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TWENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 5

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1988

50¢

Education concerns expressed

The education system concerns of Salt Spring Islanders range from desires for brighter school hallways to a need for increased funding — but the main worries revolve around curriculum.

That's what 60 Salt Spring parents, teachers and students told the Royal Commission on Education when its members visited the island last Monday night.

The hearing was the second of the day for the commissioners, who heard the concerns of Outer Islands residents while on a ferry travelling to Salt Spring from Tsawwassen.

Due to illness, Royal Commission chairman Barry Sullivan could not attend either session. Assistant commissioner Arther Kratzman and secretary John Welch presided over the two hearings.

On Salt Spring, school programming and the need to "teach the whole child" were the main points raised by a number of speakers, including students council spokesmen from Fulford Elementary and Gulf Islands Secondary schools.

The Fulford students called for greater choice in language programs, a scholarship program to help offset increased tuition fees at post-secondary institutions, plus peer counselling and leadership training. They also requested that students be given a greater voice in planning school activities.

Students from the high school said classes do not always provide them with an adequate challenge.

The parents of students at Fulford and Gulf Islands Secondary schools spoke about "teaching the whole child." They called for more time, attention and

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Shelf service

Bending to get a closer look local library patron browses through the newly renovated wing of the Salt Spring Island public library. The library, re-opened last week after a \$100,000 renovation project, now features additional floor space. Story, Page 19.

Change to off-sales law incentive to bootleggers

Local police cannot remember the last time they laid a bootlegging charge in the Gulf Islands — but pub managers agree that under new off-sale regulations implemented by the provincial government, bootlegging offences may soon resurface locally.

Effective last Sunday (January 31), pub off-sales must be purchased before 11 pm, and taken immediately from the premises. Any licenced establishment now caught selling off-sales after 11 pm could jeopardize its licence and receive a suspension.

Managers at each of the three pubs on Salt Spring agree the new

regulations could renew bootlegging practices. There is also a possibility, they say, of increased break-and-enters into parked vehicles.

"I think we're going to see people sitting outside (of pubs) with a trunk-load of beer," says Vesuvius Inn manager John Steele. "There could also be kids sitting in the bushes watching people put off-sales into cars."

Steele does not think the new laws are going to effectively stop patrons from drinking in their cars.

"Whether they buy it at 11

Turn to Page 3

Land-use deal sparks debate

Changes to a land-use contract covering the Salt Spring Centre have advanced another step towards possible approval by the Islands Trust.

Following a spirited but divided public hearing held in Ganges last Friday, the Trust voted to give second reading to a bylaw amending the land-use contract in force between itself and the Blackburn Farm Society, which operates the Salt Spring Centre on Blackburn Road.

Before it can be adopted, the bylaw amending the contract requires third reading by the Trust, followed by approval by the minister of municipal affairs and then a fourth reading by the Trust.

The Trust, which had given the bylaw first reading to bring it to public hearing, decided Friday not to proceed beyond second reading. It said some changes to the technical language contained in the bylaw must be considered, and it is still waiting for comments solicited from the provincial ministries of environment, highways and health.

The decision to give second reading followed a public hearing that featured both opposition and support for the proposed changes to the land-use contract.

The contract was initially negotiated in 1978, when the Blackburn Road acreage was owned by a different party. Its original terms gave the owners authority to construct a golf course on what is still Agricultural Land Reserve property.

The hearing was told the Trust, through the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society, began negotiations with the Blackburn Farm Society last year when the property owners sought contract changes that would allow

expansion of the Salt Spring Centre's amenities.

The result, Water Preservation Society chairman Tom Gossett told the hearing, was an "environmental accord" which reduced the uses permitted on the property. No pesticides or herbicides could be applied, no commercial clear-cutting of timber would be allowed, and restrictions were placed on sewage disposal and ditching.

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New year's date won't be attached to community plan

Heeding objections raised at a public hearing held last Friday in Ganges, the local Islands Trust Committee agreed to drop this year's date from a bylaw renaming the official community plan.

The proposal debated at the hearing was to remove a reference to the Capital Regional District (CRD) from the plan's title, as well as its 1972 date, and replace both with a line reading: *Official Community Plan, Salt Spring Island, 1988*.

Trustees described the bylaw as a simple housekeeping measure prompted in part by complaints other government agencies have made to the plan's mention of the CRD, which adopted the document in 1972 when land-use planning for the island was under its control.

However, the audience at the public hearing expressed concern over the proposal. Islanders Pat James and Rick Rockcliffe both said a 1988 date on the document

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INSIDE



Link forged

Cole Harvey is rebuilding one connection with Salt Spring's past. Page 13.

Outer Islands news begins on Page 21

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In aid of

Local branch of Amnesty International spreads influence around globe. Page 15.

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could create the impression that the plan is up-to-date when, in fact, it needs major revisions.

"The needs of the island have changed drastically since this was adopted in 1972," Rockliffe said. "This plan is not current, does not reflect current or future needs, doesn't address the findings of the task forces that have been struck in the last few years, and has no mention of a tourism strategy. If this is adopted, I would think, down the road, that someone will think this is our current 1988 community plan — and it's not."

Plan title change challenged

James agreed, saying attaching a 1988 date to the plan would be misleading "and a misnomer." The date should be left off the document, she said, or the plan should contain a reference to a 1972 plan being consolidated in 1988.

Rockliffe added that instead of simply renaming an outdated community plan, the Trust should "look at re-doing the entire document, from end to end — we

need a current plan, not an old plan."

Trustee Pat Byrne told the public hearing the plan has been amended through the years to reflecting changing needs and demands, and that the bylaw under discussion last Friday simply one more amendment. As for a thorough review and updating of the document, he said lack of planning staff resources prevent the Trust from carrying out

that task.

In the regular portion of the Trust meeting held immediately after the public hearing, trustees voted to drop the 1988 date from the plan's title. Trustees also carried motions to give the bylaw second and third readings and send it to the minister of municipal affairs for approval, but did so over the objections of Trust vice-chairman Carol Martin of Hornby Island.

Martin abstained from the vote, saying the Trust should implement a suggestion made by Pat James to carry a disclaimer on the front of the community plan bylaw nothing that it was originally passed in 1972 but consolidated in 1988.

Martin noted that while the plan will not mention 1988 in its title, the year will be marked in the bylaw the Trust is now sending to the minister for approval. To avoid any misconceptions, Martin said she believed the plan should carry a note on its title page explaining the significance of that 1988 date.

Trust welcomes document

Proposed land-use contract changes prompt division of opinion at hearing

From Page 1

In return, the society would be permitted expansion for religious assembly and education purposes — including artist studios, staff housing, food and lodging services for staff and visitors, and accessory recreational use.

Gossett stressed that the agreement improved the former land-use contract because its guidelines would have a much more detrimental impact on the environment than those outlined under the new deal.

Opposition to the proposed bylaw came mainly from Salt Spring resort operators Rick Rockliffe and Jim Loisselle, who argued that the Trust was poised to approve expansion of what was, in effect, a large commercial venture in a watershed area. Both pointed out that similar ventures in other watershed areas on the island had no chance of approval from the Trust.

"This is a travesty," Rockliffe said at one point. "My opposition is not to the Salt Spring Centre, but to the different brushes the Trust uses to paint different groups. If the application comes from one member of the community, one set of rules applies — if it's from another group, it's a different set of rules."

Loisselle agreed, saying the Trust had refused his requests for a similar use on Agricultural Land Reserve property he owns. "The Islands Trust does not have one policy covering all property owners equally," he said. "You are treating some applications differently, according to the owners."

Both resort operators added that instead of authorizing the changes to use of the Salt Spring Centre property in a contract, it should proceed with the matter under a rezoning application.

Speaking in support of the proposed changes to the land-use contract were representatives of the Salt Spring Centre and several of their neighbours. Sid Filkow, a centre director, said his society is not competing with resorts because it draws people interested in health education and healing programs. He also noted that the property is subject to the same local bylaws governing other operations — i.e., setbacks — and that the proposed contract changes effectively downgrade the land's potential, since they would put into effect a set of severe land-use restrictions.

After pointing out that the society's philosophy is to impact the land as little as possible, Filkow said the contract provisions now in place allowed uses

which are "much more dangerous to the watershed" than those proposed by the Salt Spring Centre.

Area residents who spoke at the hearing commended the Salt Spring Centre for its demonstrated concern for the property and the environment. Rodney Polden said he hoped the other resort operators in attendance would show the same environmental concern in their areas, and that the Salt Spring Centre's "desire for careful use of the land should be praised and accepted by the community."

He added: "Unfortunately, what we are seeing here today is concern for commercial competition, not careful use of the land."

Later, when the Trust had ended the public hearing and reconvened its regular meeting, it decided to give the proposed bylaw second reading. Trustee Pat Byrne said the public hearing showed "a broad misunderstanding of the intent of the bylaw," and reiterated that it was an amendment to an existing land-use contract — not a rezoning of land. Given that, and the "downgrading" of the land, he said the proposed contract was a "significant improvement on the

present situation."

Trustee Nick Gilbert agreed, saying he considered the environmental agreement "an enlightened document that goes further than any land-use document we've ever considered. I agree with Tom Gossett that the changes are positive and move us forward — and give us a more acceptable document."

Trust vice-chairman Carol Martin of Hornby Island, however, said her support for second reading of the bylaw was based on the fact an existing land-use contract was being amended.

"If this was a new application," she said, "I would take a strong listen to what was said here today. I can appreciate the concessions, but the local Islands Trust Committee should be cautious and more consistent in the future. I would also advise the committee to take a close look at its policies for agriculture land, so we can have something before us (in future)."

Noting that the Trust's advisory planning commission passed along an endorsement only for the bylaw, Martin said she would prefer to see the organization also forward comments on such land-use changes.

**SALT SPRING ISLAND
PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Annual General Meeting

February 15, 1988 7:30 pm
St. George's Church Hall

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following motion will be brought forward at the Annual General Meeting:

MOVED, Section 3(e) of the by-laws of Salt Spring Island Public Library Association be amended from:

3(e) The Annual Meeting shall be held within the first two weeks of February, notice of such meeting to be published in the local newspaper in two consecutive issues at least two weeks before the day of the meeting.

to:

3(e) The Annual Meeting shall be held between February 1 and March 31, notice of such meeting to be published in the local newspaper in two consecutive issues at least two weeks before the day of the meeting.

ALSO, at the Annual Meeting, there will be the following:

MOVED, that the annual membership fee for adults be increased from \$3.00 to \$5.00.

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at Fulford Harbour
(STANDARD TIME)

FEB.					
3	0655	11.0	7	0050	4.8
	1220	8.7		0800	10.9
WE	1550	9.4	SU	1430	6.2
	2320	2.4		2000	8.3
4	0715	10.9	8	0120	5.8
	1250	8.2		0815	10.8
TH	1645	9.1	MO	1510	5.4
	2350	3.1		2120	8.2
5	0730	10.8	9	0150	6.9
	1320	7.5		0830	10.8
FR	1745	8.8	TU	1550	4.6
	0020	3.8		2305	8.4
6	0745	10.8	10	0215	7.9
	1355	6.9		0845	10.7
SA	1850	8.5	WE	1635	3.8

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to be frank

What an era that was!

I found an interesting revelation in a book of plans. It listed an "elegant Victorian home of the Queen Anne era."

But Queen Anne's dead!

I trust the writer was better versed in architecture than he was in history, for a style to stretch so far from the past into the future and take its name from both would be a rarity.

There was a proverb used in the 18th century in Britain to waken one's neighbours to reality.

"Queen Anne's dead!"

I would imagine the writer has already learned of the lady's demise, long before a Victorian era had been dreamed of.

Flying objects

I wrote last week of the report of a Salt Spring Island resident who saw a light in the sky. This week I have a further report.

They may not be the same incident. They may not even have been seen the same night, but the two reports have much in common.

They have one other aspect in common, for none of the viewers want to identify themselves and leave themselves open to being termed a "nut".

This is report No. 2:

The watcher in the sky was early abed. It was Friday night, two weeks ago, when the high winds blew the lights out and much of Salt Spring Island lay in darkness for about two hours. The island watcher retired at about 9:30 pm, she tells me, and woke up at around 10:30 pm. She gazed out of the window on to darkness as the neighbourhood was without power.

The sight of a silver light in the sky was sufficiently unusual to have her leave her bed and examine it from the window. She had, at first, identified it as the moon.

"But it was a funny place for the moon!"

The silver light moved across her range of vision and disappeared behind the tree. It was moving and it hovered without appearing to be moving.

The watcher was so intrigued that she called her daughter in Vancouver to let her in on the incident. She gained no reply and came back to the window.

The unidentified "machine" came into view again, but the single, silver light was now broken into a

by richards

number of colours, as she recalls — very pale green, yellow and blue.

She opened her window, but there was not a sound to be heard.

The tale ends with the rapid movement of the lights towards the horizon, where it disappeared into the clouds.

What was it?

My caller tells me it was a night of hurricane winds and she thought of helicopters flying to search for storm victims. But helicopters rarely search at night and never without sound. It was an incident during a near-hurricane, but her experience was restricted to the peaceful break in the eye of the hurricane.

Anyone else seen it?

Wow! That's money!

Jimmy McMahon sent me a copy of an automobile sales magazine, *The Auto Trader*. The price surprised me. It is \$1.20 over the counter or \$1.45 "rural."

But the prices! And it's not some ancient journal.

The first car that I saw listed was a 1982 Mercedes 280 SE, everything aboard, 39,000 Km. And the price is a mere \$79,500! And here are a few more samples: 1979 Chevette hatchback, \$5,200; 1972 Valiant Charger, \$4,500; 1973 Ford Fairlane, with only 65,000 "genuine miles" — and the price is only \$10,000!

The prices really sound crazy, don't they? But they don't sound so crazy to a New Zealander. Published in Auckland, the magazine entices many a New Zealander to part with his dollars for a very much higher-priced buggy than his Canadian cousin would spend.

The listings are notably older than the average-offered vehicle in British Columbia. The range runs extensively into 1970 models, with many 1960s calling a substantial price and even 30-year-olds still commanding an impressive price.

A 1964 Jaguar 3.4 is offered at \$8,995, which is not far removed from a likely offer here in B.C. A 1968 Healey Sprite is going for \$7,200. A whole page of 1970 to 1978 buys range in price from a 1972 Austin Maxi at \$1,295 to a 1975 Triumph sedan and a 1977 Toyota Corolla at \$4,995.

There is a restriction on imports into New Zealand and if you really want a car your best bet is to make it last. Obviously, they do just that.

New pub sales law impact questioned

From Page 1

or 12:45," he says, "if it's in the car, they're going to drink it."

Harbour House Hotel manager Bill Evans agrees the new regulations may encourage bootlegging and thefts from vehicles. While he believes off-sale business will decrease initially, he feels people will quickly fall into the pattern of purchasing their off-sales before 11 pm.

At the Fulford Inn, Jerry Mott thinks the new laws will be effective. At 11 pm, he says,

people are less drunk and therefore less likely to consider buying beer for after hours. Mott has also considered a possible resurgence of bootlegging.

"Bootlegging is definitely a possibility," agrees RCMP Cst. Jim Harrison.

Harrison was less sure about the possibility of increased break-and-enters into cars. He compared it to predicting December will have more break-ins than February, because December has fewer hours of daylight.




MEL COUVELIER MLA
TERRY HUBERTS MLA

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Hearings pre-empt Trust meeting

Last Friday's Islands Trust Committee meeting on Salt Spring was cut short by the time spent on public hearings called to discuss six proposed bylaws.

The public hearing portion of the Trust meeting began at 1:30 pm and ended at 4:05 pm. Since Trust vice-chairmen Steve Wright of South Pender Island and Carol Martin of Hornby Island — and Trust planner Dave Morris of Victoria — had to catch the 5:15 pm ferry from Fulford Harbour to Swartz Bay, the meeting ended at

4:45 pm with most of the agenda untouched.

Before the meeting ended, however, trustees approved an application for a permit needed to allow construction of new wash-room facilities at Centennial Park. The item was considered a high priority, since Job-Trac crews working under the direction of the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce are ready to begin the project but require Trust approval to proceed.

The remainder of the agenda for last Friday's meeting will be dealt with at the Trust Committee's next regularly-scheduled session on Salt Spring. Friday's agenda called for discussion of tree-cutting permits, applications for development variance permits, reconsideration and adoption of bylaws, appointments to the advisory design panel and advisory planning commission, and perusal of a draft bylaw concerning the Ganges waterfront walkway, among other items.

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Community plan update required

The Salt Spring Island Trust Committee should heed requests being made for a complete updating of the local community plan.

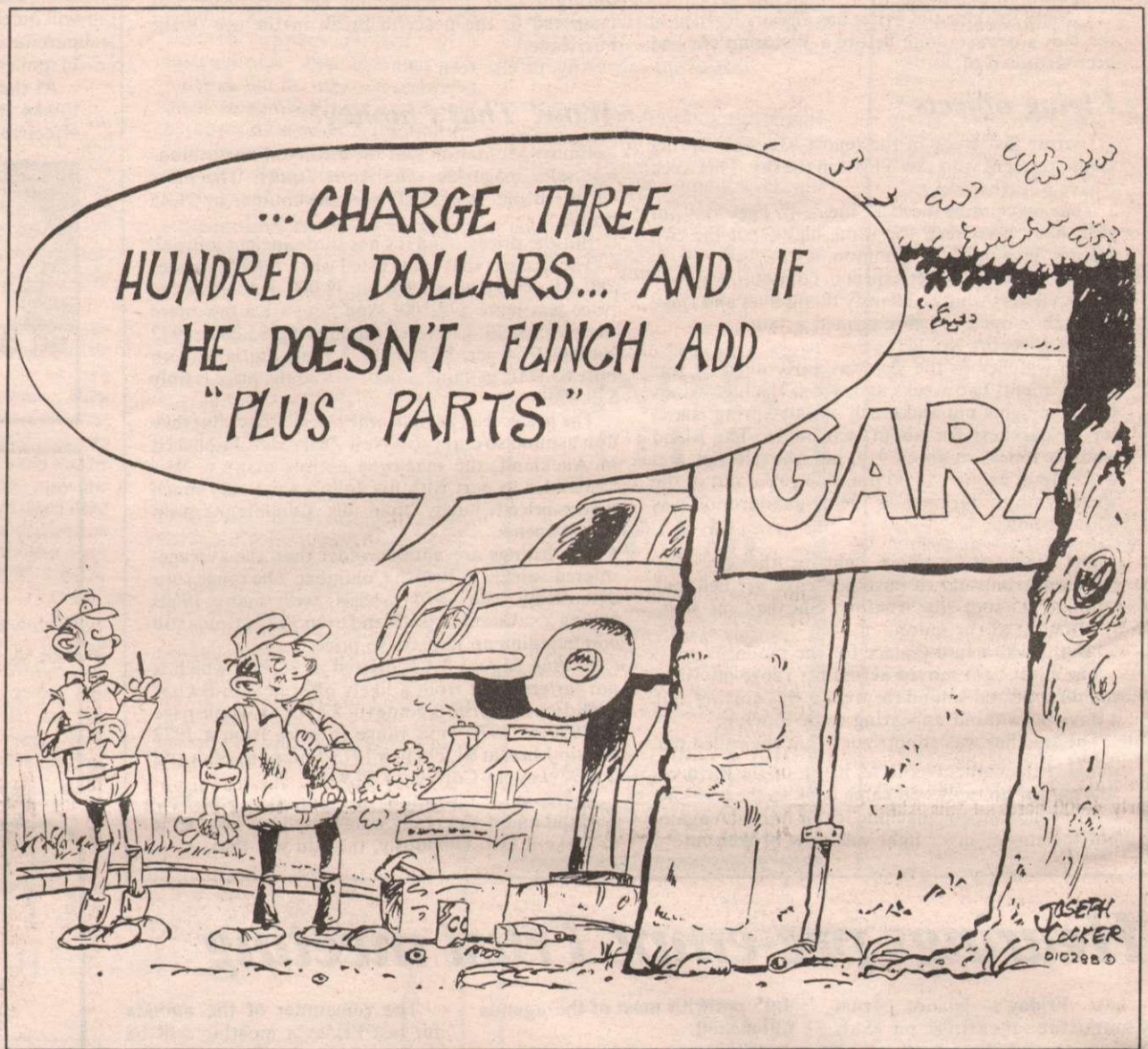
The latest calls for revisions were voiced last Friday at a public hearing scheduled by the Trust to debate six land-use bylaws under consideration. One of them, a proposal to change the title on the official community plan, drew the comment that instead of worrying about the name, the Trust should concern itself with bringing the content up to date.

The plan itself was first drawn up, under the auspices of the Capital Regional District (CRD), in 1972. Since then, the face of the document has been changed by repeated amendments arising out of simple rezoning requests or, more recently, the findings of task forces struck by the Trust to investigate any one of several pressing land-use issues.

While it is true, as the Trust has argued, that the amendments introduced to the plan over the years have served to help it keep pace with the times, it is also true that the document — and islanders — would be better served by a complete revision. Amendment through rezonings and here-and-there recommendations are fine as far as they go, but neither is a proper substitute for an overview of each provision as it relates to the context of the whole.

Unfortunately, the Trust obviously has neither the time nor the staffing resources to properly undertake the demanding work of revising the community plan. Ironically enough, however, the development application brush fires it seems to be constantly fighting can be said to be as much the result of an outdated community plan as they are of the pressures for growth being applied on the island.

But if the Trust cannot launch a comprehensive plan update, surely it could attempt the next best thing: a series of public meetings called to review



the full content and context of the community plan, the changes recommended by the various task forces it has struck in recent years, and the grey areas which might still be contained in the document.

That exercise, even if it is for information purposes only, would at least give islanders a complete picture of the practical and philosophical principles which determine the land-use decisions being made today. At best, it would

also serve to lay valuable groundwork for the full revision that must eventually be completed, time and staffing constraints notwithstanding.

As the full spectrum of comments from last Friday's public hearings noted, the community plan is now perceived as a confusing patchwork of clauses and regulations which lack a central, identifiable focus. Information meetings may not alter the patchwork, but they should be able to alter the unflattering perception offered.

Saturday night agenda covers full range of highs

Saturday night postcard:
 Dinner at 6:45 pm. Eat your greens.

Down to the Activity Centre by 8:15. Mention — *baseball reference deleted* — to Shilo Zylbergold collecting tickets at the door. Lights fall on full house, Tony Bird on stage.

Slip out for coffee after fourth song. Turn to return, just as sign is slapped on the door: *No food or drink beyond this point*, or words to same effect. Stand around sipping coffee and nibbling lemon loaf, catch Zulu Spear members arriving in toques and heavy winter gloves. Step outside before smirking, find out it's cold.

Finally move back inside, just in time for remainder of set. Evening is captured forever by sight of five-year-old girl darting

up to join Bird onstage and pitch in on chorus: *Land and soul; land and soul* . . .

Twenty-minute break lets everyone catch up on gossip and cigarettes and stories about Prairie Dog. Stalk aforementioned five-year-old, with no luck. Name finally provided by helpful soul in blue jacket and Pool Society pin. Tumble across John Wilcox and electric anti-free-trade sweatshirt (done by his wife, no less), Ron Pither with latest word from Nicaragua, and lineup for lemon loaf and coffee. Lights dim and the *thump-thump* of the bass pre-empt the rest.

Try to balance on chair at rear of Activity Centre. Swarm of bobbing hands and heads provides appropriate back-beat for hot-hot-hot music. Dancers earn

my word

by
Duncan MacDonnell

highest marks for audience recognition by disappearing offstage, only to reappear *sans* African garb but clad in West Coast gumboots. Make note to nominate trio for some kind of music hall of fame.

Band plays on, islanders bop up a storm. Step outside to dump cameras and commiserate with pups stranded in truck. Help a land-locked vehicle escape from

parking lot by directing assault on concrete abutments. Move back inside, find tempo threatening to burst beyond Activity Centre walls. Zulu Spear ends show with public screaming for more. Time for a break.

Harbour House Hotel, 12:15 am. Club Mongo onstage, pub in subdued uproar. Space quickly fills with other retirees from Tony Bird/Zulu Spear concert/dance. More catching up on gossip and cigarettes, this time under harsher lights and more nebulous time constraints.

Dance floor full and moving fast. Finally find semi-quiet back-of-room alcove, only to look down and see ice cubes tumbling crazily over shoes. Man fell, but he's okay.

Move away, find out Friday

night Cancer Society dance in same space raised mega-bucks, that the smart money is falling on the Broncos at 3-1/2, and that last call has long since been and gone.

Heading for door, catch sight of last week's hot rumour: Louis Renaud denies he was motorcyclist badly injured in clash at Central with automobile. Shows absence of scars to prove it.

Outside, engines are turning over and headlights are finding new life. Recall Tom Waits line about similar scene: ". . . see ya tomorrow, hello to the missus; money to borrow and goodnight kisses . . ."

Dump the dogs in the back of the pickup and slump home. Crack a can and hunker down at the machine. At 2:15, write these final words: Good night.

Disappointing

Sir,
Regarding your January 20 editorial. The news of MacMillan-Bloedel's sale of its Salt Spring Island holdings to various private owners by way of a local real estate firm caused, with the exception of those in on the deal, deep disappointment to many Islanders, not just our Island Trustees and a few "sympathizers".

About two years ago, many concerns were raised about the adverse affects of extensive logging of the Mac-Blo properties. I do not intend to echo them now. I think it is to Mac-Blo's discredit that, despite its awareness of islanders' concerns, it sold the properties to private land speculators.

It does not really make any difference if the 4,800 acres are logged "wholesale" by one speculator or by several speculators — the same desolate end would result. The jurisdictional weakness of the Trust in land-use matters remains both glaring and frustrating. It needs regulatory power to deal with companies like Mac-Blo, and with private speculators who acquire by bill of sale the power of property possession.

Your editorialist's patronizing lecture on "the facts of land ownership" verges on the pedantic. It also displayed a touch of the arrogance that seems typical of those speculators to whom existing land-use laws and regulation and property rights legislation provide the means by which vast sums of private money can be made, no matter what the public cost.

At issue here is not the legendary inalienable right of the average property owner on Salt Spring Island. It is, specifically, the cumulative effect of the exercising, wholesale, of such rights over nearly 4,800 acres of this island's forested land.

The "law" will permit the destruction through "logging or tree-cutting" by "various private owners" of "nearly 5000 acres," nearly 25 per cent of Salt Spring Island's forest. To me, such a possibility, no matter how "perfectly legal," deserves public scorn.

Finally, as a "sympathizer" may I express mock sympathy for those land speculators who are now sensitive to, or feel "threatened" by, the views that the Trust chairman has expressed. Your editorialist's discourse on logging "aesthetics" and regulatory "revenge" borders on the simple minded, for a seemingly mature weekly.

To paraphrase your editorial's final paragraph, it would be unthinkable, given the seriousness of the issue, for the Islands Trustees or islanders themselves, not to use every one of the limited means available to prevent such an undesirable end.
LOWELL HICKS,
Ganges.

Beautification

Sir,
On the weekend of January 23-24, there was clear evidence that Centennial Park is now entering the final stages of the park beautification project. It should come as no surprise to anybody, in these days of the Vander Zalm Politbureau, that park beautification equals car lots.

Those lucky enough to be

strolling through Ganges on Saturday were treated to the sight of a half dozen shiny new Subarus (hoods up and yawning in apparent boredom) parked on the new brick tiles in the park. Missing were the free balloons, coffee, hot dogs and the omnipresent coloured triangular plastic flags that usually mark events of this stature. One can only assume that Saunders Subaru of Colwood was displaying good corporate citizenship because the giving away of free trinkets and such would have been a transgression against the parks bylaw and would have sunk the car dealership into deep solid waste. And beside, the object was not to cause trouble and break laws, but just to sell cars.

Because the event transpired on a Saturday Market day, one wonders whether the Subaru conformed to the normal stipulations and conditions of the Farmers' Market. Namely, were these cars hand-made or were they organically produced or were they force-fed on a diet of chemicals and unpronounceable additives?

Now the precedent is set, so we may as well all take advantage of it. Just drive (or tow) that old rust-bucket down to Centennial Park, raise the hood, and chalk a price on the windshield. (The vehicles can be used as a children's playground and obstacle course, too, at least until the other one is upgraded). But don't forget to get verbal permission beforehand (from anyone, it seems). And don't forget to display a public thank-you note to Salt Spring Lands Ltd. when you're done.

SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,
Fulford Harbour.

Background

Sir,
I read, with interest, the articles on NATO written by Tony Richards and, the following week, the expected letters of protest. I feel at this time that the historical background of NATO should be recalled.

When the war in Germany came to an end in 1945, the Western allied troops demobilized as quickly as possible, their membership shrinking from approximately five million to under 900,000. Most overseas troops were evacuated from Europe except those left in Germany. The Red Army, on the other hand, did not disband as

quickly. From 1946 to the Berlin blockade in 1948, they extended their military presence over millions of people from the Baltic to the Mediterranean.

Understandably, the Western European countries were alarmed at what they saw as a perceived threat and asked America to join in a defensive alliance. The U.S. government was reluctant to do this and had to overcome strong resistance at home before they finally agreed.

So what we had, in effect, was a defensive alliance — not an aggressive one. Whether or not one agrees with the concept of NATO, it is easier at least to understand why the alliance was formed in the first place. And in many people's minds the threat perceived in 1949 is still here today.

PATRICIA MASSY,
Ganges.

Progress

Sir,
It's nice to see the Farmer's Market has progressed to the Sacred epitome of beauty — a car lot. Two questions remain unanswered, however. Who gave Saunders Subaru verbal permission to put the cars there? And if, as he says, his car dealership did not put the cars there, who did?
DAN EVANISHEN,
Fulford Harbour.

First victim

Sir,
"The first victim of war is truth," so they say, but the astonishing collection of statistics and opinions that your voyaging publisher Tony Richards brought back right from the heart of the NATO publicity mill, and then spread across a centrefold, seemed to lack even the credibility of the figures found in quite another sort of centrefold.

The percentages of GNP spent on the military imply that between 1973 and 1982, the Soviet Union vastly outspent the USA and NATO. This is quite at odds with the truth of the situation: namely, that during this decade, the share of the world total spent on weapons and the military by NATO countries was 47 per cent against 26 per cent by Warsaw Pact countries.

The CIA has developed a very

sophisticated system for translating Soviet military spending into US dollars. This ignores the official budget, and instead attempts to calculate the cost to the USA of running the USSR's armed forces, an artificial system that results in some hilarious anomalies, including the fact that if US soldiers get a pay increase, the CIA's version of the USSR's military budget increases at the same time.

It is perhaps worth mentioning, while on the subject of the CIA, that one part of its budget (about \$25 billion annually) is for a category of activities officially described only as 'disinformation.' The committee set up in the US to investigate abuses by the CIA, known as the Church Committee, found that the CIA had co-opted several hundred journalists, including some of the biggest names in the business, to pump its propaganda stories into the media to teach us all to hate and fear the Soviets.

The list goes on and on. And this is the tip of the iceberg. I mean, think about just how widely you can 'disinform' on \$25 billion a year. Newspapers, TV, wire services, magazines, election funds, subliminal advertisements, records, movies ... shaping your world-view day-in, day-out.

Tony Richards tells us the USSR has a 48-year history of aggression. John Stockwell, the most senior CIA officer ever to

leave the agency and publish his memoirs, tells us that the US has sent its troops into over 200 overseas actions since the Second World War, to "make people in those countries do what they did not want to do." He speaks of some 10,000 CIA brutal covert actions resulting in the deaths of millions, including 800,000 in Indonesia alone. Similar warps in reality turn up throughout Tony Richards' article — chemical weapons, "NATO, the world's largest peace movement," the INF and others.

It's obvious from his article that your publisher enjoyed his trip to Europe — good beer, fine food and all the bars that Brussels can offer. Nice of the Department of External Affairs to pick up the tab, too. But Tony, is your double page of "threat of Soviet invasion" and "deep distrust" and all the rest truly the best you can offer us to help bring two heavily-armed adversaries a little farther away from killing us all? Or is it simply one more drop of poison and distrust, teaching us on Salt Spring Island that Russians and Cubans are an alien species bent on destroying us?

It's not that one side is all right and one is all wrong. We are, together, life on this planet, all life. We can learn to live in peace together, or we can die together. It's the choice we each have to make.

In the words of the senior British military officer at SHAPE quoted in Tony Richards' article: "We cannot go on playing this game forever."
R. Q. POLDEN,
Ganges.

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'Just ask the fly on the wall'

Perils of penmanship have few bounds

... Graphology, the assessment of character traits from examination of handwriting, is increasingly used to screen British Columbia workers in both the private and public sectors.

— News Item

By ANDREW GIBSON

B. C. labour-management relations being now in a state of ferment (perhaps 'explosion' would be a better word) I thought my duty, upon reading the above, to investigate this latest moonbeam from the western lunacy.

My sleuthing is made easier by an uncanny ability to turn myself into a fly (*Musca domestica*), so upon entering Clearcut Towers, the imposing glass and chrome headquarters of Colossal Clearcut Inc. in downtown Vancouver, I locked myself in a washroom cubicle, hung up my threads, and, by chanting the appropriate mantra "*SAPIENS EXITA, HAIL MUSCA DOMESTICA*") I soon assumed my fly persona.

I droned down the corridor to the conference room, and found that my luck was in — a meeting was about to start. It was obviously high-powered, because I could recognize, at the head of the table, the craggy features of B.C.'s dean of stumps, P.C.B. Clearcut himself. I buzzed cautiously around the table, to check the seating cards: son Chip Clearcut, vice-president in charge of waste; daughter Arbutus, V.P. in charge of full-page self-promotional ads; personnel manager Hiram N. Fyram; and D. Boddam-Lyon, chief accountant.

There were three persons at the other end of the table, a rather exotic-looking lady and two men, all glaring venomously at each other. When the gavel sounded I quickly zoomed to the wall behind the chairman. What follows is the transcript of what I heard.

PCB: Now, just to recap my memo, we're here to think about changing the way we screen our employees. What with the free trade ball in play, we don't need any organizers, nationalists, environmentalists — freaks of any kind — so we've got to tighten up. The question is — how? We'll get some signals from the experts at the other end of the table, but first let's huddle. Give us your thoughts, Hiram.

HIRAM: We gotta join the 20th Century. We need a squad of psychologists, with lie detectors, drug tests, video snooping, bugs — the whole schmeer. It's the only way.

BODDAM-LYON: B.S. — you should excuse the expression, Arbutus — you know what these shrinks cost? All they tell you is your big trouble is from Oedipus Complex.

CHIP: Who he?

BODDAM-LYON: Oh, some Greek nut in love with his mother — can you believe it? We go that way and we'll be the best adjusted bankrupts in B.C.

ARBUTUS: Well, I don't see what's wrong with what we do now, just give every employee a

'Here's a sample from a fellow I got doubts about.'

cup of tea, and get Senora Oolong to read the leaves. Boy, she told me a few sizzlers about a certain bigmouth I know.

CHIP: Shut up, Arbutus. I'm all for graphology — that's a real science, and it don't cost an arm and a leg. When eggheads at the Parole Board use it, that's good enough for me.

PCB: Well, you know what I think. In my own personal life I get Madame LaZonka to call up Princess Hep Khat, my Egyptian Princess spirit guide. We could put her on the payroll.

CHIP: How you gonna put a ghost on the payroll?

PCB: Smartass — I mean Madame LaZonka. Anyway, I'll be stepping down soon, so you can fight it out. Now we'll hear from the experts. Let's see, first Lewis Cannon, from Phrendly Phrenology, Inc.

HIRAM: You measure head bumps, right?

LEWIS: Crudely put, yes. Phrenology is an ancient science. You see, human characteristics are located in the various parts of the brain, and change the configurations of the skull.

HIRAM: Ha!

LEWIS: I will demonstrate — perhaps you will permit me, mademoiselle?

ARBUTUS: Well, if you're careful with my coiffure — I've just been haircreted. (archly) Nothing naughty, mind.

LEWIS: (standing behind Arbutus and running his hands over her head): What fascinating contours! A marked intelligence elevation, with a positive hillock of humour and ... yes ... this occipital depression — compulsive loyalty if I ever saw it!

CHIP: That's funny. She's the family fink.

ARBUTUS: Steady, dork — Oolong told me about the kind of bumps you're interested in. Gee,

Mr. Cannon, if you can find all that out in a minute, what could you do in an hour?

CHIP: Oh boy. Go for it, Lewis. Your place or hers?

ARBUTUS: (picking up the water pitcher): Speaking of head bumps

... **PCB:** Quit squabbling, you two. Thanks, Lewis, we'll get back to you. Now let's hear from Urban Scrawl, of the Graphology Grilling Group.

URBAN: (glancing meaningfully at Lewis): I don't mean to cast aspersions at present company, but in B.C. graphology is taking over from the witch doctors. It is a very skilled discipline — I have studied handwriting for five years.

BODDAM-LYON: Yeah. We had one of those once. He got five years, too.

URBAN: (haughtily): How amusing.

HIRAM: You mean you can spot a crook from just a sample of handwriting?

URBAN: After my analysis, this individual is an open book. When I think of the trouble I could have saved some governments I won't name ...

CHIP: (fishing in his briefcase): OK — here's a sample from a fellow I got doubts about. Check it out.

URBAN: (doubtfully): A worker?

CHIP: Hell, no. Never worked a good day in his life.

URBAN: (examining the sample): Well, this is just a preliminary opinion. It's a rather effeminate hand. The terminal letters rise — that's a sign of ambition, and ... ah yes, the ornamental J suggests a vindictiveness. This person should never be in a position of trust.

CHIP: Right on. I cut it from Boddam-Lyon's last memo. What about it, Bod, gonna confess?

BODDAM-LYON: What! (picks up the gavel and chases Urban), Rather effeminate, eh? I'll teach you, you ... snake oil hawker, you!

ARBUTUS: (laughing): Oh, calm down everybody. Say, Dad, what's that fly doing on the wall behind you? Where's the swatter?

I thought it prudent at this point to interrupt my front-leg braiding practice (it's harder than you might think). I buzzed out just behind Urban and Boddam-Lyon and within minutes, having resumed my usual natty appearance, strolled out of the building. Except for a compulsion to occasionally braid my arms, causing stares from a few rubber-neckers, I looked perfectly normal.

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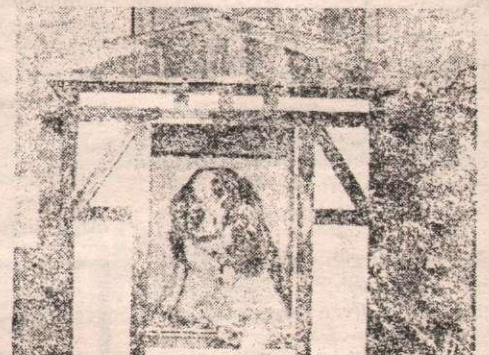
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North shortchanged by privatization plan

VICTORIA — If the first two privatization deals don't get Premier Vander Zalm the salesman-of-the-year award, nothing will. He unloaded two dogs for a cool half million in cash and an estimated savings to the treasury of \$180,000 a year.

Small wonder the premier was all smiles when he announced the sale of the Queen's Printer publication section in Victoria and the Kelowna-based soil, feed and tissue laboratory.

The problem is that with two good deals under his belt, the premier is now likely to feel cockier than ever and push for the liquidation of the highways and bridge maintenance divisions with renewed vigour.

There is, however, a world of difference between two puny and relatively obscure government operations and the responsibility for keeping 42,876 of miles of highways and 2,624 bridges safe for travellers.

The government may even save money by letting the private sector look after our highways, but that shouldn't be the only criterion. What about public safety? What about the quality of an extremely vital service to the public?

The sale of the Queen's Printer book store and the soil, feed and tissue lab will affect very few people other than the former public servants who purchased the operations. And they may live to regret the day they bought their jobs from the government.

But even if it was one of those rare deals that's good for everyone involved, the same doesn't necessarily apply to the privatization of the highways and bridge maintenance function.

One of the problems in B.C. has always been that the province is governed from the populated and developed south by people who mostly don't have a clue about the needs of citizens in the vast reaches north of the 50th parallel.

When the wolf-kill controversy made headlines, many a southern politician gave more credibility to the cries of the people in Vancouver who felt sorry for the cute animals, than to the people of the north who are familiar with another side of the story.

Few MLAs sitting on the government side of the House have any idea of what the presence of the highways ministry means to people in the remote areas of the province. And those who do will have to live with the consequences of their silence, induced by slavish adherence to the government line.

To northern communities, the highways ministry is one of the most important lifelines. Without the top-notch service they are

capital comment

hubert beyer

used to getting from their highways crews, they are completely at the mercy of the elements — and they're a lot more hostile in Fort Nelson, Dawson Creek and Fort St. John than in Vancouver and Victoria.

One of the reasons the service has been excellent is the fact that it's been provided by government, which doesn't have to watch the bottom line. And while frugality and parsimony are to be recommended for most government operations, they should not be the prime consideration in the delivery of a vital service.

Modern and enlightened societies charge their governments with certain responsibilities that should not and cannot be measured in monetary terms. A government should no more try to save money on keeping highways and bridges safe than on buying modern hospital equipment or mounting rescue operations.

A private company must keep expenses to a minimum or it will lose money. That's why pharmaceutical companies aren't eager to develop drugs that would benefit only relatively few people, no matter how badly they need them.

A private firm looking after the maintenance of highways and bridges will inevitably try to save money at every turn, regardless of the performance standards the government may write into the contracts. It follows that the service cannot be the same as that provided by the government.

The best we can hope for, I suppose, is that most of the contracts will be awarded to groups of former highways employees — but they, too, will have to watch their pennies or go under. At least they would have the expertise and, it is to be hoped, the dedication they brought to their former role.

Assigning responsibility for highways and bridge maintenance to the private sector may, indeed, save the taxpayers some money, at least in the short run, but that saving will be realized at the expense of service.

And once again, it is the north that will have to bear most of the consequences of a bad idea hatched by a southern politician.

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Heartwarming

Sir,
On behalf of the library board I want to thank the volunteers who helped move the library into its new expanded premises.

Once again on Salt Spring Island we have seen a wonderful and heartwarming response to a community need. We had planned to advertise for help but found it was not necessary as so many people offered their services. Many thanks go to all the library ladies who spent hours trundling books into the new section; the husband and wife teams who did so many thankless jobs; and all the men who lent their strong backs and carpentry skills in moving and making shelves, glueing carpets, painting, etc. — all done with great willingness and good humour. We regret we were unable to call every person who volunteered and wish to thank them for their offers of help.

Special thanks are due to Hank Schubart, our architect, for his excellent design and for his untiring efforts on our behalf; to Tony Burrige, our contractor, and his associates, for a superb construction job; to Jack Sharp, who donated his time and expertise in making our beautiful new desk; and to the Weavers' Guild, which provided the outstanding tapestry, now on the wall above the desk.

Thank you one and all for a magnificent effort.
MARIE CROFTON,
Ganges.

Issues, action

Sir,
A meeting on environmental issues is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, at 7:30 pm in the Salt Spring Community Centre. It's open to everyone. Bring your

more letters

issues and we'll discuss possibilities on action.

Some information in environmental matters:

- The B.C. Environmental Network is putting together a directory; call Colleen McRory (358-7170) or write Box 224, New Denver, B.C. V0G 1S0.

- Groups or individuals can apply for project grants for Environment Week. Deadline is February 14; call 666-5900 for info.

- Environment Canada has information on several issues at that number, plus an extensive library and a good librarian, at its West Vancouver location (next to the Lion's Gate bridge).

- The federal task force on the environment and the economy invites responses from the public to its recommendations for "sustainable development." Contact the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers, 4905 Dufferin St., Downsview, Ontario M3H 5T4, or call 667-4714.

- The B.C. Network will hold a two-day public meeting in the spring to discuss the above report. Supposedly, an information program is being created by "communications experts" to let Canadians become involved. Contact Mark Stefanson, UNEP, Winnipeg, 945-4742.

Communications on the environment is missing a few links — like how to get the finely-packaged information from the experts to the people who are going to act on it. Pollution is big business: for instance, the U.S. annually spends \$13 billion on pesticides, a form of toxic waste that eventually gets into the groundwater. I shudder every time I look at the facts, and what I find behind the scenes is even worse.

The federal government offers some protection for the environment, but has to deal with our wonderful provincial government, which doesn't seem to protect anything. Most issues end up in the courts, at great expense to the health of the taxpayer.

There really is no one to protect us, just local group action. Globally, the UN calls for a co-ordinated risk assessment centre for the major threats. All this has to happen.

Credit must go to Galiano's Clear-Cut Alternatives group, and cohort Ron Pither, who negotiated with that logging company (you know: the one that's doing all the PR to improve its image) to save Coon Bay. Can you imagine logging Coon Bay — the most beautiful bay with sculptured rocks on the north end of Galiano — in the first place?
SUE HISCOCKS,
Ganges.

Shocking

Sir,
When I first heard of the dismissal of Jonna Mattiesing, the administrator of Greenwoods, I was shocked. Since I am involved and concerned with Intermediate Care myself, I began marshalling forces to lure Jonna and her talents south, where I believe she would have much to teach us. Unfortunately for us, at this time she will not consider leaving Salt Spring, which she feels such a part of ... certainly an ironic feeling.

As part of my involvement in intermediate care, it has been my responsibility to study and learn from more enlightened approaches used in countries around the world. As large as the intermediate care world is, it's a small one when the fresh and unusual surfaces. Thus, word of Jonna's uninstitutional, human approach to intermediate care began to reach many professionals in this area. I chose to combine a vacation to your delightful island with a professional visit to see her approaches for myself.

Jonna was amazed that anyone should consider her efforts unusual. I came away from that visit incredulous at my own apparent insensitivity in an area where I perceived myself to be experienced and understanding. Jonna's position was and is that her 'guests' have always been loving, contributing people in their lives and their communities, and they won't be considered as any less while she's privileged to be with them. Her staff rallied around this common sense attitude of hers and in turn became natural 'agents' of her style.

I think she merely reflected back to them their own feelings and attitudes already in place. And that, I think, is Jonna's strength — to show us all how worthwhile we are to each other.

All this was astounding to us in the business, but it worked so well and so gracefully that we all started paying attention. Jonna has affected all of us — community, resident and professionals alike — well beyond the boundaries of Salt Spring.

You can imagine, then, my surprise at hearing of Jonna's 'resignation' which I'm sure many of you know by now was a crock foisted upon her by the Greenwoods board. Is this what your community wants?

Surely the reason many of you chose to live in a smaller, more personal environment has a little

to do with human scale and human caring. How then, when presented with a truly caring and loving person who fosters similar responses among so many of you, can any of you stand by and allow a valuable Salt Spring asset, like Jonna, be the victim of the bottom line?

I'm not in a position to lecture a community that I'm not part of, but it does make one wonder ... in our world today, where behaviour oriented towards others rather than self is an exception, it seems odd that an island community like yours would fail to stand up for the exceptional, to conserve a part of what makes you so special.

As fond of your island as I have become, I presume to take personally the loss of Jonna as part of 'our' island life. She has affected so many of us personally and professionally and I will be ashamed for all of us if we don't support what we know to be good for us all, and our chosen island way of life.

MICHAEL BARANOFF,
Los Angeles.

P.S. If we all search our hearts and find the self-interest that lies heavily there, we'll probably hear a voice ... and mine is loudly saying: "if a Greenwoods is to be my final home, please, please God let a Jonna be the lady there who cares."

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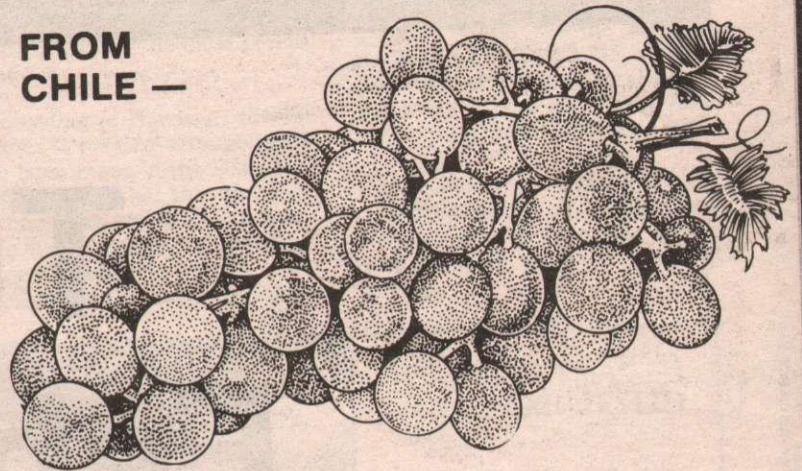
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Vehicle chases end with two charges filed

A Vancouver man has been charged with dangerous driving and failing to stop for a police officer, following a high-speed chase in Ganges early Sunday morning.

After receiving a complaint about erratic driving, local RCMP clocked a vehicle travelling at 93 kilometres an hour in a 50-kilometre zone on Lower Ganges Road. When police gave chase, the vehicle went into a ditch and the driver disappeared on foot into nearby bushes.

RCMP decided to wait nearby and, 10 minutes later, saw the driver reappear and flee in the vehicle.

Another police chase ensued, this time ending in the Harbour House parking lot. Again, the driver escaped into nearby bushes once his vehicle was stopped.

And again, police declined to give chase. Instead, they impounded the driver's vehicle and apprehended the suspect the following morning.

Charged is 27-year-old Garry Louis Newmeyers of Vancouver.

The minimum penalty for failing to stop for a police officer — a Motor Vehicle Act offence — is a three-year driver's licence suspension. The dangerous driving

charge falls under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Police have reported a stolen purse.

The purse, belonging to Holly Johnson, was taken from an unlocked vehicle during the night of January 29 and 30. The car was parked in the Harbour House Hotel parking lot, and the purse contained personal papers.

Local RCMP are again stepping up a campaign to educate Salt

Spring drivers about traffic laws, particularly illegal parking, Cst. Jim Harrison said Monday.

For the next two weeks, police will issue warnings for parking violations and illegal driving practices, such as U-turns. Tickets will be issued for the most severe violations.

According to Harrison, several changes in parking arrangements have been made in the last year. He also noted that the Chamber of Commerce traffic safety committee has requested stepped-up enforcement by the RCMP.

Police hope to have local driv-

ers educated in time for the seasonal influx of tourists.

One problem in issuing tickets on Salt Spring, Harrison noted, is that enforcement must be under the provincial Motor Vehicle Act. If Salt Spring were a municipality, a bylaw could set the fee for parking tickets at \$2, \$5 or \$10. Because there are no local parking bylaws, however, ticket fees are set at a minimum \$35.

A technicality which saw several tickets thrown out of court last summer will be overcome in the new round of ticketing, Harrison added.

Importance of tourism strategy outlined to Salt Spring audience

The notion that tourism is a product of collective energy was a point well-taken by a representative group of islanders who agreed last week to study a tourism strategy for Salt Spring.

"There must be a recognition that all are in the same business," Peter Maundrell, B.C.'s director of tourism and culture told the gathering at the Cusheon Lake Resort last Friday.

He added: "Taxi drivers and gas station attendants are all in tourism."

Individuals meeting with Maundrell represented bed and breakfast operations, resorts, arts and crafts, and transportation interests. After discussing tourism strategy and localized problems, the group formed a committee to study controlled tourism development for the island.

As a representative from the ministry of tourism and culture, Maundrell's mandate is to encourage a grassroots strategy for tourism in the regions and sub-regions of the province.

"The idea is you people do the planning for yourselves," he said, indicating that government help in areas such as research would be available once the group identified its strategy.

The first step towards formulating a strategy, Maundrell explained, is to assess what resources the island offers, and which of these it might want to promote or "de-promote." Then the "facts and figures" obtained through market research must prove the viability of promoting those resources.

Galiano Chamber of Commerce president Bill Callaway was on hand to describe some of the steps that island has taken toward developing its strategy. A Galiano resident is collating various socio-

economic information regarding the island, making an inventory of attractions and special events, and determining the number of people it can feed and accommodate. From here, a "think-tank" will study the direction the community should take.

Several options for a Salt Spring Island tourism strategy were discussed. Maundrell suggested the island might look at methods of marketing the off-

'This is the trend, and there is an opportunity here. Whether you want them is what you have to decide.'

season. (He also noted that a strategy could involve de-marketing the peak period.) One suggestion for off-season development was tour bus packaging, wherein special interest groups — i.e., historical associations and naturalists — might host weekend tours.

One individual suggested Salt Spring market its "peace and quiet" atmosphere, while another felt a full-service resort is needed on the island. Focusing on and developing the island as an arts centre was also discussed.

Maundrell noted an expanding market in pleasure boating, pocket cruising and deluxe charter boating.

"This is the trend," he said, "and there is an opportunity here. Whether you want them, is what you have to decide."

One problem mentioned repeatedly was the state of ferry

service to the island, especially from Tsawassen.

"The corporation has a mandate to provide service to the islands," one individual noted, "but it has no apparent concern about the impact ferry changes have on tourism."

According to Maundrell, the ferry corporation may be ready to start listening to tourism concerns. Maundrell said tourism had previously been on the low end of the government priorities list, behind other industries such as forestry and high technology, but the profile of tourism changed with Expo. Service industries are becoming recognized as important aspects of the economy, he said.

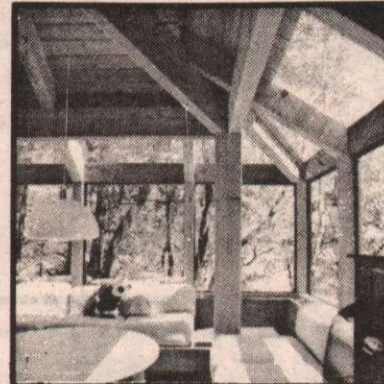
Maundrell also warned that improved ferry service from Vancouver could have the negative effect of "swamping" the island. He cited an example in the Queen Charlotte Islands where ferry service was improved — and the islands could not begin to accommodate the influx of tourists.

The most important thing, he re-emphasized, is recognizing that everybody is part of tourism. Shop and restaurant owners need to be encouraged to remain open in the evenings and on weekends, he explained, and the island needs the controlled development of quality tourism.

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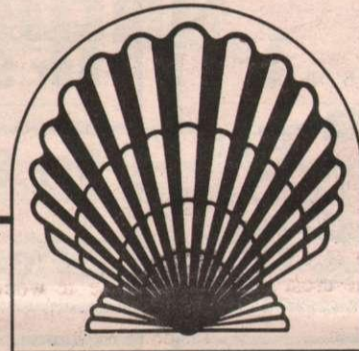


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HMS Ganges

Model of important ship links then to now

By DUNCAN MacDONNELL

History is being re-created in the workshop adjoining Cole Harvey's Salt Spring Island home. There, amid detailed drawings and blocks of wood and an assortment of woodworking tools, a ship is taking shape.

It's not just any ship. It's the *HMS Ganges*, a British Navy vessel constructed in Bombay, India, in the early 1800s. The first British Navy ship to be built with teak, it was launched in 1821 and commissioned in 1823. In 1858, the *HMS Ganges* found its way to the Gulf Islands, where its crew charted local waters and stood ready to maintain law-and-order in the region.

Several local place-names are a reminder of that visit some 130 years ago. Burgoyne Bay, Fulford Harbour, Southey Point, Baynes Mt. and Ganges itself all derived their names from the ship or its crew members.

Another reminder of the ship's visit is not so direct. The crest used by the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club shows an elephant — which has nothing to do with sailing, except that the elephant was first pictured on the crest of the *HMS Ganges*, in reference to it having been built in India.

Cole Harvey knows all about the connections linking the elephant, the Sailing Club and Salt Spring Island to the British Navy vessel. And he knows that the *HMS Ganges* itself was 196 feet long, with a beam of 52 feet.

The original, that is. The version of the *HMS Ganges* taking shape in Cole Harvey's workshop won't be nearly as large — say, seven feet long and eight feet high when it's finished — but it will be accurate to the original, right down to the tiniest detail.

The model of the ship that gave its name to the main community on Salt Spring Island is being fashioned in Harvey's workshop on behalf of the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club, which has yearned for years for a model of the ship that gave it its crest.

Harvey, a commercial airline pilot in his 35th year of flying, was commissioned by the club three years ago to proceed with construction of a scale model of the *HMS Ganges*. The choice of craftsman was logical, given Harvey's 50-year-old hobby of constructing models (first airplanes, then ships) and working with wood — not to mention his love of ships, as shown by the 62-foot ketch he built and now moors a few hundred feet from his home near Long Harbour.

And a craftsman was needed for the project, since no replica of the *HMS Ganges* is available in kit form from a neighbourhood hobby shop. So where to start? The Sailing Club's Wayne Pearce contacted the British Admiralty in England, which turned up the original plans for the *HMS Ganges* and sent large photocopies to Salt Spring.

Using those plans as his scale, Harvey went to work — and encountered his first complication. The scale on the plans is one



Cole Harvey attends to minute details on model of 19th Century ship under construction.

foot per 50 feet, which is an uncommon ratio for modellers. It meant that nothing could be purchased ready-made for the ship, since it would be out of scale. Everything would have to be done by hand.

Start with the wood. Harvey had it milled especially for the

'To build something real is a piece of cake, because it's just a model on a large scale.'

project, by Mel Marchbanks on Isabella Point Road. The wood is 15/16th of an inch thick.

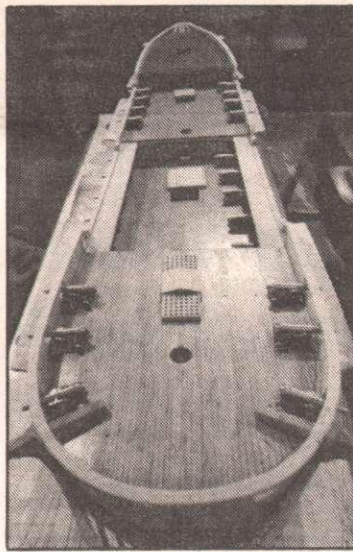
Turning to his work, Harvey employed traditional ship-building methods in constructing the replica's hull from the plans available. Some adjustments had to be made but, given his

boat-building experience and knowledge of ships from the same era, Harvey was able to proceed on safe ground.

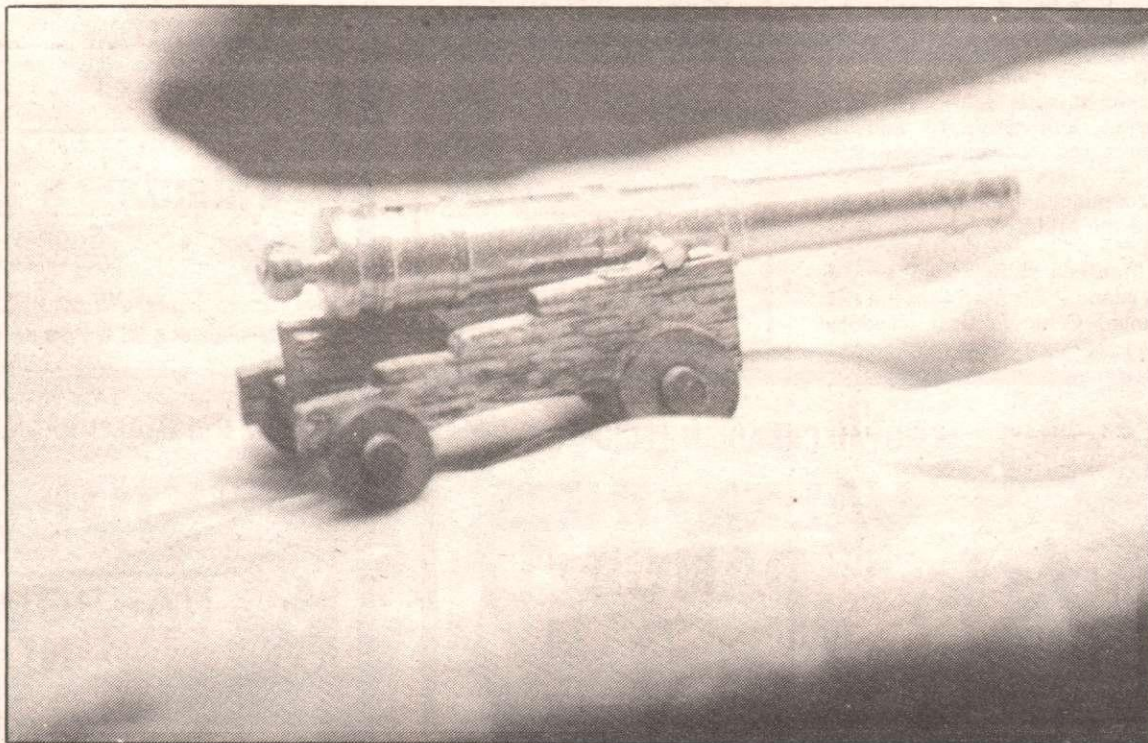
In the ensuing three years, working in long bursts, Harvey has taken the model up to deck level and now considers the work about 80 per cent complete. The work has been intricate and time-consuming, and will remain so until the model is completed.

Take the 25 cannons on the ship's deck. Replicas of 32-pounders, each barrel is a two-inch-long piece of brass turned on a tiny lathe. Each took about six hours to complete.

Harvey notes that because everything had to be hand-made for the model, many hours were spent searching for ways to build what was needed. An example is a small block of wood holding part of a door hinge. The hinge falls over a small depression in the block of wood, which in turn holds a small 'button' of wood. Drilling through holes in the hinge turns



View of model vessel's deck, above, shows careful work needed to produce historically-accurate replica. Below, Harvey's hand holds one of the two-inch-long cannons he produced on workshop lathe.



the 'button' into a model deadeye for the ship.

"The trick is to find mass-production methods," Harvey says. At the same time, everything must be a perfect ship's component in miniature.

Harvey maintains that constructing the scale-model of the *HMS Ganges* is, in many ways, more difficult than building a real-life ship. He notes that the 62-foot ketch he built took four years to complete; a model of a ship he began to build at the same time was completed in 12 years. At the same time, he points out that the *HMS Ganges* took four years to build in Bombay — roughly the same time he expects it will take to complete the model.

"You don't make the blocks and ropes you need for a real boat — you buy them," Harvey says.

"To build something real is a piece of cake, because it's just a model on a large scale. If you have modelling experience, you can build something large."

Harvey is reluctant to predict when the model might be finished, particularly since the list of items to be made — and installed — is still lengthy (55 more pieces for the deck, for instance). "Hobbies are supposed to be something you do in your own time, without pressure," he says. "It's wrong to put a projected finishing time on it, because then it's a job."

Still, sometime next year is a good guess. By then, Harvey estimates the modelling project will have taken up between 10,000 and 12,000 hours.

When it is finished, the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club will assume ownership of the ship and decide where and how it will be displayed. Since the club's present quarters may prove to be too small to house the model (it will likely be in a large glass case by then), some thought is being given to temporarily displaying the work in a prominent location in Ganges. That decision, however, will wait until the work is finished.

Think of Harry Graham, think of me

*I love the pictures, I admit.
It's pleasant, in the dark to sit
And watch the phantom figures
flit*

*Across the screen before you.
For films are things that
entertain*

*Without imposing any strain
Upon the intellect or brain:
And if, perchance, they bore you
Your eyelids you can always
close*

And sink into a peaceful doze...

By FRANK RICHARDS

Harry Graham wrote his views on the cinema, or movie theatre, in the 1920s. I could leave some poetry alone and I could enjoy others, but the top poet in my student days was the poet who could make me laugh. Harry Graham filled that niche.

He wrote of everything and, bearing in mind that it is some 50 years since I read any of his many books of verse, I could be in error on some of the lines.

There was the incident of murder in the rectory when the Bishop and the Curate sat down to breakfast. The curate was given to humour over that first meal of the day and the bishop was a man who never jested until breakfast was over.

The poem introduces the jest and the indignation and the ensuing fury as the two opposites defended their views:

*And in a trice these holy men
Began, with most unholy zeal
To throw the remnants of the
meal
At one another.*

The climax came when the curate brained his superior with a well-aimed swing of the mustard pot.

Auntie came in for a shock when the unfortunate nephew failed to lock the bathroom door. His aunt, one day, charged in as half-submerged he lay:

*He hadn't the chance or even
scope
To camouflage himself with
soap,*

*But, like Venus from the foam,
He sprang to view and made for
home.*

*His aunt fell fainting to the
ground.*

*Alas! They never brought her
round!*

*And, thus, in one fell swoop or
plunge,*

*He lost his aunt, his honour and
his sponge.*

I have no recollection of Harry Graham or his other claims to fame, assuming he had any. It is at least 50 years since I read his works and I still remember whole segments of them, but, for the life of me, I don't remember any other of his poems.

But the point of my remembering all this is strictly prejudiced. I want to find a copy of his poetry and if any reader has, by

Copies of poet's works sought

chance, a copy I would like to borrow it, steal it or honestly acquire it.

I know it's a long shot, but if you think of Harry Graham I'd appreciate it if you'd think of me.

I found recent reference to my hero in an unexpected place. I was

looking through the Oxford quotations when I found Mr. Graham sharing space with other

writers. One of the samples the reference work gives is one I had forgotten came from his pen:

*Little Willy; bright new sashes;
Fell in fire: burnt to ashes.*

*Now, although the room burns
chilly,
We haven't the heart to poke
poor Willy!*

OR

*"There's been an accident," they
said,*

*"Your servant's cut in half. He's
dead."*

*"Indeed!" said Mr. Jones, "and
please*

*Send me the half that's got my
keys!"*

It's that Graham, again!



Ciel and Maureen

Traditional Celtic music slated for island concert

A Californian duo which plays everything from "haunting slow airs to lively jigs and reels" is scheduled to play on Salt Spring Island.

Maureen and Ciel offer traditional music played on a combination of Irish harp and hammered dulciner. They will perform February 4 at the United Church, and provide a lead-up towards April's Celtic Festival.

Maureen Brennan plays the Irish-style, non-pedal harp, which is undergoing a revival in traditional music circles. Ciel plays the hammered dulcimer — a multi-stringed, trapezoid-shaped instrument with lightweight hammers. Both the harp and the hammered dulcimer date back 3,000 years and were played throughout ancient China, Persia, and the Middle-East.

Maureen and Ciel will provide an island "warm-up" for the fifth annual Celtic Festival scheduled

for Salt Spring. According to Folk Society member Lawrie Neish, the event was a huge success last time it was held here.

Maureen and Ciel — another popular show, says Neish — will begin their concert at 8 pm. Cost of the performance is \$5.


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Township music a blast, Bird a bit less inspiring

Presenting — from Soweto, South Africa — Zulu Spear! Okay, woman, I know you won't put away those lustful fantasies of tender brown bodies swinging to the cosmopolitan African beat. I know the boys on this island don't have that exotic flavour, nor do we perspire to the same intoxicating rhythmic synchronicity. But - but - but - jeez. How do you compete with that number?

The Activity Centre on Saturday night was alive with cosmic hum, aerobic heart beat and dense with glandular arousal. A natural high, even for the guys. Zulu Spear is just what the doctor ordered for those of us whose holiday budget dried up a year ago; a polyglot African-American fusion which turned the Activity Centre into one great rotisserie. Things were cookin'.

Zulu Spear is made up of five musicians and entertainers from Soweto, and three jazzy accompanists from the U.S. Let's make no mistake — what they play is not African roots music, but that is certainly the drive engine of a style that incorporates jazz elements, eclectic folk sounds and rhythmic percussion. A complex and stimulating auditory delight, this is modern music from modern Africans.

The dancers in their "tribal garb" made no pretense about being "authentic natives." This was entertainment, not anthropology, and they did it with enthusiasm and a lot of fun. And that in itself is enough to bring modern people together towards greater understanding. Bravo.

Well, on the other side of things, what do we make of the opening

artseen

by gary cherneff

set by Tony Bird? Quiet, reflective poetics on the Great Rift Valley Paradise — a white African's funeral dirge on the passing of the noble savage's way of life. Do I detect a thread of good protestant guilt here?

Tony Bird has wonderful romantic sentiments about his homeland, and one must respect his sincerity. But rather than advocating specific changes, his limp-handed approach perpetuates the vision and stereotype of picturesque little bushmen and

pygmies living in complete harmony with nature.

This is a typically ethnocentric western bias which seems to put closed cultures and ancient civilizations on a mystically pure plateau, above the rest of mankind. I'm afraid I can't buy that message.

There are, no doubt, pockets of primitive peoples who exist in harmony with their neighbours and environment. But, you can count on one hand the number of cultures that are not predatory, given the correct circumstances. There are no noble cultures, only human beings — some of whom are nice, some of whom are butchers. A good taste of reality often keeps the latter in check. But Bird's lyrics are definitely on the romantic side of real.

On the musical side of things the

rhythmic style this performer takes on is lyrical, and often infectious. By contrast, his vocal style is a little like a canned volcano. We know the passion is there but the tiny holes in the container restricts its passage. We get percolation rather than eruption. When Woody Guthrie sings of the dust bowl refugee, you get a sense of dirt between your teeth. When Bruce Cockburn sings *If I had a rocket launcher*, you know he is committed to telling true stories. When Tony Bird sings of social injustice in Africa, his plaintive moanings are just insufficient. Where is the true grit?

Ex-Salt Spring resident Art Lucs will be having an exhibition of recent paintings at the Bau-Xi Gallery in Vancouver, until February 20.



Dorothy Hamer

We've moved!



Maureen Leason

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Gerry Parrott and John Crofton raise flag to mark Heart Month

Fund-raising appeals, lifestyle tips make up local Heart Month focus

Funds needed to help arrest Canada's number one killer will be collected on Salt Spring Island during February.

The month has been set aside to promote awareness of — and raise funds for — research into the battle against heart disease, which is responsible for 44 per cent of all deaths recorded in Canada each year.

The B.C. Heart Foundation is aiming to raise \$1.5 million in February, part of the \$4.5 million needed in 1988 to fund 58 heart and cardiovascular research projects. Of that \$1.5 million, Salt Spring Island volunteers say they hope to contribute \$5,000.

The local fund-raising initiative, launched by a 10-person committee under the chairmanship of John Crofton, has scheduled several collection drives and two days of demonstrations related to fitness and healthy hearts.

The prime fund-raising vehicle involves a mailout of donation envelopes to all households on Salt Spring. Recipients return the envelopes — and their contributions — to an address in Victoria, but the amount of the donation is credited towards the island campaign. Receipts for tax purposes will be mailed out later.

Islanders who wish to avoid mailing their contributions can deliver the envelopes by hand to the Ganges Fire Hall on February 12 or 13, when the facility will be home to various displays of heart-related life-saving techniques and equipment.

The two days of demonstrations — from 10 am to 4 pm each day — will include a run-through of the equipment contained in Salt Spring's ambulance, a review of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation techniques provided by members of the local CPR society, and free blood pressure check-ups offered by Salt Spring Island nurses.

Also on February 12 and 13, locations in Ganges and Fulford will be canvassed by local Scouts, Cubs and Beavers offering the public tags in the shape of a small red heart in return for donations to the Heart Fund drive.

There will also be a special aerobics class and demonstration offered at the Salt Spring Elementary School Activity Centre from 9

am to 10:30 am on Saturday, February 13. Operating under the theme, *Bring someone close to your heart*, it will offer fitness information, prizes and instruction applicable to all levels of fitness.

On Friday, February 12, students at the island's three elementary schools will participate in a rope-jumping campaign to help raise funds for the Heart Fund drive. Organizers say the youngsters will aid the campaign by soliciting pledges — and by becoming more aware of the importance of exercise to a healthy heart.

Arrangements have also been made to install Heart Fund collection boxes and signs in prominent locations at several stores on the

island, and local churches will be mentioning the drive and its objectives to their parishioners this Sunday, February 7.

In addition, three Ganges businesses — Mouat's Trading, Pharmasave and The General Store — are providing window space for displays promoting Heart Month and the local campaign to raise funds.

The 10-member committee organizing the drive includes: John Crofton (chairman), Nan Jenks (treasurer), Marie Crofton (secretary), Gerry Layard (advisor), Peggy Tolson (publicity), Bob Tolson (business canvasser), and Sandi Ballantyne, Rosemary Trump, Gerry Parrott and Sheila Zoltay (special events).

Raises nearly \$1,000

Cancer Society event exceeds expectations

Club Mongo and a generous public made last Friday's Cancer Society benefit dance at the Harbour House Hotel a huge success.

The evening event raised \$906.75 for the Cancer Society — more than double what organizer Betsy Dosco had anticipated.

"I expected maybe \$400," she said.

"It was a huge success, a wonderful evening," Harbour House manager Bill Evans said.

According to Dosco, a lot of people contributed to the evening's success. Club Mongo — a top draw on any occasion — played without charge. All four pub bartenders donated their

evening's wages, and the bartender in the lounge chipped in his tips.

The Harbour House picked up the band's travel expenses and provided it with rooms. Others volunteered time to help Dosco collect the \$3 cover charge at the door.

"Everybody was so good about it," Dosco said.

Islanders will have another opportunity to help the Cancer Society raise funds — on March 26, when it holds its annual daffodil day. In 1988, the Canadian Cancer Society — B.C. and Yukon segment — celebrates its 50th anniversary.

bridge report

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners were:

• (North-South) Helen Shandro and Bunny Jordan; Sue Bradford and Norm McConnell; Irene Hawksworth and Anne McConnell.

• (East-West) Alan Steward and Kay Sinclair; Vivian Storr and Marian Ashmore; Gordon Hutton and Fred Struve.

• (North-South) Dorothy Crofton and Helen Shandro; Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Hutton; Pat Warman and Fred Struve; Liz Dafoe and Dawny Scarfe.

• (East-West) Wim and Ima Krayenhoff; Jim Burford and Boyd Siemans; June Knowles and Barbara Adams; Dorothy Ballantyne and Fred Melhuish; Anne and Norm McConnell.

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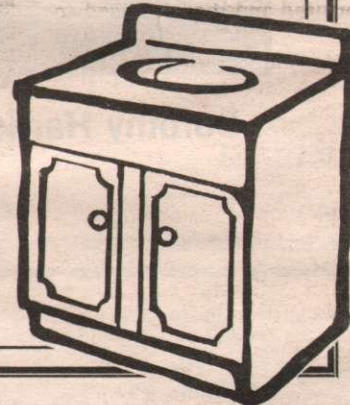
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Amnesty International

Grassroots appeals aid prisoners of conscience

By SUSAN DICKER

Since the 1978 enforcement of martial law in many parts of Turkey, over 48,000 Turks have been sentenced to prison terms after trials which do not meet international standards. According to Amnesty International (AI), over 480 people have been sentenced to death, many on charges with little foundation, and on evidence gathered through systematic torture.

Nurhayat Maz is one victim of this military regime. She is also the adopted prisoner of the Salt Spring branch of AI. The 28-year-old mother and teacher was sentenced to a four-year prison term for membership in an organization that was once legal.

When the military regime took power, various organizations suddenly became illegal. Members were rounded up, charged and sentenced. In one instance, over 1,400 people were jointly tried. Nurhayat's Progressive Women's Organization took neither a political nor a violent stand, but membership was considered subversive enough to warrant imprisonment.

Turkey is among the worst human rights violators, AI says, but it is not the only country practicing ill-treatment against human beings. AI says one out of every three governments uses torture to meet a variety of ends.

Torture is used to extract information from suspected terrorists or those who speak out against the government. Sometimes a person is arrested, beaten, tortured and then released so his friends can see him and decide to remain quiet. In Guatemala, tortured and dying individuals have been displayed to relatives; newspapers are made to publish photos; and in Iran, children have been forced to watch parents being tortured.

Children are not spared physical suffering, either. In 1977, 500 Ethiopian children, mostly between the ages of 11 and 13 years, were killed by soldiers who thought they were organizing a rally. In 1979, the imperial guards of the Central African Empire killed 62 school children between the ages of eight and 16 years. In Chile, a 13-year-old girl was arrested and executed with political prisoners.

Issues such as these concern the world-wide, apolitical AI movement. The 500,000-member organization works under a three-pronged mandate. It seeks the release of men and women anywhere who have been detained for their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion, provided they have not used or advocated violence.

AI promotes fair and early trials for all political prisoners and works for such persons held without charge or trial. AI recently heard of a 31-year-old man who was born in a Burma prison and is still being held there, for example.

The movement opposes the death penalty, torture and any other "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment" of all prisoners.

As part of its fight against violators of human rights, branches of AI adopt prisoners and campaign authorities, through letters, for their release.

The local AI chapter has, in the past year, seen one such prisoner released.

Valery Twurickev, a 38-year-old who protested human rights



Terry Brandmueller of Salt Spring Island's Amnesty International chapter weighs 60-plus letters penned two weeks ago on behalf of prisoners of conscience held in jails around the globe. Letters were written at Amnesty International workshop held to teach techniques to new members. Twenty-two people turned out to take part in the session and provide Brandmueller with letters to mail.

violations in the Soviet Union and who renounced his Soviet citizenship, was detained in a psychiatric ward.

"It was a curious case," says Rodney Polden, co-ordinator of the local campaign for Twurickev's release, "because he was not a heavy-weight dissident."

Those detained or imprisoned, he notes, are not necessarily people who are causing public furor — they can sometimes be those considered *thorns in the side*.

Psychiatric hospitals offer a harsh regime of therapy, including shock treatment and chemical injections. The unfortunate condition of this sentence, Polden notes, is the limitless time boundary. A prison sentence is usually imposed for a specific length of time. In a psychiatric hospital, the prisoner remains there until someone decides he is "cured."

Twurickev's release occurred as a result of two factors, Polden says: the improvement in treatment of human rights throughout

the USSR, alongside reforms in Soviet society, and "the years of work in defence of human rights by many thousands (if not millions) of people around the world, who steadily plugged away at a seemingly endless task."

The Twurickev case was a double adoption, wherein a Netherlands group joined with the Salt Spring branch to apply pressure on Soviet authorities. Between 1982 and 1987, thousands of letters arrived in the Soviet Union to request Twurickev's release and remind officials that the world's eye watched them.

Treatment such as that of Twurickev is not a characteristic limited to one nation, or regime. As Polden stresses, such incidents occur all over the world, including the western hemisphere.

Says AI member Scott Mowbray: "We've had cases in countries that are right-wing, left-wing and even moderate."

"The test of a government is how it treats its citizens," says another member, Andrew Gibson. "If it has a system where people are not abused, then that's the first step towards a civilized society."

Gibson says AI counts on the fact that, aside from all the rationalizations governments can conjure up, they remain ashamed of what they do.

"There is no world leader who says *yes, we practice human torture: they hide their heads.*"

The effectiveness of AI, according to Mowbray, stems largely from the publicity it generates. "It serves to keep people aware," and remind world leaders the spotlight shines on them.

Letter writing gives the individual a sense of participating in the release of prisoners, he says. "What else can you or are you doing? And what better weapon?"

Somewhere in Turkey, Nurhayat Maz sits in a prison cell, charged with membership in a non-violent organization. Through letters sent from Salt Spring, Turkish officials, Nurhayat Maz's family and most importantly, the woman herself, knows she has not been forgotten.



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Month of February gives gardeners lengthy list of 'dormant season' duties

February has arrived without event, and if all goes well this month, we will have enjoyed a second winter without appreciable snows or deep freezes, so let's keep our fingers crossed and sit out under the palm trees to wait for the return of the flamingoes.

Since the weather is milder than usual, the long list of timely things to do out there in the yard should be easier to do and more enjoyable, even if there are a few more chores to add on.

There are still lots of dormant season duties to take care of, such as tool care, sharpening and repair, and construction projects like rock walls, steps, fences, pathways and coldframes, etc.

Without question, this month is prime for pruning fruit trees, shade and ornamental trees and shrubs. Refrain from pruning any that flower in spring (such as flowering quince, white spirea, red flowering currant, forsythia, Osmanthus delavayi, etc.), as you will be removing the blooms when you prune. It sort of defeats the purpose.

Prune shrubs such as winter jasmine, *Viburnum tinus* and autumnal cherry (*Prunus subhirtella autumnalis*) as soon as blooming finishes, and prune Chinese witch hazel lightly now, if the form of the shrub needs correcting, so that you can enjoy the fragrant, striking blossoms indoors.

Prune your grapes soon, before the sap starts to rise, and finish cutting back and thinning out your raspberry canes. Prune back and thin your filbert trees to encourage vigorous, healthy growth.

For your currants, remove almost all of the wood that is over three years old, as beyond this age it becomes less and less productive. With the gooseberries, just take

out the oldest wood to open up the form and allow the sun to penetrate.

February is the month to prune your butterfly bush (buddleia), *P.G. hydrangeas*, and clematises of the Jackmanii type, cutting back hard to leave only one or two pairs of buds to produce the 1988 growth. These shrubs all generate their blooms on the new wood produced during the current growing season, so you stimulate the best show by pruning ruthlessly.

This month is a good one for applying lime on flower beds and lawns, around shrubs, trees, orchards, and in planters and deck pots. Dolomite or garden lime may be applied at rates up to 20 kilograms per 100 square metres, (45 pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.) to help raise the pH.

Our local soils are almost all deficient in calcium and have a low pH naturally, so if you haven't limed in the past three years, then chances are that your soil and plants will benefit greatly from its usage now. If in doubt, a pH test or a half-rate application may be advisable. Don't use hydrated lime unless the situation is critical as indicated by an accurate test, and don't ever apply it on live plant tissues, as it burns.

Any time between now and mid-to-late March is a good time to apply a lime sulphur/dormant oil spray on your fruit trees and flowering ornamentals of the *Prunus* and *Malus* genuses, which include flowering cherries, plums,

your garden

by
Chris Schmah

crabs and almonds. Keep the lime sulphur away from apricots and certain apples (listed with instructions and dosages on bottles), but do use it on roses and lilacs to combat fungi and mites, by applying now at a 1:9 dilution rate (1 part lime sulphur to 9 parts of water). Spray lime sulphur/dormant oil only when the temperatures are above 40 deg. F and when the wind is low or nonexistent.

As for rain or wetness, wait until the stems and branches have dried before starting, and spray only if you're quite certain that the spray will have time to dry completely before any rainfall or freezing weather comes.

Around the end of the month you can start with the fertilizing of your fruit, flowering ornamental and shade trees, using a nearly balanced formulation such as 19-19-19, 13-16-10 or 17-17-17, giving them about one pound per inch of stem diameter. The feeding will be most effective if spread in a band around the drip-line area, and if a lawn or other vegetation may rob the nutrients before they get down to the tree roots, use a pipe, punch bar or wrecking bar to poke a foot deep hole every couple of feet

around the tree, and pour in a cupful of fertilizer.

For your flowering shrubs, a surface-applied granular fertilizer used at the rate of a cupful per square yard (about eight ounces) of ground area under the drip line will do just fine. For your raspberries and strawberries, late in the month or even in March, apply a high phosphorus and high potassium fertilizer such as 4-10-10 or 8-20-20 to stimulate an optimal crop of berries this season.

Just as I'm finishing this article the temperatures are dropping and snow is in the forecast, so who knows what the coming week will hold for us gardeners. We'll complete the list of timely garden chores next week, and if indeed it does snow, don't forget to put out some feed for our fine feathered friends.

PART 5 OF 26

To the Peoples of the World A BAHÁ'Í STATEMENT ON Peace

NO SERIOUS ATTEMPT to set human affairs aright, to achieve world peace, can ignore religion. Man's perception and practice of it are largely the stuff of history. An eminent historian described religion as a "faculty of human nature". That the perversion of this faculty has contributed to much of the confusion in society and the conflicts in and between individuals can hardly be denied. But neither can any fair-minded observer discount the preponderating influence exerted by religion on the vital expressions of civilization. Furthermore, its indispensability to social order has repeatedly been demonstrated by its direct effect on laws and morality.

Writing of religion as a social force, Baha'u'llah said: "Religion is the greatest of all means for the establishment of order in the world and for the peaceful contentment of all that dwell therein." Referring to the eclipse or corruption of religion, he wrote: "Should the lamp of religion be obscured, chaos and confusion will ensue, and the lights of fairness, of justice, of tranquility and peace cease to shine." In an enumeration of such consequences the Baha'i writings point out that the "perversion of human nature, the degradation of human conduct, the corruption and dissolution of human institutions, reveal themselves, under such circumstances, in their worst and most revolting aspects. Human character is debased, confidence is shaken, the nerves of discipline are relaxed, the voice of human conscience is stilled, the sense of decency and shame is obscured, conceptions of duty, of solidarity, of reciprocity and loyalty are distorted, and the very feeling of peacefulness, of joy and of hope is gradually extinguished."

For a free copy of the complete statement "TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD" or information about the Baha'i Faith and local activities, please write or call 537-5383 or 537-4588, Box 772, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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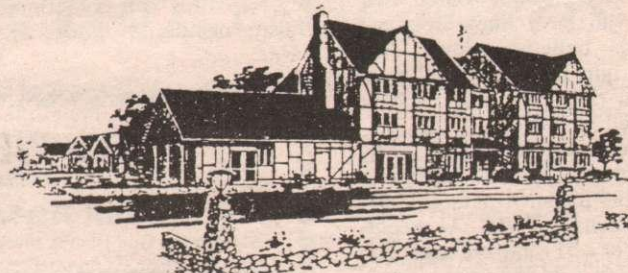
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Madeleine Hardie attends to client at new library desk

Complete community effort aids quick return of library service

A "tremendous community effort" allowed the Salt Spring Island public library to reopen last Monday after a one-week shutdown.

The closure and reopening followed completion of a \$100,000 addition to the library's premises on McPhillips Avenue in Ganges. The expansion, designed by island architect Hank Schubart and built by contractor Tony Burrige, gave the library another 1,342 square feet of floor space, bringing its interior area to 3,692 square feet.

The work, funded by a \$40,000 grant from the provincial government and with \$60,000 provided by the island's non-profit library association, also allowed for provision of washroom facilities, improved interior lighting and an enlarged central desk area.

Library association vice-chairman June Perry said Friday that the task of moving shelving, books and furniture into the new library wing — and rearranging the layout in the old — was made easier by the hard work and dedication shown by volunteers involved in the eight-day operation.

Teams of workers — including library association directors, the volunteers who staff the operation, and many of the library's "clients" — committed themselves to limiting the shutdown to as few days as possible, Perry said.

"We had people coming in off the street and offering to help," she added. "The people said, *Your library means so much to us, we want to help.* It was so heart-warming. And everyone worked so hard — they really did."

Equally indicative of the total community effort that went into preparing the library for its reopening, Perry said, were the "extra touches" provided by so many people. "Tony Burrige and his helper did a lot of extra things, and Bernie Reynolds, who cleaned the windows, did the carpets on his own time. There

were so many people who did things like that, who said this place is special to them, that I can't name them all."

Also donated to the library by members of the community were its new front desk (built by Jack Sharpe) and a large tapestry to hang on one wall (made by the weavers' and spinners' group).

Expansion and rearrangement of the library allows it to make more of its stock of books available to the public. However, Perry noted that no new shelving had to be purchased for the expansion — shelves in the basement were simply removed and repainted, then taken upstairs for installation. It was only one of a number

of moves made to keep costs of the project under budget, she said.

Looking ahead, Perry said the library would still like to acquire additional shelving, and to improve the lighting in the older section of the facility.

The new wing of the library will be officially opened at a March 5 ceremony featuring Saanich-and-the-Islands MLAs Mel Couvelier and Terry Huberts. The Saturday event is set to be held at 11 am.

The library association also announced last week that it is declaring a general amnesty in February for all overdue books.

Slide show, speaker ready for 'Ten Days' installment

A professional geologist from West Vancouver will headline a February 7 installment of Salt Spring Island's *Ten Days for World Development* program.

The Sunday event, set to begin at noon at St. George's Church Hall, will feature Dr. John Payne speaking on the theme of "a model for development."

With the aid of slides, Dr. Payne is to share his first-hand experiences as a volunteer in Nicaragua in July, 1985, and as a member of a November, 1987, task force on Central America.

"John had an opportunity to live and work with Nicaraguan citizens from all walks of life, with a wide range of political, religious and economic backgrounds and perspectives," event organizers say. "John came back to Canada with a profound impression of the dignity and lifestyle of an oppressed people determined to improve the standard and quality of life for everyone."

The February 7 program is sponsored by the *Ten Days for World Development* committee, made up of members of the

Anglican, Roman Catholic and United churches. It will begin at noon with the serving of a "global village meal."

The day will also feature an extensive display and sale of books on world development topics and issues, a discussion period, and an appearance by the "Raging Grannies."

Commission hears education concerns

From Page 1

funding for art, drama and music courses. They also suggested better use of facilities, incorporating programs such as marine studies into the local curriculum, and using island artists within the education system.

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association (GITA) said teacher-initiated programming works well in the community. As examples, they cited the French Immersion and computer studies programs.

What does not work, the association said, are decisions made at the top and imposed without consulting the local people involved. The sudden elimination of Physical Education 11 as a graduation requirement, was one example cited.

The assistant commissioner noted that the debate concerning *what* and *how much* teachers should be involved in decision-making is one that has cropped up frequently in hearings. He added that there has been "a lot more fist-shaking than arm-linking" among government and teachers in the past few years.

The topic of teachers, who were praised by the Fulford Parents Group, was also touched on by the high school students. They suggested that teaching requirements should place less emphasis on degrees and intelligence, and more on the ability to respond to and understand students. They said it is important for teachers "to come down to us on our level."

The commission was also told that the quality of programs and teaching suffers from the state of local facilities. Parents of high school students indicated that space is a problem at the facility: a lack of shelving in art rooms, storage of PE equipment on the stage, and classrooms being used for other storage were among the examples offered.

The size of the library and the grounds surrounding the school are also inadequate, it was noted.

And the group suggested that for every computer bought, the school should invest in an apple tree: for every 10, a picnic table should be installed.

John Huntley, who spoke as an individual from the construction industry, described the "deplorable" physical state of local schools and schoolgrounds. He noted the two portable classrooms at the high school have rotting roofs, wall and floor assemblies; Fulford school suffers from excess noise and dust; and the Pender Island school has rotting floors.

Huntley said all rural communities in the province share those building and grounds problems as they strive to keep up with urban-area programming and extra-curricular activities.

'A brush fire approach is taken to daily maintenance.'

With the school board trying to maintain a variety of courses, in a district with a rapidly-increasing population, he said, a "brush fire approach is taken to daily maintenance."

Fulford School students had one suggestion for facility improvement — brighter colours in the halls, in order to promote a "warm, homey environment."

Another concern expressed to the commission was the transportation needs of the community. As Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) representative Leanne Huntley said, transportation funding must be taken into account if Gulf Islands students are to have equal opportunities. The additional time and money spent on transportation "cuts into budgets that heat our buildings," she said.

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The following Ganges merchants have some "Sweet Deals" in store for your "Special Someone"! See them today and enter the Valentine's Sweetheart Contest . . . you could win one of these Sweet Prizes absolutely free!

<p>DINNER FOR 2 courtesy Humperdinks By The Sea</p>	<p>DINNER FOR 2 courtesy Kanaka Place</p>	<p>1 doz. long stem ROSES courtesy Flowers & Wine</p>	<p>Valentine's Heart Box of Chocolates courtesy of Glad's</p>	<p>Country Fragrance GIFT PACK courtesy of Pharmasave</p>	<p>Roll of 24/35 mm colour FILM (includes processing) courtesy of S.S. Fast Foto</p>
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No purchase necessary—enter as often as you wish! To enter, simply visit the following merchants. Write your Sweetheart's name and phone number on the back of your cash register receipt or any slip of paper, and deposit in the entry box provided. Contest closes Thursday, Feb. 11, at 5:00 pm. Draw takes place Friday, Feb. 12, and winners will be contacted by phone. Names of winners will be published in Driftwood Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1988.

<p>Ladies: Real Men really DO like flowers!</p> <p>Flowers and Wine By the Post Office</p>	<p>All in-store colour processing 5% off Feb. 3-13/88</p> <p>FAST FOTO & VIDEO Gasoline Alley Ganges</p>	<p>VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER & DANCE Saturday, Feb. 13</p> <p>Your Choice Of: SOUP or SALAD ROAST DUCKLING a l'orange ROAST PRIME RIB OF BEEF POACHED B.C. SALMON with Shrimp Sauce Grand Marnier Torte English Sherry Trifle</p> <p>16.95 Dinner 6-8:30 pm</p> <p>HUMPERDINKS Reservations: 537-4441 <i>By the Sea...</i></p>	<p>for your Valentine...</p> <p>1/2 lb. Glad's assortment In a sweetheart box 995</p>	<p>A Store Full Of Valentine's Gifts from \$4 and up</p> <p>Carolee's & Michael's Next to the Credit Union</p>
<p>Valentine's Gifts She'll Remember...</p> <p>See our VALENTINE'S TABLE — sachets, heart- shaped wicker trays, finger-tip towels, etc. . . .</p> <p>Mark's Linens Lower Mouat's Mall</p>	<p>Busy Valentine's Eve?</p> <p>We feature Valentine's Dinner Specials ALL WEEK LONG!</p> <p>See our ad in next week's paper for Valentine's Day Dinner for Two.</p> <p>Kanaka Place 537-5041</p>	<p>ROMANTIC MOVIES</p> <p>Rent any 2 for the price of 1</p> <p>Look for the red sticker</p> <p>VIDEO VISIONS Next to the Credit Union</p>	<p>Valentine's Features...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cards • Kiddies' Valentine Packs • Ganong's heart boxed chocolates • Gifts <p>The Salty Shop</p> <p>MOUAT'S</p>	<p>PS PHARMASAVE 537-5534 9-6 Mon.-Sat. GANGES NO. 120 LES RAMSEY</p> <p>suggests... Ferrero Rocher Hazelnut Chocolates ...individually wrapped in a sweetheart container. 4.49 100 g</p>

VALENTINE'S DAY is Sunday, Feb. 14th!

Sponsored by Gulf Islands Driftwood and participating merchants

