brown water are actually single-celled plants known as diatoms, on which southern mullet or "harders" and other fish feed. Unless we get this across to visitors at every opportunity, even tourism in our own region is unlikely to reach its full potential. Another put-off is obviously litter and includes buried cigarette-butts, which are of-

ten exposed in countless numbers after a high tide. Our beaches and their water quality are superb, so let's not spoil them by turning a blind eye to bad conduct!

Bevan Pank
science writer

"I am (hic) alright" says 'Blotto' Skipper

Shortly after sunrise on Tuesday 11 September, the Duty Coxswain at the Cape St Francis station was contacted by a gentleman who reported that his brother, a skipper of a yacht sailing up the coast to BE was in trouble in the Kromme Bay. He was able to provide a cellphone number and contact was made with the yacht. The yachtsman reported that he did have a diesel problem but was not in immediate danger. He was hoping to repair the motor and carry on to BE. After being assured that all was okay, the rescue crew were stood down although, during communication with the yacht skipper, it was noticed that he spoke hesitantly and with a strong slur.

At 14hr45 a member of the public phoned the station from his house in Jeffrey's Bay. He reported that he had sighted a yacht which seemed to be in difficulties off Jeffrey's Bay about 3 miles offshore. He was asked by the station to please monitor the yacht's movement and to report its progress. Later in the afternoon he advised that the yacht was only 200 metres offshore and heading for the beach. Suspecting it was the same vessel, a cellphone call was made to the yacht and straight away the Duty Coxswain could appreciate that the skipper was now



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slurring his words even more. Without hesitation Spirit of St Francis' was launched and the local coastwatcher George Berriman was asked to investigate. The coastwatcher drove down to the beach and followed the yacht making its way along the coast and at sunset reported that the yacht was 200 metres from the back line off the main beach at Jeffrey's Bay. A second call was made to the yacht and the skipper assured the duty coxswain that all was okay and that he was approaching Port St Francis and was about to enter port. He was then informed of his proper location and that the rescue craft had been launched and was underway. He became abusive and told the Duty Coxswain in no uncertain terms that he was talking utter nonsense and that he knew exactly where he was. He also went on to tell the Duty Coxswain exactly where he could stick the rescue boat. It was at this point that the SAMSA Principal Officer in Port Elizabeth, Brian Colnutt, was contacted. The Principal Officer then telephoned the yacht skipper himself and, after introducing himself, also received a string of considerable verbal abuse. Brian Colnutt asked the station to make contact with the local SAPS and ensure that the skipper was placed under arrest on arrival in port.

The yacht was underway with no lights and with help from Mr. Berriman ashore who flashed his lights, the yacht was located. At this stage the yacht was about 75 metres from a dangerous reef at Marina Martinique. The rescue craft came along side the yacht and the Coxswain asked the skipper if they could board the yacht to assist him. Eventually he agreed to allow two of the NSRI crew aboard, one of whom was a qualified yacht skipper. They just managed to bring the yacht about in time and steer the yacht around and clear of the reef. The weather conditions were not all that good with a strong wind blowing at the time. Once the initial panic was over the NSRI crew asked permission to enter the cabin so that the mandatory navigation lights and radio could be switched on. This was granted and a man was found in the cabin in a severe state of

shock and very frightened. He was immediately transferred to the rescue craft alongside. The NSRI crew then started the yacht's motor to move the yacht further offshore but the skipper, who was clearly under the influence of alcohol, jumped down into the cabin, cut the motor, switched off the navigation lights and then shouted at the crew to now - rescue the f..... boat!' The two NSRI crew, not wanting to create any more confrontation, hoisted the sails and sailed the yacht back to Port St Francis. Shortly before they entered port the skipper eventually passed out. Once alongside, he was placed onto a stretcher and conveyed to a waiting police van on the jetty alongside. He was then taken to the Humansdorp police station and locked up.

*Reprinted from Sea Rescue,
NSRI, Summer 2001*

The Night Sky

FEBRUARY

Orion, the Hunter, is the brightest constellation seen by sky watchers at this time of the year, with all his attendants. Canis Major, Big Dog with Sirius dominating the sky after Orion, followed by Little Dog, Canis Minor, with the bright Procyon. South of these constellations is Musca, the Fly, the Diamond Cross and the False Cross, all in the Milky Way.

Orion, which is on the celestial equator is 34° North of us in Simon's Town. The bright red star at his shoulder blade is called Betelgeuse. This star is so large that if placed where our Sun is, would swallow up Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars. The latter is 155 million miles from the Sun.

Diagonally opposite is the foot of Orion, a white giant called Rigel, having 18 000 times the brilliancy of the Sun. The two other stars making up the body of Orion are the fainter Bellatrix and Kappa Orionis. There are also three stars at the head. Three bright stars make up Orion's belt with his sword hanging from it. In the sword is the famous Trapezium where a lot of activity may be observed - if viewed with a telescope. Light has

been travelling for 2000 years at 186 000 miles/second or 300 000km/second to reach us. North of Orion is the constellation of Gemini, the Twins.

Several people phoned to enquire why Gemini was visible, ahead of, or west of Orion, when the Twins are east of Orion, at most times of the year! This is easy to understand as Saturn is close to Aldebaran in Taurus, the Bull, at present, and some observers thought they were looking at Gemini.

Gemini, the Twins, is associated with two famous discoveries. In 1781 Sir William Herchel was searching through Gemini on the 13th March when he found the new planet Uranus. In 1930 Clive Tombaugh was looking at photographs of Gemini - when he discovered Pluto. In 1986 when Halley's Comet returned many people first saw it in Gemini. It was seen in the south east two years ago in a large telescope by me.

A great disappointment during the last few weeks has been the magnitude of Comet Linear C/2000 WM which has not exceeded 6, although predictions were made that it would reach 5 during December and January. Comets are notorious for not coming up to expectations. The result has been that a few people with binoculars or telescopes saw it in early December but soon lost interest and did not pass the news on to their friends.

The Planets

Mercury at magnitude +2.0 is low in the east before sunrise from February 10th. It is 4° north of the Moon on the 15th, and 0.5° south of Neptune on the 24th.

Venus will only be visible in the evening sky late in February at magnitude -3.9 which is brighter than Jupiter.

Mars at magnitude +0.8 is visible in the evening sky in Pisces, moving in to Aries during the last week in February at magnitude +1.3, and 4° north of the Moon on the 17th.

Jupiter is very bright at magnitude -2.7 and may be found at the feet of Gemini. It will be

0.9° south of the Moon on the 23rd. It is an evening planet.

Saturn, magnitude +0.7 is in Taurus as an evening planet near the bright orange eye of the Bull, Aldebaran. Saturn is 0.2° south of the Moon on the 21st.

Uranus, magnitude +5.9 is in Capricorn and will not be visible this month as it is in conjunction with the Sun on the 13th.

Neptune, magnitude +8.0 is in Capricorn and may be found in the morning sky after mid February.

Pluto, magnitude +14 is in Ophiuchus (the 13th sign of the Zodiac) and it not visible except in a large telescope.

The Moon

There will be two eclipses of the Moon this year. The first is on June 22nd at 10:18pm and the second on November 20th at 1:32am.

Full Moon is on the 27th; Last Quarter on the 4th. New Moon is on the 12th; First Quarter on the 20th. Perigee is on the 27th; Apogee is on the 15th.

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The Sun

There will be a Solar Eclipse on December 4th at 7:32am ending at 9:33am. 50% of the Sun will be covered by the Moon at Simon's Town. On the 1st Sunrise is at 6:07am and Sunset at 7:52pm. On the 30th Sunrise is at 6:33am and Sunset at 7:23pm. The Equinox will be next month on the 30th March.

Meteor Showers

The Alpha Centaurids occur this month and are visible between 10pm - 3:30am with the maximum expected on the 8th. The Gamma Normids are visible from the 25th until March 22nd between midnight and 4:30am.

Comets

Comet Linear WM is visible in Grus but at only 7.9 magnitude - so that binoculars or a telescope is necessary to see it. It has been a great disappointment as few people have seen it during the Christmas holidays. Four long period comets, Pons-Winnecke, Wirtanen, Kopff and Linear-Neat, are expected later this year.

Peter I van Blommestein

CRIME REPORT

OPERATION NUMENOR

On Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 January, Operation Numenor took place in the Cape Point Nature Reserve and vicinity. Members from SAPS Simon's Town, Border Police, Public Order Policing, Area West Reservist Reaction Unit and the National Parks Board participated in the operation. The aim of the operation was the prevention and apprehension of would be marine resource poachers and thieves breaking into cars at Smitswinkel Bay - 2500 persons, 550 motor vehicles and 19 vessels were searched and a total of 141 Abalone, 36 Alekrekkel and 1 Crayfish confiscated. Fines to the value of R13 900 were issued.

ROBBERY IN THOMAS STREET

Monday 21 January at approx. 2:10pm 3 young coloured men surprised an elderly couple, inside their garage in Thomas St S/Town, as they returned home. A firearm was

produced and a wedding ring valued at ± R100 000 was stolen. The ring is described as a 3,2 carat diamond & gold ring. Suspects fled the scene in a white motor vehicle.

THEFT OUT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

This precinct is experiencing a spate of thefts out of motor vehicles in the Runcimans Drive / Simonskloof area. Residents are asked to: park vehicles in the garage, lock garages, switch on car alarms, do not leave valuable items inside motor vehicles at night.

COMMUNITY PATROL OFFICER

As is well known, R/Sgt. **Donovan Roberts** is our local CPO who carries out duties in the S/Town CBD. Since taking up his duties in April 2001 he has carried out these arrests (up to and incl 31 December 2001) - 8 burglaries, 2 ATM fraud, 13 possession of dagga, 1 possession of mandrax and dagga, 1 fraud, 3 malicious damage to property and trespassings, 1 assault, 1 shoplifting, 1 warrant of arrest and 233 for drunkenness. His colleagues at Simon's Town SAPS thank him for his hard work and dedication. He is truly an asset to our precinct. *Remember together we can make a difference!!!!*

Insp Store, Simon's Town SAPS

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AN OPEN AIR CONCERT

Featuring

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY BAND CAPE TOWN

Combined with

The drums and pipes of the Cape Town Highlanders Regiment

on

SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2002 AT 6PM

JUBILEE SQUARE, SIMON'S TOWN

Tickets available at:

Simon's Town Museum 786-3046

Peninsula Tourism, Simon's Town 786-2436

Donation to community projects R20 per person

The Army Band's repertoire includes a selection of Light
Classical, Big Band, Show Biz and Military Music

*Refreshments (wine, malt, cooldrinks) and food stalls will be available
prior to and after the concert.*



Where, oh where has Bin Laden gone?
Bush and Tony would love to know.
Is he maybe cavorting with houris
Above -
Or, with fellow thugs sizzling Below?



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Committee Members and their Portfolios:

Simon's Town Community Police Forum

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Tony Robinson	Vice Chairman	786 1222
Peter Law	Treasurer	786 3880
Dorothy Mecinska	Secretary	786 2217
Insp. Store	SAPS Simon's Town	786 2127
Insp D Carstens	SAPS Simon's Town	786 2127
Capt D du Pisanie	SAPS Station Commissioner	786 1822
Shaun Smith	SPA Law Enforcement	786 3667
Deon Cronje	Asst Super Traffic	083 737 0940
Manu Choudree	STCA/MP	787 3845
Nicki Holderness	City	786 3298
Don Dollery	NSRI Station 10 Shorelink	786 1714

Simon's Town Business Association

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

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Freeman, Fran	Chairman	782 6644	
Allan, Ian	Treasurer	782 2736	
Mecinska, Dorothy	Secretary	786 2217	786 2133
Theunissen, Cdr Jaco	SA Navy		787 3049
Holderness, Nicki	City	786 3298	786 3298
Bosma, Sharon	Environment	786 1072	
Buchmann, Justin	SANP (CPNP)	786 1421	786 2329
Choudree, Manu	Security/Safety	782 7241	787 3845
Johnson, Peter	Economic Development		786 1374
Legatt, Eve	Property	786 3960	
Lombo, Luyanda	Red Hill	780 9123	780 9204
Morris, Dr John	TBA	786 1765	
Nussey, Wilf	Communications	786 1368	
Palmer, Geoff	Litter	786 5402	
Rice, Bill	Dockyard Development	786 3909	786 3909
VanNiekerk, Dirk	Roads & Traffic	786 1320	
Weaver, Jacky	Glencairn Vlei	782 5335	

Tide Table - February 2002

This information is reproduced with the kind permission of the Hydrographer SA Navy. The Hydrographer will not accept any liability for any errors that may occur during the transcription of the information.

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	Fri/Vry	0548	1809	1206	—	0607	1952	2238	0952
2	Sat/Sat	0633	1857	0013	1256	0608	1951	2312	1101
3	Sun/Son	0721	1950	0058	1351	0609	1950	2346	1208
4	Mon/Maan	0816	2058	0150	1456	0610	1949	—	1314
5	Tue/Dins	0925	2228	0258	1618	0611	1948	0021	1418
6	Wed/Woens	1051	—	0432	1749	0612	1948	0059	1521
7	Thur/Don	0001	1215	0609	1900	0613	1947	0142	1622
8	Fri/Vry	0111	1320	0718	1951	0614	1946	0229	1718
9	Sat/Sat	0159	1408	0806	2029	0615	1945	0320	1809
10	Sun/Son	0238	1446	0843	2101	0616	1944	0415	1855
11	Mon/Maan	0312	1519	0915	2130	0617	1943	0511	1934
12	Tue/Dins	0342	1549	0944	2156	0618	1943	0609	2009
13	Wed/Woens	0411	1617	1012	2221	0618	1942	0705	2040
14	Thur/Don	0439	1645	1041	2247	0619	1941	0801	2109
15	Fri/Vry	0506	1712	1110	2313	0620	1940	0856	2136
16	Sat/Sat	0534	1741	1140	2340	0621	1939	0950	2202
17	Sun/Son	0603	1812	1213	—	0622	1938	1044	2229
18	Mon/Maan	0635	1848	0010	1250	0623	1937	1140	2259
19	Tue/Dins	0713	1933	0045	1334	0624	1936	1237	2331
20	Wed/Woens	0804	2042	0130	1436	0625	1934	1336	—
21	Thur/Don	0924	2229	0243	1609	0626	1933	1438	0008
22	Fri/Vry	1103	—	0443	1746	0627	1932	1540	0051
23	Sat/Sat	0005	1224	0617	1854	0628	1931	1641	0142
24	Sun/Son	0108	1324	0718	1944	0629	1929	1738	0242
25	Mon/Maan	0157	1414	0807	2028	0630	1928	1829	0349
26	Tue/Dins	0241	1459	0851	2109	0631	1927	1915	0501
27	Wed/Woens	0322	1543	0935	2149	0631	1926	1956	0615
28	Thur/Don	0403	1625	1017	2228	0632	1925	2033	0729

Last Quarter/Laaste Kwartier Feb. 04 1535
New Moon/Nuwemaan Feb. 12 0943

First Quarter/Eerste Kwartier Feb. 20 1358
Full Moon/Volmaan Feb. 27 1118

Solutions

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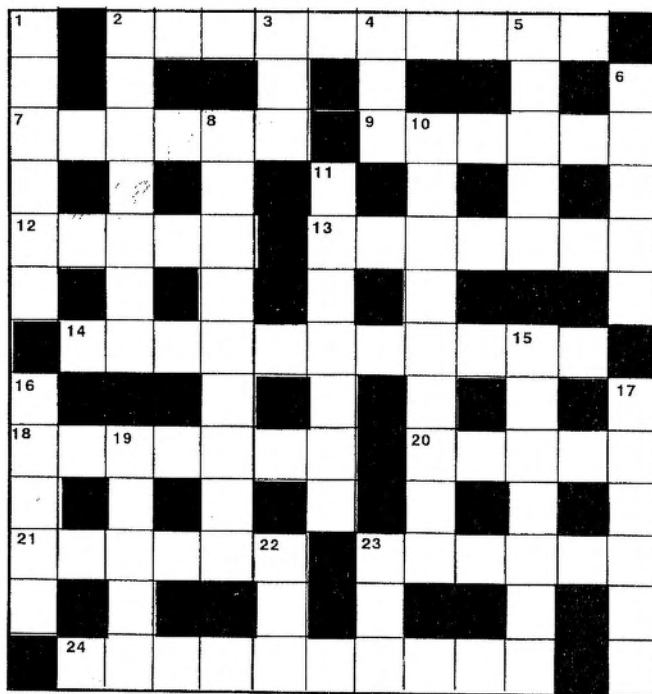
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CROSSWORD - FEBRUARY

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ACROSS

- 2,12 If you go swimming, you could easily get hooked on this local seashore (10,5)
 7 A nasal passage for flying there (6)
 13 Listens, possibly joins up (7)
 14 'I am a fixture,' he says; but not for long (11)
 18 Heading? No, it comes back after headgear (7)
 20 Could this be a hotelier - outside the Bull? (5)
 21 A label within the hind - that's old and silly (6)
 23 About little money - it's only just occurred (6)
 24, 9 Yon grommet Generally has a double line of trees in Seaforth (10,6)

DOWN

- 1 Peel the skin outside Brigitte Bardot. But she was never this! (6)
 2 Sack the weapon. This sort (7)
 3 Harold loses his luxury car and gets grass (3)

- 4 Look for a Country in father's atlas (3)
 5 It's nine days before one gets between two cardinals - as Caesar would have known . . (5)
 6 ...and one more before our summer wind makes one uptight (5)
 8 Accomplishing it, give chain, possibly (9)
 10 The grape-plant covers a fast for the girls' favourite saint this month (9)
 11 My french gets in a strap to find a road next to the High School (7)
 15 A home for women only sounds like one where nobody lives (7)
 16 Detectives get in top marks. They're bitter (5)
 17 A floral Froggy Farm road in which a vegetable surrounds rubbish (6)
 19 An Irishman takes ten to a courtyard (5)
 22 Incite, for example. Good! (3)
 23 The odd drink (3)

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 22 February 2002
- 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 - February 2002

Classic Valentine's Concert JS Bach & Sons. Thursday 14 February at 7:30pm at St Francis of Anglican Church. Tickets R40 (unreserved) available from Simon's Town Pharmacy 786-2133 or AP Jones 782-6111.

Simon's Town Art Group, 3rd Annual Exhibition will once again be held at the British Hotel in St George's St. Nicki Holderness will open the event at 12 noon on Saturday 23 February. Viewing times are Sat 23 Feb 12pm - 4:30pm; Mon 24 Feb - Sat 2 March 9:30 - 4:30pm; Sun 3rd March 9:30am - 4pm.

Simon's Town Art Group Life Drawing sessions every Tuesday evening 7 - 9:30pm at the STAG studio. All welcome. Please call Jeremy at 786-5551 for info.

Friends of Simon's Town Coastline
Sat 9 Feb at 9:30am Combined Hack with ST Flora Conservation Group (STFCG) at Woodlands near Da Gama Park. Meet at Entrance to Woodlands suburb via Dido Valley. For more info call 786-1620. **Sat 16 Feb** at 9:30am Marine excursion with Prof Griffiths of UCT to Kommetjie seaside. Meet at The Kom parking area. For more info call 786-3890/786-1072. **Sun 17 Feb** at 9:30am Combined alien vegetation hack with STFCG at Bothas Camp, Redhill. Meet at Pinehaven Village, Redhill. Call 786-1620. **Tues 19 Feb** at 9:30am Combined alien vegetation hack with STFCG at Magic Forest, Simon's Town. Meet at the top of Dorries Drive. Call 786-1620. **Wed 20 Feb** 7:15 for 7:30pm talk on future development of the Far South Peninsula by Mr Brian Watkyns, Executive Councillor for Planning, South Peninsula Administration. There will be an opportunity

for discussion and questions. Refreshments available for a small donation. Call 786 1072. **Sat 23 Feb** at 9:30am Combined alien vegetation hack with STFCG at Woodlands near Da Gama Park. Meet at Entrance to Woodlands, Da Gama Park via Dido Valley. For more info call 786-1620. **Sun 24 Feb** at 9:30am Combined all-day walk with STFCG to Bonteberg, Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Meet at Main Gate (normal entry fees payable). call 789-1334. Bring suitable clothing for changeable weather and refreshments for tea and lunch on all-day walks.

Open Air Concert Sunday 17 February Jubilee Square at 6pm. South African Army Band with Drums & Pipes of Cape Town Highlanders. Tickets available at Simon's Town Museum and Peninsula Tourism Information Bureau.

"Complete Works of William Shakespeare" at the Masque Theatre, Muizenberg on Friday 15, Saturday 16, Friday 22 and Saturday 23 February. Weekdays 8:15pm. Saturday 2:15 and 6:15pm. Booking at 788-1898.

All Bach Concert at St Francis Church, Simon's Town on 22 February at 7:30. John Birch (Organist - Royal Albert Hall), Alexandra Bass (flute) and Stephen Roberts (baritone). Tickets R40 book at Simon's Town Pharmacy or AP Jones. For info call Juliet Bass 786-2362.

Deadline for March Edition
Friday 22 February 2002

Next Publication: 4 March 2002

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