



Metchosin Muse

A N O N - P R O F I T C O M M U N I T Y P U B L I C A T I O N

Metchosin Day Recap

Metchosin Honours Tremblay

PRESENTED BY MAYOR JOHN RANNS

Larry Tremblay, recipient of this year's "Citizen of the Year" award, came to Metchosin from Saskatchewan in the early 80s and started a remarkable career as a Metchosin volunteer. He has spent and continues to spend countless hours volunteering at the Pioneer Museum and Book Barn, making his creative and resourceful visions a reality. The Farmers Market continues to be a success because of many volunteers, including Larry who has devoted many hours on his Sundays to help ensure it runs smoothly.

We can't forget all his knowledge, craftsmanship and limitless volunteer hours that has made this Pavilion what it is today.

Larry has served two terms on Metchosin Council, proving over those years to be an honest, ethical, professional and very practical addition to Council. Leading up to the election on his second term, Larry knocked on every door, not only talking to residents but listening to their concerns. Larry topped the polls that year. During Larry's time on Council, he never stopped volunteering; he was a project manager for the works yard and for parks and trails.

Larry may have retired from Council last year but not from politics – he presides over the "Table of Truth" at the Broken Paddle. Larry is one the hardest working and dedicated men I have known.



Larry Tremblay receiving Metchosin's Citizen of the Year award from Mayor John Ranns. Photo by Brian Domney

Metchosin Volunteer of the Year Award

PRESENTED BY ANDY MACKINNON

The Metchosin "Volunteer of the Year" award is awarded annually to outstanding volunteers in our community. To be an outstanding volunteer in Metchosin you must be truly outstanding, as Metchosin is a community that depends on its volunteers like few others.

It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Metchosin "Volunteer of the Year" award to Gaert Linnaea and Robert Patterson.

We don't have time on the stage this afternoon to list all of their numerous contributions to Metchosin. But here are a few.

Both Gaert and Robert have been involved with the Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin for many years.

Gaert was on the Board of the Metchosin Community Association in 2009 and then in 2010 served on the executive as Vice President alongside President, Jim Challenger. She was and remains a willing and dedicated volunteer for the Metchosin Community House. Gaert has been an active member of the MCA's Tuesday morning Art Drop In, she has served as an MCA office volunteer whenever needed, and has contributed to annual events. She can sit and visit with Metchosin Youth as well as showing care and compassion to our Seniors – what would elders such as Berta Schmidt have done without Gaert?

Robert too is always there when called upon. He offered his engineering

expertise when the MCHouse expansion project took off in 2007–2008. He assisted with the provincial grant application, introduced our Expansion Committee to a willing architectural firm, and offered his official Patterson Letters of Assurance. Robert is a true professional who is willing to improve our community.

They're both members of Metchosin's Emergency Operations team. Gaert has been the Emergency Social Services director for approximately five years. And Robert has been a member of our Emergency Operations Centre for approximately four years.

Both Gaert and Robert have been involved with documenting, popularizing and protecting Metchosin's heritage since ... well, since before much of it was heritage. Both Robert and Gaert have been involved with the Heritage Advisory Select Committee since 2007 or so, and Gaert currently chairs it. I'm fortunate to be Council Liaison for this dynamic Committee. They're both very involved with the cemetery tours as well.

And, as a friend emphasized, if you get Gaert, you get Robert too! It's a dynamic two-for-one package that richly deserves our Volunteer of the Year award.

Metchosin Day Recap continued on page 8

Metchosin Volunteer Youth Award

PRESENTED BY ANDY MACKINNON

The Metchosin "Volunteer Youth" award is awarded annually to outstanding youth volunteers in our community. This year's award goes to the students at West-Mont.

I want to be clear here: this award goes to West-Mont students past, present and (with any luck) future. These students have helped with many projects in Metchosin. This year's award specifically recognizes their environmental projects.

West-Mont students have taken a lead role in clearing introduced invasive plants from the Ruby Creek Covenant area near their school, and immediately adjacent to Witty's Lagoon Park. They've been removing Scotch Broom,

Ivy and Spurge-Laurel, which benefits not just this Covenant area, but also the adjacent CRD Park.

They have been, and we hope will continue to be, volunteer Trail Stewards on Hillman Trail.

They prepared a presentation on the Blue Dot declaration, and brought it before Metchosin Council.

And West-Mont students are also working on a project I've been fortunate enough to be involved with, the West-Mont Conservation Covenant. There's a small Garry Oak ecosystem that Metchosin holds a Conservation Covenant on, between their school and Metchosin Road. This project is still in its formative

stages, but the students have been involved in clearing invasive plant species, collecting acorns and growing oaks, and growing a variety of native species for transplanting into the Covenant area. It's entirely possible that a generation of West-Mont students may be involved in restoring this Garry Oak ecosystem.

For all the work that they (and previous years' students) have done, and for all of their ongoing efforts, I'm proud to present the West-Mont students with Metchosin's Volunteer Youth award.

Delighted West-Mont students receiving the Volunteer Youth Award. Jack Beukema photo



Important Dates

See also the Events listing on the back page, and for ongoing events, the directory of organizations.

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- Oct. 24 Halloween Dance p. 5
- Oct. 30 Film Night: *Return of the River* p. 3
- Oct. 31 Halloween at the Fire Hall p. 4

Metchosin Muse

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AD DEADLINE
The 15th of every month for month-end publication.

ABOUT THE MUSE
The *Metchosin Muse* is a local non-profit, arts, interests and activities publication, produced by the *Muse* team. The opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors, not the paper. The *Muse* endeavours to promote harmony and involvement in the community and aims to interest a broad cross-section of the residents of Metchosin and Becher Bay.

The *Muse* is delivered, free of charge, to most households in Metchosin. Copies are also available at Metchosin Country Store, the Community House, the Municipal Hall, The Broken Paddle Coffee Shop, My-Chosen Café, Red Barn Market, Happy Valley Store, Bill's Food and Feed, Royal Bakery, Willow Wind Feed & Tack, and at the Juan de Fuca and Goudy branches of the Victoria Public Library.

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On the web at www.metchosinmuse.ca

Visit our website! www.metchosinmuse.ca

The *Muse* website provides a quick way to access Metchosin's monthly newspaper, and it allows those with vision challenges to magnify the .pdf files to a comfortable reading size.

The current issue and issues from the past year are there, along with contact information and information for submissions, advertisers, and deadlines.

Muse Subscriptions

We can mail the *Muse* to you each month for \$25 a year if it is to be posted to a Canadian address. Please send your information and cheque to the Head of our Subscriptions Department:

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October 19 – A Very Important Date

BRIAN DOMNEY, EDITOR

The *Metchosin Muse* has an Important Dates footer at the bottom of the front page of every issue, and perhaps the most important date ever carried there is October 19, the day that Canada elects a new parliament.

Rarely is seen the level of passion and emotion for an election. Not only are the platforms of the various parties and candidates up for consideration, but the manner in which we elect our parliament as well, with three of the four national parties committing to changing our system from a "first past the post" system to one of proportional representation.

Federal Election 2015

All Candidates Meeting on October 14

JOHNNY CARLINE

Politics is the main method by which we make collective decisions for the benefit of the whole community. And on October 19, we all get our individual chance to influence who will be making those decisions on a national level.

There have been all-candidates meetings elsewhere, but none in Metchosin, so the Metchosin Community

If you live in Metchosin, you will probably be voting at the Metchosin **Community Hall**, but for this election, it would not be wise to make any assumptions at all about election day. The *Fair Elections Act* has changed how elections are conducted in our country in several significant ways, from the kind of identification required, to the role of Elections Canada in promoting citizen participation. New ridings have been created and our riding boundaries have changed.

Everyone should check the Elections Canada website at <http://www.elections.ca/home.aspx> to ensure they are registered to vote, to confirm where to vote, to confirm their riding and candidates, and to get information on

the local Elections Canada office. If you know someone who does not use the internet, consider helping them get the information they need.

Our last government was elected with a majority, with less than 40 percent of the popular vote, and that consisted of approximately 60 percent of eligible voters. That means we had a majority government elected by about 24 percent of eligible voters in Canada. Regardless of who the winners and losers are, let's hope it doesn't happen again.

The advance poll will be open October 9, 10, 11 and 12 from 12:00 noon–8:00 pm at the following address: Metchosin Community Hall, 4401 William Head Road.

Association has stepped in to fill that gap.

The MCA, which is strictly a non-partisan, politically unaligned organization, has invited all four local candidates to attend an all-candidates event at the **Metchosin Community Hall on October 14 at 7:00 pm.**

Yes, we know that this is after the advance poll, but it is still five days before the big final voting opportunity and so a chance to see and listen

to our candidates before that, here in Metchosin, seemed well worth the effort.

At the *Muse* deadline, we have three of the four candidates confirmed and are hopeful that the fourth will be able to confirm soon.

So note the time and date in your diary and come armed with questions to help determine which of these four candidates we wish to represent our riding in Ottawa.

Letters to the Editor

The *Metchosin Muse* welcomes letters to the editor, of not more than 200 words. Your letter may be edited for editorial style or length. Please email your letter to metmuse@shaw.ca, or leave it at the Metchosin Country Store. Please sign your letter. An address and telephone number are required but will not be published.

Meet your Metchosin

It's been a wonderful summer and I got to learn a lot more about Metchosin as well! Thanks to my brother-in-law, Kenny, I started a new exercise plan. My sister and Kenny moved to North Vancouver from Scotland and he decided to not only get in better shape but also learn about his new "neighbourhood." He figured he would bike and walk the North Shore from Deep Cove to Horseshoe Bay.

I thought, "Hey, I can do that in Metchosin!" So, starting this past June, I began running the roads and trails of Metchosin. I have had such a great time seeing different yards and gardens, different neighbourhood "personalities" and finding district trails I hadn't known about. I highly recommend this activity to anyone wanting a new and motivating activity, whatever your form of exercise – walking, running, cycling (though not on the trails as most aren't designed for that). I should be finished filling in my map by the end of September and then I will

begin again and see how "we" look in the autumn. Hope to see you out there. Enjoy!

Kathleen Sutherland

Heed this input on output!

Parents and staff at Hans Helgesen are alarmed at a new problem on their pristine school grounds. Dog feces. Too much of it.

Starting this summer, it seems someone, or a group of someones, has taken to using the grounds at Hans Helgesen as a training and exercise area for their dog(s). The practice is continuing, and so is the blatant lack of dog ownership manners; every responsible dog owner knows to pick up their dog's poo. Leaving feces around where young kids play is inexcusable.

"Every morning, I scout the grounds and pick up one to four piles of 'big dog' feces," reports Principal Debra Stoutley. This is not the start to the day this energetic and enthusiastic principal should have to deal with. Stoutley adds, "It's interesting. Back in my previous school, we did not

even have the school district policy prohibiting dogs on school grounds, yet we never saw any dog feces left lying around."

In our school district, SD62, regulation D-121 "Animals on District Property and In Classrooms" prohibits all animals from school property without the permission of the Principal or Vice Principal. Despite this, dog owners, responsible and irresponsible alike, do use the grounds during non-school hours.

Why do some schools have problems with dog feces and some not? It is not signage; there are plenty of signs around Hans Helgesen. Trent Prior of SD62 suggests that the schools that turn their poo problem around are the ones who have local people willing to champion the "no feces on the school grounds" cause.

So, if you are driving by the school out of school hours and see someone with a big dog or dogs on the school grounds, check with them that they are scooping their poop. The principal, parents, and students of Hans Helgesen and all their respective shoes thank you.

Memet Burnett

Apple-Bee Festival

Sunday, October 4

DEREK WULFF

Sunday, October 4
11:00 to 3:00 pm
Metchosin Community House

The 107th mostly annual Apple-Bee Festival is here again! A few years ago, by popular demand, the Metchosin Pomological Society invited the local Metchosin Bee-ranchers group to bring the pollinators and they've been joined at the hive ever since.

Happening on Sunday, October 4 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Community House and grounds, there will be presentations about apples, and bees, and apple juice making, apple sauce tasting and pie making, and of course apple hurling with medieval siege engines.

You can make your own apple pie and take it home for baking (yum!); there will be apple and honey vendors; and since it is market day you can also stock up on local groceries and crafts. You can also relax and have a yummy baked apple and enjoy a relaxing tea and snack in the Community House.

We will have local bee experts on hand demonstrating honey extraction and a demonstration hive where you can see bees in their

hive doing all those bee things they do. Fascinating for kids of all ages!

A highlight every year is to bring your apples for sharing and tasting, so bring a few samples of that heritage apple you love – and share it with the community!

Come out to a great hands-on fair celebrating the best of Metchosin's fall harvest and in support of the Metchosin Foundation.



Four kids playing with the medieval war machines at last year's event. There's no end to the uses for apples. Brian Domney photo.

Film Night at the Metchosin Community House

RIC PERRON

Return of the River (69 minutes)

Friday, October 30 at 7:00 pm

I confess – I want to blow up something really big – a dam. I need lots of help – your help. I figure I'm as far away from Ottawa as can be, and the far-reaching finger of the *Muse* doesn't go beyond our ocean barrier. So I'm safe to say there is a public information night at the Community House (AKA Film Night) to learn how to blow up a really big dam across the Juan de Fuca Strait, between those two snow-capped Olympic Mountains and to the right

of Port Angeles. You've seen them from here. That's where the Elwha River dam is.

My American contacts, film makers, John Gussman and Jessica Plumb of DC Productions, orchestrate the filming of the bust. I have it all figured. Raincoast Conservancy activist Misty McDuff will be here to orchestrate the bombing.

It's a crazy idea, I know, to blow it up big time. Misty and I will take one for Team Environment. Someone has to (thanks John and Jessica). It will be the biggest dam bust-up ever (now I'm saying too much) in history that I want us all to see.

The perks this night, other than Andy's and Mairi's popcorn, will be a chopper

ride with a camera soaring over the mountain headwaters, diving into a school of salmon, and witnessing dam turbines grinding to a halt. The night promises both the voices and perspectives of tenacious people from both sides of the Elwha debate.

I have to confess, now that the debate is over, the dam is blown, and my bombing confession, well it's blown too. This 2013 film has won a lot of hardware, film awards, TV/radio brags.

So I want to watch it with my own eyes, the cultural-environmental restoration of an unlikely project, and the salmon returning to the river.

Suggestions, comments, please contact Ric at ricnic2@shaw.ca.

EMERGENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION

Emergency Communications – Who Ya Gonna Call?

THE EMERGENCY PROGRAM

Emergency Program Information Session: Emergency Communications – Who Ya Gonna Call?
Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 pm
Metchosin Fire Hall

When the next severe windstorm hits or we suffer that catastrophic earthquake we have all been waiting for, who are you going to call? Or maybe the question is HOW are you going to call?

Do you know that Metchosin has an Emergency Communications Group? Do you know that it has at least four varieties of radios at its disposal in the event of an emergency?

The Emergency Communications Group or EMCOMM, for short, is the key component

to providing "ears" and "voice" to a response effort.

This session will bring in our EMCOMM Group and we will talk about the Metchosin Emergency Communication Plan and review our redundancies and resiliency and look at potential holes in the system. It is a continual "what if ...".

Do you have a communication plan for your home? Do you have any mechanisms in place to communicate outside of your home in the event that all phone services are disrupted? Do you know what those mechanisms might be?

This session is an opportunity to find out and to try out some of the equipment that would be used to keep you connected in an emergency.

TALK AND WALK

Unless otherwise stated, talks are at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Hall, 4450 Happy Valley Road, located behind the Fire Hall.

Fall Series

TEN MILLION YEARS PER MINUTE: A STORY OF PLANT LIFE ON EARTH – Friday, October 23

The first land plants appeared over 500 million years ago. Over the intervening time, plants have evolved from photosynthetic slime into organisms of every size, shape and colour. What are the driving forces that result in new plant forms and functions? How does this affect our view of biodiversity?

Dr. Barbara Hawkins is a Professor with the Centre for Forest Biology and Department of Biology in the Faculty of Science, UVic.

MYCOBLITZ! – Friday, November 6 (Talk)

Our Third Annual MycoBlitz and tenth Talk and Walk on the endlessly fascinating topic of fungi! To date the exact presentation is still a closely held secret but Adolf and Oluna Ceska, BC's preeminent mycologist team, will undoubtedly inform and entertain!

Saturday, November 7 – MycoBlitz! We will meet at the municipal hall at 9:00 am to split into groups to set out on an only slightly competitive hunt to find our fungal neighbours. We will return at noon to the Community House for a delightful few hours where we will host a fungal film fest.

Please bring your own bag lunch. We will supply tea and coffee. Double bill: "Know Your Mushrooms" and "Kem's and Andy's Fungal Follies." In the meantime the experts will be identifying the toadstool treasures at the municipal hall, ready for the "Reveal," to take place after the magical mushroom movies.

See you there!

2016 Teaser: Dr Jane Watson on Sea Otters, the world's most adorable sea mammals! – Friday, January 15

Contact moreamilne@gmail.com for further information about these programs.



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Tell them you saw it in the *Muse*!

Shipping Containers in Metchosin: Are they compatible with our community's rural character?

SHERRY HURST AND ANDY MACKINNON, COUNCILLOR

What are shipping containers? They're containers designed for storing and transporting cargo via ship, rail or truck, whether or not it is actually being used for such a purpose. They're typically eight feet (2.4m) by eight feet across, and 20 feet or 40 feet long. Though they're primarily intended for shipping goods, they're also useful for general storage: they're generally secure (theft-resistant), weather-resistant, and affordable. Some Metchosin residents use them for temporary, or sometimes more permanent, secure storage.

In Metchosin, there are currently no regulations on the number of containers someone can have on their property, whether containers are suitable in all land use zones, and whether they're temporary or permanent. No permits are currently required,

which means Metchosin has no record of how long containers have been in place (temporary vs. permanent); no site visits are conducted to ensure compliance with the Land Use Bylaw (setbacks); and there are no fire or other inspections because they are not considered buildings.

So, is lack of regulations a problem? One concern about shipping containers relates to aesthetics. These containers are designed for industrial use, and may not be visually appealing in some areas. Another concern with storage containers is fire safety. In 2011 a volunteer fire captain in BC died as a result of a shipping container exploding due to storage of flammable liquids, and in Central Saanich in 2013 a propane tank exploded within a container. As a result, the Fire Chiefs Association of BC recommends the regulation of shipping containers as temporary buildings or structures, and is

in favour of shipping containers being defined as buildings under the BC Building Code.

Most BC jurisdictions do not permit shipping containers in residential zones. Where they are permitted, they're allowed in for temporary use only, or more permanently in industrial zones. There are a few exceptions: Abbotsford and Powell River, for example, allow them in agricultural zones; the Regional District of the Central Kootenay allows them in residential zones (with a 2.5m screen from roads and neighbours); and Burnaby defines them as permanent buildings (and so subject to the BC Building Code).

So, how to deal with shipping containers in Metchosin? Metchosin Council has proposed some potential regulations for discussion purposes, with the intention of fostering community conversation and feedback on the topic. Potential changes could include:

- allow up to two permanent containers on each property greater than 0.8 ha (2 acres);

- require screening (2.5 m fencing or plantings) of any containers intended for permanent use from view of the road and neighbours;
- apply the same setbacks as those required for accessory buildings, and do not allow containers to be located in the front yard of a property;
- allow containers to remain for up to 12 months as a temporary building (with an associated temporary permit), with the potential to renew once for another 12 month period;
- require a siting permit for permanent containers to cover the costs of a visit by the inspector to confirm the siting and fire access; and,
- require those containers intended to be modified for office, accessory building, or residential use to comply with the Building Code regulations (and associated fees).

We want to hear from you! Are shipping containers compatible with our rural character? Do we need to specifically deal with shipping containers

by amending the current land use bylaw, or is the status quo fine? If we're going to amend the bylaw, should shipping containers be allowed at all in Metchosin and, if so, in what land use zones and property sizes? Will they be allowed only as temporary (less than 12 months) storage, or permanent? Will there be requirements for siting and screening? Will permits be required?

Metchosin Council is contemplating changing our Land Use Bylaw to address shipping containers. An important step is an Open House and Public Information Session. This Open House and Public Information Session is scheduled for Monday October 26, 5:00-6:00 pm at Metchosin Municipal Hall.

We hope you can join us for this event. Come share your perspective on containers and provide input into our next steps. We also welcome written input via email (planner@metchosin.ca) or letters submitted to the Municipal Hall at 4450 Happy Valley Road.

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COUNCIL NEWS OCTOBER 2015

BUSINESS LICENCE RENEWALS

Businesses will be receiving their renewal notices in the mail in October for the 2015/2016 business licence year (Nov. to Oct.). Every business operating in Metchosin, including home-based businesses, requires a business licence. Metchosin participates in the regional intermunicipal business licence scheme so that businesses such as contractors and mobile sales based in Metchosin only need one licence to operate in the region. Please note that if your business licence is two years outstanding, licences will be terminated, as per Section 14(c) of the Business Licence Bylaw. Renewal would then be subject to a new application and inspection, along with an additional fee of \$25.00.

METCHOSIN HALLOWEEN AT THE FIRE HALL

Please join the District of Metchosin and the Metchosin Volunteer Firefighter's Society for the annual fun-filled Halloween event at the Fire Hall. Hot dogs, hot chocolate and coffee, Haunted House, and the Costume Contest.

For more information regarding Metchosin Halloween at the Fire Hall, contact Chief Dunlop at 250-478-1307.

HALLOWEEN FIREWORKS AND YOUR LIVESTOCK

To help reduce stress on pets and livestock, this year's Halloween fireworks will consist of "no report" fireworks to lessen trauma to your animals. The fireworks will start shortly after 8:30 pm. with a single warning shot, followed three minutes later by the 15-minute show. The start time of the fireworks will depend on the weather. More exact information on the time frame will be posted at www.metchosin.ca on October 31. Please check this website so that you will have the latest information.

RESIDENTIAL YARD BURNING

Before you burn, please check www.metchosin.ca for updated burning information or call the Fire Department at 250-478-1307.

DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN MEETING SCHEDULE – OCTOBER 2015

Below are the meeting dates and times for the upcoming month. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers unless otherwise noted.

Finance Committee, Oct. 5, 7:00 pm
Council Meeting, Oct. 5, 7:00 pm
Planning Committee, Oct. 19, 7:00 pm
Parks Committee, Oct. 19, 7:00 pm
Highways and Public Works Committee, Oct. 19, 7:00 pm
Parks and Trails Advisory Committee (PTASC), Oct. 20, 7:00 pm

Healthy Communities Advisory Committee (HCAC), Oct. 22, 7:30 pm
Council Meeting, Oct. 26, 7:00 pm
Environmental Advisory Committee (MEASC), Oct. 27, 7:00 pm
Heritage Advisory Committee (HASC), Oct. 28, 4:00 pm

Meetings are subject to change; for updated information please call the district office at 250-474-3167 or refer to the website at www.district.metchosin.bc.ca. Thank you.

Seniors* in Metchosin – We Need to Hear from You

ANNE RICHMOND

Five years ago Metchosin held a series of consultations on making Metchosin an age-friendly community. The report of that work is available on the district website. Out of that consultation grew the Seniors' Information and Resource Centre (SIRC). Now we'd like to check in with you again:

- How is Metchosin doing so far, as an age friendly community?
- How is SIRC meeting the needs?
- What's working well and what needs improving?

This consultation is a three-stage process:

- 1) initial gathering of ideas;
- 2) summarizing those ideas as a short theatre piece; and
- 3) an all-community consultation.

We're keen for your participation in any and all parts:

- Drop by or call us at SIRC on October 13-14;
- email us any time at msirc@shaw.ca;
- or fill out the short survey at: <http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/anne-w/sirc-2015/>
- Let us know if you'd like to help create/act in the theatre piece, created with River Chandler, TheatreWorks, in a workshop over the afternoons of November 28-29. No acting experience required!
- Join the all-community discussion on Sunday, December 6 from 2:00-5:00 pm.

*Seniors currently living in Metchosin; friends and family of seniors in Metchosin, and "future seniors" in Metchosin!

Upcoming SIRC Events

SIRC FUNDRAISER – WIN A GOURMET DINNER

Win a Gourmet Dinner for eight created by some of Metchosin's finest cooks and served in your home.

Copies of the *Six Course Dinner Menu* (appetizer, soup, salad, main dish, side dishes, dessert) available on the SIRC website: <http://metchosinSeniors.ca/>

Raffle Tickets only \$20.

Draw Date: November 5 at the Metchosin Seniors' Association AGM in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Hall

Tickets available at the SIRC (Seniors Information and Resource Centre). A maximum of 220 tickets will be sold, so your odds of winning are incredibly good! Get your list of eight diners together and start buying tickets now.

Questions? Phone the SIRC office at 250-478-5150. The winner will be contacted by phone. Dinner date to be arranged at winner's convenience.

GEEKS AND GEEZERS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Geeks and Geezers reconvenes in September every Tuesday from 4:15 to 5:30 pm. Challenge our young Geeks with your technology

questions. Bring your own device or use ours. Everyone welcome.

A donation of \$5.00 to cover expenses is appreciated.

Please call Colleen at 250-478-5150 or email msirc@shaw.ca if you would like to arrange an individual session should this time not be convenient for you.

During these sessions our student techs will assist you in solving your basic computer issues, and "how do I...?" questions. Whether you have a computer issue, tablet, iPad, smart phone, new camera, TV remote etc., they are here to help you become more comfortable and skilled with technology.

SIRC OFFICE HOURS – NOTE NEW DATES AND TIMES

SIRC (Seniors' Information and Resource Centre), 4495 Happy Valley Road, is located on the ground floor of the former Metchosin Elementary School building right opposite the Broken Paddle Café.

Opening times are as follows:

Tuesdays and Thursdays – 10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Wednesdays and Fridays – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Closed Mondays

Call 250-478-5150 for special appointments.

A Neighbourhood Dispute

MARGARET ROPER, METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY

The bones of Metchosin's history are found in the directories, the censuses, and family trees. Far more interesting are the stories that are told by the old timers. That's where you get a sense of the characters and a little of the old gossip.

Here is a story that I really shouldn't tell. I offer my apologies in advance to anyone who might not appreciate this tale from our community's past.

The "M's," Bert and Frances, were long-time residents of Metchosin. They farmed originally on Metchosin Road and raised prize-winning Dorset Horn Sheep. They attended St. Mary's Church. Mrs. M. was a kind and generous woman who was especially loved. She was interested in old postcards and had a well catalogued collection. The couple owned horses and never purchased an automobile. When they were in their old age they moved to Rocky Point Road to be nearer to the store and the post office.

Mr. and Mrs. "G." also had a farm on Metchosin Road. Charles G. died at 54 years of age. Mrs. G. then became the "news agent" for whatever version of the *Victoria Colonist* was running at that time. She delivered the papers in a roadster. She wore bright red lipstick and usually had a cigarette hanging from the corner of her mouth.

Mr. M. and Mrs. G. had a falling out. He was so incensed that he actually put up a sign forbidding her to set foot on his property.

Mr. M. passed away at age 80. He had requested that when he died his casket would be hauled up the hill in a wagon pulled by a team of six black horses. Frances honoured his request.

It is said that as the horses made their way along the road Mrs. G. watched and gloated from a shed on Mr. M's property.

Mr. and Mrs. M. are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery. The last we heard of Mrs. G. is that she fell in love with a soldier at Albert Head Camp.



Local band Fine Spirits will drive the evil spirits away at Metchosin's annual Halloween dance.

Halloween Dance Oct. 24

JOEL USSERY

Come dance the night away on Saturday, October 24 at the Metchosin Community Hall. Get into the spirit of Halloween early and support the Metchosin Foundation's work on environmental protection and education in our community. The local band Fine Spirits will get you rocking, rolling, and shaking off any stresses of the season. There is a 60s theme to inspire your costume choice or you can come as whatever creepy character inspires you.

There will be a silent auction, refreshments, and midnight munchies for those who worked up an appetite on the dance floor. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Metchosin Country Store, Broken Paddle Café or by sending an email request to metchosinfoundation@gmail.com. The event runs from 8:00 pm to midnight. Bring your friends, have some fun, and support a local charitable organization.

Check out the classified ads on page 15.

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The Rural Gardener

by Isabel Tipton

2015 was the summer of the drought, wasn't it? Until it was too late to reinstate the Lamb and Salmon Barbecue, of course. How did your garden fare? We have a well and a pump, as I frequently tell you, so unlimited watering does not happen, hoses on timers rotate through the beds, and some plants suffer. Some even die. I was talking to an Oak Bay friend who feels this is an opportunity – one needs plants to fill in the holes. I mourn the dead, she goes shopping!

On thinking about it, viburnums seems to suffer the most here, in the tree and shrub line. I didn't realize how many I had until this summer. *Viburnum Bodnantense* seemed fine, but it is in mostly shade, and gets a bit of water. *V. opulus* "Roseum" up and died, both of them. They bloomed and died just like that – both have left significant holes. I thought *Viburnum tinus*, the common laurustinus, had joined them, but when I inspected closely, I could see new growth starting all along the branches, so it looks pretty dreadful now, but will soon fill out. *V. cinnamomifolium* flagged several times, but with life-saving watering seems to have pulled through.

V Davidii was unscathed – I have three in very different parts of the garden and all sailed through the drought. Many herbaceous perennials have bitten the dust, and even sword ferns are drooping, though the latest rains have probably saved them. I doubt they would die anyway, as natives survive almost anything.

One other drought-tolerant space filler to be severely affected is *Trachstemon Orientalis* or Turkish Borage. This has large coarse leaves and tolerates dry shade, but this year even it flagged. I ended up doing survival watering a couple of times a week, just running around with the hose giving the dying a shot of water. The mature *Rhododendron Ponticum*, which you can't kill even with weed killer, also had to have a rescue watering or two, so this was by far the driest summer I can remember. I do try to group plants according to water needs, so it could have been even more awkward hauling hose, not one of my favourite pastimes.

Some things loved it, of course. The Mediterranean plants – sage, rosemary, etc. – though several people moaned to me about having to water their lavenders. Mine were fine. Euphorbias did

well, and if you had some water for your roses they were magnificent, deer permitting.

This year is by far the worst for deer damage here – we have five who consider it home and just wag their tails at me when I yell at them. They took to sleeping under the *Sorbopyrus*, waiting for the fruits to fall. It is a large tree, too spindly to climb so the fruits fall; there are enough within reach to do us. Very few people are fond of them, though I found someone just as the crop finished. Next year he gets the lot if he wants them; they are golf ball sized and my enthusiasm for peeling them vanishes quickly. They taste like a pear, with a wild tang to them.

Yesterday I came home to find a message on the answering machine that a bear was in the garden during the afternoon. I rushed out to see if I had any apples left, but they must be too scarce to be worth it from the bear's point of view. Wildlife has gotten much bolder now that we do not have a dog.

Fall bulbs are appearing in the garden centres and we all succumb to buying a few. This year alliums are calling to me. When in Scotland this spring, I was in one garden,

just puttering about while the rest of them went further afield, and was admiring a bed of blue oat grass interspersed with a gorgeous very dark purple allium, when the lady of the house appeared, having been cutting flowers for the lunch table. I admired the bed and she said not all her ideas worked but this fall she was ordering "a boatload" of the allium. I don't think I will spring for a "boatload," but will have some. The foliage of the large alliums flags as the blooms develop, so the usual is to plant them in amongst something that will cover the foliage, which dies and disappears well before the blooms have lost their charm. Several times I have seen the allium heads sprayed with a blue or purple paint to prolong the show: startling, but effective. Deer have never touched alliums in the garden.

Do treat yourself to a few new bulbs; deer don't eat any of the daffodil/narcissus family, though they adore tulips. *Fritillaria Imperialis* will keep tulips safe up to about a yard away, so that may be worth a try for you if tulips are your weakness – there are certainly

some beauties available, including a few scented ones. Plant really deep and you will get several years out of them.

A colourful long-lasting bulb display is a Lasagna Planter – layers of bulbs. You need a large planter, between about fifteen inches and a half barrel in size, good potting soil and a handful of bone meal. Make sure the planter is well drained, lots of holes in the bottom, and put in about four inches of soil, a scattering of bone meal and a layer of tulip bulbs, spaced an inch or so apart. Another handful of bone meal, three inches of soil, a layer of big daffodil bulbs; continue in this fashion, with medium narcissus and small bulbs such as Scilla, Crocus Grape Hyacinths or some other small favourite. Consider colour and bloom time, and you can have a spectacular planter lasting several weeks. When it is finished, maybe with the late tulips, drag it out of sight, water occasionally and save it for next year, or wait until the foliage dies, dig it up and save the bulbs, re-planting with your favourite summer annuals. The secret is a large planter. See you next time.



Surprise outside the dining room window!
Robert Newans photo

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Metchosin Garden Club Presents:

How to Show Your End-of-Season Show-Offs!

JUDITH VAN MANEN

Wednesday, October 7, 7:30 pm
Metchosin Community House,
4430 Happy Valley Road

We are nearing the end of summer. Our gardens are losing their luster. Of course, happily, on the island we can still enjoy the beautiful late bloomers: flowers and foliage flashing their end of season colours and beauty. But how to plan and arrange for them? How to maximize the value of this end-of-season treasure? This is the topic of Diane Pierce's Metchosin Garden Club presentation; through sharing and discussing many live plant samples, she will give us tips on best placement of plants, maintenance and pruning.

Diane possesses a wealth of knowledge about plants, landscape design, pest and disease management, soil types, and plant biology. She holds a

Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from UBC, and has worked as a gardener for ten years with the City of Victoria Parks Department. She then spent many years working privately as a landscape designer and consultant.

Diane Pierce's expert teaching skills are apparent in the number and variety of courses that she teaches at the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific. I especially recommend her Plant ID and Culture course in which she introduces and discusses 30 plants once every month in a three-hour class. This course brought me, a "transplanted Albertan," up to speed.

So, please, don't miss our highly informative Garden Club speaker Diane Pierce at Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road, on Wednesday evening, October 7 at 7:30 pm. See you there!

Tell them you saw it in the *Muse*!

Back to School Not a Guarantee for Everyone

ROBYN PENFOLD

Imagine graduating from Grade 8 unable to go on to secondary school because your parents can't pay the \$450 it costs you to attend school for the year. As a young woman, your parents may see their only option as arranging a marriage for you in exchange for livestock. This is the heart-breaking yet preventable case for many East African youth who are desperately keen to continue studying to better their family's and community's future.

Education is Power (EIP), a registered Canadian charity based in East Africa and Canada, is a completely volunteer-run organization whose mandate is to break down this barrier to education. It helps students at all levels of education with the aim that students will go on to help their communities develop sustainably.

In Canada, EIP works to inspire students and teachers, connecting them with their East African counterparts. Local Metchosinites Dave Cuddy, co-founder

of Education Is Power, and Robyn Penfold, EIP Communications Officer and Sooke school district teacher, are calling out for teachers and students in the West Shore to explore global responsibility by working together to create real change.

A matching funds initiative has been set up to motivate Canadian youth. With every \$1 that is raised through Canadian classrooms or youth groups, the Karen and Fred Green Foundation will match that donation by \$3 for up to \$8250 in youth-driven fundraising before December 1, 2015. Fortunately, EIP had an uplifting head start when the campaign kicked off last May in Haliburton, Ontario. The charity was awe-struck when Haliburton Highlands Secondary rallied their school and community to raise over \$5000 for EIP! These Canadian students gained incredible experience working with their community and had direct contact with East African students during the process.

With a little over \$2500 left to raise before December 2015, our goal is to find 25 classes

or youth groups who are committed to raise \$100 each. This would create a ripple effect bringing in \$10,000 to enable dedicated East African students to attend school.

The money raised will enable the following initiatives:

- support five new post-secondary students and 16 new secondary students in Kenya and Tanzania;
- fund empowerment programs in which supported students meet with local role models and engage in volunteer activities on school holidays;
- employ two new primary teachers at the overcrowded Chumvi Primary School in Laikipia North, Kenya; and
- support EIP's current 19 high school students and seven college/university students who do not have sponsors and rely on EIP's continual fundraising efforts.

EIP volunteers Dave Cuddy and Robyn Penfold love to visit Canadian classes and share their experiences



Students in Laikipia Primary School, Kenya Photo provided by Education is Power

about school and life in East Africa. They are able to do class presentations, provide teaching materials, and connect Canadian youth with their East African counterparts through Skype or letter writing exchanges. When young people reach out across continents to help each other, it is remarkable how much can be learned.

To find out how you can get a school or youth group involved in the West Shore or beyond, please contact info@educationispower.org.

To learn more about Education is Power or explore teaching materials and fundraising resources, please visit www.educationispower.org or check out our Facebook page, Education is Power Africa.

A Canadian W.A.C in New York City

BESS PAGE

It was the summer of 1944, the tense days after D-day. I was 19, a corporal in the Canadian Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (CWAC) working in an office at A20 in Red Deer, Alberta. Somewhere, someone decided that some of us must be posted to Ste. Anne de Bellevue in Quebec for a 16-week Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) course which had just been dreamed up. I was chosen and in late June made my way across Canada to the barracks at Ste. Anne's, which were at MacDonald College, a part of McGill University.

Usually on a course of 16 weeks we could expect a 96-hour pass midway through the course. However, we were informed that we were only to get a 48-hour (two-day) pass. The question arose – where could we go in two days? Some of our classmates decided on Quebec City but some of us thought New York City! Yes, we could make it there and back in 48 hours.

So after duty Friday afternoon we went to Montreal and boarded a train to New York City. It was a slow dusty train – if the windows were closed, it was very hot; if the windows were opened smoky dirt and dust blew in on us. The trip took all night and we got off in the morning at Grand Central Station. Our light summer uniforms were not as smart as when we left Ste. Anne's. The station was so huge it overwhelmed our prairie eyes.

If I remember correctly there were five or six of us, two from Victoria, one from Saskatchewan and two from

Alberta. In the first few minutes we managed to become separated and spent precious time of our 48 hours looking for each other; after a sleepless night on the train we were not in our best moods!

I had a friend who was stationed in Montreal and I had invited her to join us on our venture. Horrors! Three of our group did not want her because she was only a lowly private and we had attained the status of L/Cpl and Cpl!

So we decided to split our group. My friend Olive from Saskatchewan, my lowly private friend Helen, and I would proceed on our own to see the city.

At the station we were able to book an overnight stay at a hostel and a counter stop there gave servicemen tickets free to anywhere you wanted to go in New York.

Well! We never checked in at the hostel, we never went to bed, we spent the whole time seeing the town.

First to the top of the Empire State Building where we gazed down in awe at the tiny yellow bugs which were the taxis far below us. We rode the subway to see Wall Street where all the money was!

We boarded a ferry to Staten Island to see the Statue of Liberty. You could go in an elevator two stories up and from there we climbed a winding dusty staircase so that we could look out the windows at the top of the statue. At that time the arm was being repaired so we could not go out on the arm holding the torch.

My friend Helen (the lowly private) was not feeling well and was having trouble keeping up to us. We met a friendly CWAC sergeant who had a two-week holiday in New York and she offered to take Helen back to her hotel room and promised to have her at the Grand Central Station in time to get the train back to Montreal. Later it was found that Helen was developing rheumatic fever.

Olive and I continued to walk in Central Park and admire the high rises where we thought the rich lived.

We wandered through Macy's pretending we were rich Americans and could buy whatever we chose.

We went to the show to see the Rockettes dance – we hardly ever stopped to eat in our endeavour to see all there was to see in New York.

We sat in Times Square looking at the lights of Broadway trying to prop our eyes open.

By Sunday night train time we had never been to bed. Thoroughly exhausted, it was back to travel on that dirty smoky conveyance to return to Montreal, arriving there in time to get the early train back to Ste. Anne's and be present at the morning roll call – and it was back to marching, drilling and classes. But we had been to New York City – a 48-hour leave never to be forgotten!

Editor's note: We have learned that Bess recently had a health challenge. The *Muse* team sends her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.



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Metchosin Day Recap *continued*

continued from page 1

Volunteer Group of the Year

The "Volunteer Group of the Year" award was given to the Metchosin Volunteer Fire Fighters. The speaker's notes from presenter Bob Gramigna were unavailable at press time.



Friend of the Earth Award

PRESENTED BY MORALEA MILNE

The "Friend of the Earth" award is given out to a resident or group who has contributed in a significant way to Metchosin's environment. Sometimes this has been through agricultural practices, through conservation initiatives and through stewardship and education. This year we honour Liz Jatkowski. Liz literally walks the talk. Almost every day you can see Liz walking her dogs alongside our roads, and as she walks, she picks up litter. Over the years she has collected and disposed of vast quantities of garbage. Without ever being asked, or without ever asking for assistance, she has made it her mission to clean up after the plague of litterbugs that drive though and within our community. It's past due time for us to recognize her one-woman crusade – let's give a big thanks to Liz Jatkowski!



Councillor Moralea Milne with Liz Jatkowski
Photo by Brian Domney

Metchosin Day 5K Run/Walk

ANDY MACKINNON



Above: Andy MacKinnon runs for his life (far right) after starting the 2015 Metchosin Day 5k Run/Walk.

Left: Anna Lewis (90 years young) and Emily Lewis (Anna's granddaughter) participated together in the Metchosin Day 5k.

Below left: Claire Lowry accompanied by Steve Gray.

Metchosin Day 2015 kicked off with the 22nd annual Metchosin Day 5K Run/Walk. 125 participants completed the gently rolling 5 km course under cloudy/clear skies. It was a true family event, with some families represented by three



generations. Our youngest entrants were less than a year old; our oldest entrant (Anna Lewis) was 90! Fastest women were Chrissa Tromp (20:41), Noa Bridson and Cassidy Steen. Fastest men were Shawn Nelson (17:23), Jericho O'Connell and Isaac Bonisteel. Once again all race awards (except for under 13) were fresh Metchosin produce. Under 13 participants received gift certificates from Sugar Shack. A complete list of finishers and times can be found at racedaytiming.ca/results.html under "2015 Metchosin Day 5K."

Profits from the event will be donated to the Metchosin Foundation.

Our thanks to our many sponsors: to Race Day Timing Services for timing/results; to Frontrunners Westshore and to Metchosin

Country Store for accepting registrations; to (alphabetically) Broken Paddle, Derek Wulff, Frontrunners, Glen Rosa, the Gray family, Karen and Don's Blueberry Patch, Metchosin Farm, Sea Bluff Farm, Stillmeadow Farm, and Sugar Shack, for produce and other excellent Metchosin prizes; to Oak Bay Cycle, for a good deal on the bike; to Martha Haylor and Sally Walker for their delicious cinnamon buns; and to the Metchosin Hall Society, for letting us use the Community Hall for race day registration. And thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped with everything from registration and traffic control to water stops and finish line.

See you all next September for the 23rd annual Metchosin Day 5K!

Metchosin Day Baking Contests

CAKES

- Best Cake in Show – Heather Buchanan
- Reserve Best – Michelle Ruck
- Best Decorated Cake in Show – Heather Buchanan
- Reserve Best – Jasmine Rodman and Louisa Krusekopf
- General Cake Category*
- 1st – Michelle Ruck
- 2nd – Anne Richmond
- 3rd – Jasmine Rodman and Louisa Krusekopf
- Chocolate Cake Category*
- 1st – Eden Armstrong
- 2nd – Heather Buchanan
- 3rd – Sophie Miller
- Youth Cake Category*
- 1st – Jasmine Rodman and Louisa Krusekopf
- 2nd – Samara Gladders
- Child Cake Category*
- 1st – Eden Armstrong
- 2nd – Sophie Miller
- 3rd – Alice Miller

PIES

- Best Pie in Show – Hannah and Summer Lewis
- Best Reserve – Heather Buchanan
- Prettiest Pie in Show – Heather Buchanan
- Reserve Best – Hannah and Summer Lewis
- Apple Pie Category*
- 1st – Heather Buchanan
- 2nd – Heather and Summer Lewis
- 3rd – Amanda Bongers
- Berry Pie Category*
- 1st – Shayna Richards
- 2nd – Amanda Bongers
- 3rd – Kara Richards
- General Pie Category*
- 1st – Betty Hildreth
- 2nd – Matthew Krop
- 3rd – Dan O'Connell
- Youth*
- 1st – Anna Krop
- 2nd – Kara Richards
- Child*
- 1st – Hannah and Summer Lewis
- 2nd – Matthew Krop
- 3rd – Rowan Kew

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Metchosin Day Veggie Contest

Once again our gardeners brought in a bounty of offerings to fill the display tables. Most notable was the abundance of giant zucchinis; a colourful medley of hot peppers; one table full of giant sunflower heads; and one giant white carrot. There was also a single producer of a wonderful variety of preserves and jams. Only cherry tomatoes arrived for the tomato category presumably as a result of our very hot summer. Special thanks to the two judges who expedited the awards process so quickly; and to the three wonderful support staff for marking in the entrants and recording the award results.

Smallest vegetable

1st Abby Card
2nd Jan Poulin

Pumpkin or Squash – largest

1st and 2nd Jan Poulin
3rd Kara Ingalls

Pumpkin

1st Jan Poulin
2nd Brad
3rd Jan Poulin
Hon. Mention Kara Ingalls and Malia Francis

Longest Zucchini

1st S. Ealing
2nd Gary Smirfitt
3rd Ryan LeBlanc

Flower Arrangement

1st Charles Knighton
2nd Malia Francis
3rd Dawn Kirwan

Best Basket

Sea Bluff Farms
Best Reserve Basket – Fiona Chambers

3rd Will and Alex Buhr

Pears

1st Chuck Cowell. Three wonderful yellow/pink Marguerite Marelot Pears that you wanted to bite

2nd Metchosin Farm (Bosc)

3rd John Ranns Sr. (Bosc)

Hot Peppers: Best Garden Produce Item Ribbon to the amazing collection entered by Brian Domney. If you want HOT, ask Brian about his varieties. Smoking hot, even.

Other hot peppers

1st Johnny Ranns Jr

2nd Andy Card

3rd Johnny Ranns Jr.

Onions

1st Joan Millet

2nd Mark and Yvette Brierly

3rd Ken McVie

Cherry Tomatoes

1st Metchosin Farm

2nd Angela Corrigan

Juniors

1st Skye Hartman

2nd Kara Ingalls

3rd Tiara Brenton

Weirdest veg

1st Jan Poulin – an eight-legged potato!

2nd Kara Ingalls – a double twisted carrot

3rd Erin Van de Water – a twisty carrot

Honourable Mention Will and Alex Buhr

Carrots with tops

1st Carly Ingalls – an exceptional evenly sized bunch of three of different colours

2nd Carly Ingalls

3rd Dawson Card

Longest Carrot

1st Kara Ingalls – white beauty

2nd Kara Ingalls

3rd Mark and Yvette Brierly

Apples

1st Metchosin Farm

2nd Elizabeth Jatkowski

3rd Chuck Cowell

Honourable Mention Kara Ingalls

Garlic

1st Claire and Travis

2nd Jan Poulin

3rd Marcus and Yvette Brierly

Honourable Mention Gary Smirfitt and Erin Van de Water

Cucumber

Honourable Mention Dawson Card and Metchosin Farm

Winter Squash

1st Jan Poulin

Honourable Mention Tiara Brenton and Skye Hartman

Tomatoes

1st Abby Card

2nd Metchosin Farm

3rd Metchosin Farm and a 1st for Farm category tomato

Beets

1st Mark and Yvette Brierly

2nd Kara Ingalls

3rd Kara Ingalls

Hon. Mention Dawson Card

Peppers

1st and 2nd John Ranns

3rd Metchosin Farm

Beans

1st Johnny Ranns Jr. – a particularly nice triple of speckled red beans

2nd Mark and Yvette Brierly

3rd Johnny Ranns Jr.

Longest Bean (There were some whoppers!):

1st Mark and Yvette Brierly

2nd and 3rd Jan Poulin

Largest potato

1st Betty Ann

2nd Dawson Card

Sunflowers

1st Jan Poulin – Large Russian

2nd Tess Kew

Five Honourable Mentions

– Malia Francis, Josie Reeve, Skye Hartman, Tianna Brenton, one with lovely yellow petals (name missing)

The following were all awarded Honourable Mention as they were single entries in the category: Strawberries – Abby Card
Cabbage – Josie Reeve
Watermelon – Mark and Yvette Brierly

Peas – Mark and Yvette Brierly

Broccoli – Johnny Ranns Jr.

Corn – Chuck Cowell

Grape basket (six varieties) John Ranns Sr.

Grapes – Jan Poulin

Tomatillos – Jan Poulin and a very unusual “ancient” medlar fruit of the apple family ... noted by Shakespeare even!

A splendid show!



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Space-Age Wooden Bike Proves to Be the Darling of Yikes Bikes at Metchosin Day

GARY AND SYBIL KANGAS

The first-time bicycle event for Metchosin Day 2015, Yikes Bikes, was a success. The public was very engaged by all the interesting bikes on display. The most talked about bike was the 19-pound wooden bike which seemed to enthrall everyone. There were a number of seniors that tried out the electric bikes (“e-bikes”) that were on display. There was a contest for best costume, best decorated bike, best bike accessory and most unusual bike.

The grand prize winner was a well-decorated bike by



Left: Grand Prize Winner of the “Yikes Bikes!” competition, Francis Barss on his futuristic two wheeler. Photo by Gary Kangas.

Below: Dr. Rob O’Connor on his “ready for action” bike.



Julie and her 19-pound wooden bike.

a Young Wheeler, Francis Barss. His bike was decorated in a sci-fi theme as was the rider. The caped and goggled bicyclist rode a bicycle with handmade paper spinners on the front and an alien ray shield made of a stripped umbrella and pet food tins in the rear.

The most unusual bike accessory award went to Dr. Rob and his quick-release doctor bag mounted on the rear rack of his bike. Top winner for junior wheeler was three-year-old Micah wearing his dragon suit and riding his tiny decorated bike. The most unusual bike ribbon was awarded to Julie and her 19-pound wooden bike. Andrew Church put on a display of other unusual bikes topped by a 12-foot unicycle. Prizes were drawn at random for all the participants. The prizes were contributed by Fairfield Bicycle Shop, Goldstream Bikes and the Outpost Bicycle Shop.

The organizers of Metchosin Day have suggested that Yikes Bikes should return for 2016.

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First row (left to right): Marcella Barron with Oreo the Sheep (Most Rural Pet).
 Second Row: Alison Huckin with Waddles the Australian Spotted Duck (Reserve Most Rural); Tessa Parsons with Binky the Rabbit (Reserve Best in Show); Jovanna Lozepone with Misty the Chicken (Best in Show); Rocky Clement with Pom Pom, Polish Top Hat (Reserve Most Unusual); Rebecca Parson with Buffy the Cat (Reserve Best Costume).
 Back row: Sisters Karen and Gayle Snowcell and Ashton Snowcell with Canadian White Dogs Penny, Dexter, and Lily (Best Costume); Mark Vargas with Sadie and Phil Crha with Yeudo, mixed breed Labradoodle/Catahoula Hounds (Most Unusual).
 Peter M. Lewis photo

Metchosin Day Pet Show

Another fantastic Metchosin Day Pet Show! Judges Deirdre and Peter Chettleburgh, Cory Sievert, Leslie Zinger, Wes Johnson, Chief Judge Violaine Mitchell and Announcer Frank Mitchell had some gruelling decisions to make. Overall prize winners: see photo caption, above.

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Metchosin Rocked!

JOHNNY CARLINE

Metchosin Community Hall shook, rattled and maybe even rolled a little as a sold-out crowd of Metchosin residents and friends let it all hang out at the "NextGen" party thrown by the Metchosin Community Association as a curtain raiser to Metchosin Day.

The event targeted the 20s to 50s crowd and they came ready to party all night long. Costumes were of eye blinding colour, motley design, off the shoulder, off the back, socks up, socks down and occasionally socks matching. I observed that I used to look like that but my wife added that it was only because I got dressed in the dark.

The music was outstanding all night long and the presence of a surprise famous guest star (those who were there know his identity, the

rest I'm afraid will have to wonder), really thrilled the crowd.

Then, just when it was nearing the time this old geezer was thinking of taking a nap, the last band hit the stage and all hell let loose. I think someone told me that the band was called "Tight Hair," but he might just have been referring to how his head was feeling.

Everyone hit the dance floor in a wild frenzy of energy. Even the "LastGen" group on security and bar/kitchen duty were seen to be tapping their toes and swaying a bit more than usual.

The atmosphere was fantastic and the beat irresistible, so even yours truly and the missus were lured into the action. Afterwards a kind soul, in an obvious attempt to phrase her comment in an age-appropriate manner, told me: "You and your wife cut a rug as well as anybody!"

The last couple I recall being described as "cutting a rug" were Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. They were fantastic dancers, so I hoped that was the intended compliment. But they have been pushing up the daisies for a number of years! Sheesh! I hope we looked livelier than that!

About two dozen MCA volunteers helped with the event and we owe them all a vote of thanks. But the three principal organizers – Jane Haigh, Frances Krusekopf and Erin van de Water – did an outstanding amount of work and still led the evening with sparkling hair, dazzling smiles and amazing energy. And those outfits – fantastic! These are some of the new faces of the MCA bringing new life, ideas and energy to the organization.

As the crowd left the hall in the wee small hours, the level of enjoyment was

wonderfully gratifying. "The best Metchosin party, ever!" was a cry heard more than once.

I quietly put away the MCA membership application forms I had brought with me. It just didn't seem like the right moment.

But if you went and you loved it, or if you missed it and would love us to do it again, or even if this wasn't for you but you like the fact that the MCA is trying to address the tastes and wants of every generation in this fine community, joining the MCA would be a small but welcomed signal that you appreciate what we are trying to do and would like us to keep doing it, and more. Phone Heather, at 250-478-5155 or visit the Community House and give us some feedback. With that and ten dollars, you can be an MCA member and be kept in touch for a whole year.

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HOUSE HAPPENINGS

Metchosin Community House 4430 Happy Valley Road Info: 250-478-5155

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Ongoing Programs

Mondays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program – 9:00 am–3:30 pm. Contact Mobile program coordinator Ken Hillicke at 250-213-2440.

Pearson College Students Outreach – 3:00–4:30 pm. Helping seniors and youth in our community. Invite Pearson College students to visit or help with a project. Particularly aimed at Metchosin seniors, but call 250-478-5155 and leave a message for Jane Hammond or John Hollemans, to see if you might be eligible.

Knitting Café. On the first and third Mondays monthly, 7:00–9:00 pm, knitters of all skill levels, including beginners, are welcome to this informal and friendly get-together. For information call Laura, 250-478-1197, email laura.farquharson@shaw.ca.

Singalong – Metchosin Rough Voice Choir – The Rough Voice Choir meets at the Community House on the second and fourth Monday each month from 7:00–9:00 pm. All are welcome to join us at this fun, drop-in sing-along group where a "good singing voice" is not a requirement. \$2/person. Contact Barb Sawatsky (250-478-0553). This month the date is October 26.

Tuesdays

Drop-In Painters Art Group. This friendly and supportive group of artists and hobbyists meets Tuesday mornings 9:30 am–12 noon at the MCH. Everyone is welcome.

Knitting Café. On the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly, the Knitting Café has afternoon sessions from 1:00–3:00 pm. See the Monday listing for contact information.

Games Afternoon. Every third Tuesday of each month from 1:00–3:00 pm. Bring a game of your choice, bring a friend and a snack if so inclined and prepare to have some fun. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesdays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program – 9:00 am–3:30 pm (see Monday for details).

Garden Club Meetings – 7:30–9:00 pm – Metchosin Garden Club. Our enthusiastic and informative club features a guest speaker on relevant garden topics on the first Wednesday of every month (except June, July, August, December, January) at 7:30–9:00 pm. Membership is \$10/year or \$2 for drop-in visitors. For more information call Suze Bowen (250-298-7877) or email suzebowen@shaw.ca. Diane Pierce is our speaker on October 7, 2015.

Thursdays

Creative Rug Hooking – First and third Thursdays, 10:30 am–1:30 pm, led by Sheila Stewart, certified Instructor of Traditional Rug Hooking. Beginners are welcome, but should contact Sheila (phone 250-595-6406, or email blueheronstudio@telus.net) to discuss needed supplies. Experienced rug

hookers are invited to bring their own projects. Bring a bag lunch; tea and coffee available. No fees but donation jar available to cover refreshment costs.

Community Potluck Lunch – Last Thursday of each month, 12 noon–1:30 pm. All welcome.

Fridays

Parent and Tot Drop-In Program – 9:30–11:30 am. Calling all Metchosin tots! The Parent and Tot Drop-In Program invites moms, dads, caregivers and their young children to join us Friday mornings for our community Parent and Tot program. Children will enjoy our new toys, books and craft opportunities. Parents will enjoy our relaxed, supportive environment, parent resource library and opportunities to connect with other parents and kids. We look forward to seeing you and your little ones. For more information, please call Nina at 250-590-2540 or email dalenina@shaw.ca.

Pearson Student Teatime Drop-In – 2:45–4:30 pm. Enjoy a cup of tea and conversation with international students from Pearson College.

Film Night – *Return of the River*, 69 minutes. October 30, 7:00–9:00 pm at the Metchosin Community House. Suggestions, comments, please contact Ric at ricnic2@shaw.ca.

Events

Apple-Bee Festival – Sunday, October 4, 11:00 am–3:00 pm. Come and join us for family fun and great hands-on activities at the Metchosin Community House and grounds. Apple cider making, honey extraction and a live beehive – tasty and scary, all at once! Awesome apples – yummy honey – does life get any better?

Foot Care Program – The last Monday of each month a foot care nurse offers foot care services. Appointments are half an hour and are between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm. Please call Marlene at 250-664-6810 to book.

The Art on the Walls – October – Terri Rodstrom and Guest. Terri Rodstrom loves to paint, loves the energy that builds inside and flows out to the tip of the brush. No formal art education, self taught and always learning. "I started painting in watercolours in May of 2012, almost all are en plein air, meaning in the open air, outdoors on location. All my paintings are done in a morning painting session, trying to capture light shadow, perspective and a quick simple style. Of course the wildlife never stand still for long, which keeps me hooked on this challenge." Terri's works will be on display at the House for the month of October. The House is open Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm for viewing.

The Art on the Walls program offers the House as a wonderful venue for artists to show and display their works. For more information please call the MCH at 250-478-5155.

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Eat the Island

Metchosin's 2015 Summer Ride for BC SPCA Horse Care

BEV BACON

Metchosin Equestrian Society (MES) hosted a fund-raising ride to support the work that BC SPCA is doing with horses. BC SPCA now has two large-animal facilities, one in Surrey and one in Kelowna. They have rescued 117 horses in the past year and 16 more just recently. Horses are returned to health and condition before being rehomed. It costs about \$20 a day to have a horse in care.

MES started with the modest proposal to organize a trail ride on local trails that people don't usually access and ask the riders to make a small donation to BC SPCA specifically for the care of horses. The ride went on as planned, but the response from donors and sponsors was much above expectations.

The cooperation and encouragement of Olympic View Golf Course is hugely appreciated. After signing a waiver, riders were permitted up the fire access road to the top of Metchosin Mountain where the view is incredible. Organizer Bev Bacon says, "No horse ever misbehaves climbing the mountain. He's working too hard; and no horse ever misbehaves after



In the foreground, from right to left, is Natasha Walsh on Rain, Bev Bacon on Tango, Kendra McGougan on Skip, Sabine David on Jingles, and partly showing is Hilary Brown on Harley. In the background, from left to right, is Sandy Jenkins on Kappi, Sally Forseth on Diesel, Wendy Chartrand on Nina, and Karen Clark on Rocky. Photographer is Ellen Dewar on Sugar.

the mountain. He's had a good work-out."

What made the ride especially calm and sociable is that the riders set out in clusters of three or four horses rather than one long line. Most of the mounts were seasoned trail horses but even a few inexperienced horses were able to manage.

The second part of the ride was through the designated horse trail in Witty's Lagoon

Park out to Tower Point and back. The riders received a warm welcome on Olympic View Drive where they were somewhat a novelty. Refreshments and horse water were offered. People came out to meet the horses. One neighbour brought out a bucket of apples and another spontaneously made a cash donation.

At the end of the ride, there was a draw for prizes. The generous sponsorships by

Greenhawk, Kal Tire, Olympic View Golf Course, Red Barn Market, Slegg Building Materials, and Willow Wind are gratefully acknowledged.

The participants had a very special four-hour ride on less familiar terrain and over \$1,000 was raised for BC SPCA, for horses in care. Riders are already talking about repeating this event next year.

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A Fractured Beak Gets a Lucky Break at Wild ARC

HEATHER SCHMITT

Successful wildlife rehabilitation sometimes requires a little extra ingenuity. For staff at BC SPCA Wild ARC, a recent case of a cedar waxwing with a fractured beak initially proved to be something of a challenge. The bird's lower beak had a complete break on one side, and was severely damaged on the other, the result of hitting a living room window. The injured beak needed extra support to make sure it healed in correct alignment, but devising a way to splint a delicate bird beak was no easy task!

Putting her creativity to work, senior wildlife rehabilitator Christina Carrierès repurposed a piece of plastic packaging into a molded beak splint, securing it with sutures to each side of the waxwing's beak. The little bird was hand-fed by rehabilitators every 45 minutes for the first few days, the frequency mimicking the foraging behaviour he would be engaging in throughout the day in the wild. After several days he started to eat berries on his own (a favourite food source for these songbirds), and strong calluses started to form at the fracture sites. The splint was removed after a week, and calcium supplements helped the waxwing's beak continue to mend. Very soon, this gorgeous bird will be fully recovered and ready to return to life in the wild.

Because of the incredible variety of wild patients in need of help – Wild ARC treats nearly 140 different species each year – there is very little that is standard or routine with regard to equipment or treatments. "Each species, and each individual animal, is different, and we often have to repurpose materials for novel and unexpected uses," says Carrierès. "Cases like this inspire us to try new ideas and techniques, and allow us to develop new practices to help more wild patients in the future."



A very lucky cedar waxwing with its broken beak splinted up. Photo by Christina Carrierès

Wild ARC has admitted a record-breaking number of wild patients this season, already surpassing the 2,500 animals cared for last year by the end of the summer! Each of these wild patients has a story as unique as this cedar waxwing's, and requires the same specialized expertise and dedicated care to have a chance at recovery. Community support plays a vital role in Wild ARC's operations, and on November 14 their annual Fall for Wildlife Dinner Auction offers a not-to-be-missed opportunity to support their work. As centre manager Kari Marks explains, "This event is a chance for the community to learn what it takes to care for such a diverse range of wild patients, bid on some truly unique items, and enjoy a night out on the town." Tickets are available at www.spc.bc.ca/fallforwildlife – reserve yours today.

A Look Inside Royal Bay School

JOANNIE CHALLENGER



Royal Bay School opened its doors last week to students from grades 9 to 12, and staff and students must be excited about moving into the new building! Lots of windows and natural lighting, with the outdoors visible from almost every location. "The students have settled in quickly to their new school, and the school has a good feeling," enthused principal Windy Beadall. "There is still some work that needs to be completed, but it's coming along nicely. The students love the setup and the furniture, as well as having comfortable spaces to work on academic subjects."

The community will be welcome to tour the school during the community open house this fall. "To let the students and staff get settled in their new school, tours to the public are not available until the open house," noted Lindsay Vogan, public relations consultant with the Sooke School Board. It will be well worth a visit when you get the chance.

Left: It sure isn't the old Belmont Secondary!
Photos by Joannie Challenger



Natural light and open spaces are part of the ambiance at Royal Bay Secondary.

Jaxson Creasey: TD Scholarship Winner

BARB SAWATSKY

Jaxson Creasey moved to Metchosin with his parents, John and Jessie, and older sister, Maddison, when he was six months old. He was born with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 2, a neuromuscular condition that confines him to a wheelchair and that leaves him extremely limited physically and dependent on others for all of his physical needs.

Last April, Jaxson learned that he was one of 20 young people chosen from 20,000 applicants from across Canada as a recipient of the TD Scholarship for Community Leadership. He will receive up to \$70,000 for his future education in recognition of his volunteering initiative in the community. "AWESOME!", he said when asked if the *Muse* could run a story about his scholarship success.

When he was in Grade 7 at Dunsmuir School, Jaxson was a founding member of the Give it Back campaign that sold inspiration bracelets, held a silent auction, garage sales and car washes for the then-new Canuck Place. "I've been privileged to have received a ton of help so this was a balancing of the scales," he said. He noticed that "people started treating me differently. There was somehow a shift and I became a leader."

Describing the sequence of events leading up to the award, he credited Mr. John Froese, the teacher who encouraged him to apply. Because this was such a tough scholarship to win, he spent a lot of time on his essay and said, "Mr. Froese was always available to help me. He is the best teacher I have ever had."

In March, Jaxson learned that he was one of 80 students from across Canada invited to Vancouver for the finals. "This was a very humbling experience. Everyone's accomplishments were amazing and everyone was so surprised that they had been picked as semi-finalists. In Vancouver I learned that a network is set up for all the people who have won this scholarship over the years. They are encouraged to come back to meet the newcomers and to form friendships and business and social connections, not just for this year but for all the years ahead."

Mr. Froese said, "TD has built an alumni of 400 leaders and Jaxson is now one of them. In the past, there have only been a select few from Victoria and he is the first to have come out of Belmont High. Jaxson was chosen because he is highly intelligent, indomitable, easy to work with, engaging and a pleasure to be with. He is also articulate and he has a cutting sense of humour. I was so fortunate to have had him as a student."

About the scholarship, Jaxson said that TD does not expect straight A grades. "Toronto



Jaxson and Maddison on Grad Day

Dominion chooses individuals who think outside the box and who stand up for change. They look for forward-thinking people." He is guaranteed summer employment from 2016-2019, working in a TD branch office the first summer with the option of transferring to head office the following year. He will receive up to \$10,000 tuition per year with a \$7,500 stipend for textbooks and other expenses.

Jaxson would like to move out of home to be closer to UVic but because he requires a care aide, is not in public school, and because he is under the age of 19, there is no financial assistance for an aide. If he were to return to high school instead of attending university there would be government funding, but because he is attending university there is no money available in spite of the fact that his needs have not changed.

At home with his parents and his enthusiastic and bubbly sister, Jaxson is surrounded by warmth and love. Adding to the upbeat atmosphere in the Creasey home are Reggie and Phoebe, two funny-as-heck, ears-soft-as-satin Bassett hounds. As we were saying goodbye, Maddison arrived home after taking the enthusiastic dogs for their evening walk, out of breath and laughing, "OMG, Jaxson, it was like I was dog sledding!"

Jaxson's orientation at UVic was on September 8. He said, "The place is huge! It's almost overwhelming and I got lost a few times. But it's really refreshing to meet people who have similar interests and who are there because they want to be there." His immediate goal is a degree in the Commerce program after which he would like to apply to Law School to pursue a career in Sports Law, negotiating contracts and financial obligations.

Please take time to read Jaxson's scholarship essay on the *Muse* website: www.metchosinmuse.ca. It gives deeper insight into the reason he was chosen as a recipient for this very prestigious scholarship.

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NEWS FROM HANS HELGESEN SCHOOL



Mrs. Wakelin reads a story with some of her new kindergarten students. Photo by Joannie Challenger

Starting School – A Kindergarten Perspective

DEBRA STOUTLEY

Another September brings a new group of students into school and this year at Hans Helgesen we are welcoming 25 new kindergarten students. Some kindergarten students have an older brother or sister who has already “shown the ropes” to them. Some have attended preschool, which helps to prepare them for life in a kindergarten, but many are brand new to the school system. There is a lot that they are keen to learn: “I want to learn numbers,” stated one student when asked what he would like to learn at school. “I want to play outside in the forest,” was another comment, while a third student wanted “... to learn to read like my big brother.” Have you wondered what a school day is like from a new kindergarten student’s perspective? It is a full day of learning and a busy one!

From the first task of the morning – hanging up their

coats and backpacks – the new kindergarten students start down the road to independence. The next job is to “sign in,” which in the early days might be simply recognizing their name on a piece of paper and placing it on the board to show what activity they did on the weekend. Voila! A math activity has just been started! On the day I visited the kindergarten class the activity centred around Metchosin Day; a graph was made to show the children how many of their friends had taken part in the event.

As the year progresses, the kindergarten day will include activities like the morning message, where students try to guess what message their teacher has written for them. The message has missing letters or words, and may be written on chart paper or on the SMART board. (A SMART board is a digital version of the chalkboard, with a whole

lot more versatility and capability!) Together, students decipher the message, learning from each other as they work to identify missing letters or sounds. The beginning of reading and writing! There is a lot of sharing of ideas and answering questions from their peers: listening and speaking are two important areas of the Language Arts program, and a vital part of any kindergarten program.

At Hans Helgesen, outdoor learning is also very important. Teachers know the positive effects of being outside and incorporate this into their classrooms. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful environment around our school! Our kindergarten class spends approximately 30 minutes outside each morning learning in our forest area at the front of the school. Our whole school is learning to be stewards of our earth and the kindergarten students become leaders in this area by the end of their year! With the help of aboriginal role models and other guests, children learn many things about the forest and its plants and animals and how we can be good caretakers. Science and Social Studies support the reading, writing and social learning that all students do in kindergarten. The natural curiosity of children this age and our setting make these subjects varied!

Then there is music time, and visits to the library. Exploring these subjects and

areas of the school are important for each child’s development and learning. And perhaps the most popular part of the day for most children is “Centre” time, when children can choose from a variety of activities which encourage their imagination and creativity. Watching students interacting in the “House centre” or with the “imagination boxes” gives teachers a chance to observe students as they interact with their classmates, and the children’s choices and skills provide information for future activities.

Kindergarten is more than just play; it’s the foundation of learning at school. It is a wonderful time in which social, emotional, and academic learning happen in leaps and bounds. The pace is busy and the energy is infectious!

Thank You from Hans Helgesen School

MARK WHEEN

A very belated thank-you goes out to the many folks and businesses who helped Hans Helgesen School to host a successful Spring Fair a few months ago. The Metchosin Fire Department offered up their time to apprentice

volunteers, with the Super Heros (Hero’s Inc.) on the lookout in case the Fire Department needed some back up. Jeff from the Olympic View Golf Course helped up and coming PGA players work on their putting skills. A very special guest, Jesse Roper, played some of his legendary songs and new ballads to an appreciative audience.

Many companies from the local community donated gift certificates for the silent auction, including Goldstream Cycles, LA Limousines, Cobs Bread, Freedom Painting, Darcy’s Pub, Paboom, Wildslope Farms, Willow Wind, Teacher Store, Bella Yoga, Adrenaline, 17 Mile Pub, Dazzling Dusters, Race Rocks Auto, Down to Earth, Richards Landscaping and Excavating, Oak Bay Marine Group, Midas, Simply Gifted and Sweet Legs. Thrifty’s Foods, Island Farms, Quality Foods and the Royal Bay Bakery were also generous in helping supply the food for the barbecue. A generous donation was also made by “Buy the Yard” to help meet our fundraising target.

Lastly, thanks to all who attended the Spring Fair this year and to the parents and teachers who helped make this community event a success.

All of the proceeds from the Spring Fair will be used to purchase a new playground structure, to be installed in the new school year.



14TH JUAN DE FUCA (METCHOSIN) SCOUTS CANADA

14th JdF Scouting Fund Raiser at 2015 Metchosin Day

ALYSHA BECKER, FOURTH YEAR SCOUT

For as long as I can remember, the 14th Juan de Fuca Scout group has run the food tent at Metchosin Day. This year being no different, the Scouts were out in full force volunteering at Metchosin Day. Curtis Petillion, one of our Venturer advisors, volunteered to head up the Metchosin Day Scout fundraiser and started to organize and plan months prior with the committee. When the fun and festive day finally came, it was amazing. All hands were on deck to make this a huge success and the weather, despite the wind, really held up. We were very grateful to have the Knights of Columbus volunteer their time, cooking meals for over 500 people, serving both breakfast and lunch. With smiling faces and good spirits they whipped up delicious pancakes and sausage, and barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs. A big Scout thank you to them and all the other volunteers that helped with donations, discounts and equipment!

Our dinner was catered by My-Chosen Pizza, preparing fresh pizza on the hour. We pretty much sold out of everything and it was a big success. People were sad to not have the Lamb and Salmon bake this year, but it did help our fundraising.

Besides working at the ticket booth or food tent, Scouts also had our annual dunk tank. All day youth and leaders were getting dunked into cold water. Those funds raised will go towards programming for the fulfilling year of activities ahead. Everyone who dunked had a

blast testing their throwing skills and watching the anxious dunkees shiver and flinch every time a ball was thrown, fun for both! We moved all the scouting booths together this year, which was easier for us to be sure we had enough volunteers where we needed them. Our PR tent got excellent exposure next to the cash tent and dunk tank, and we hope that we get lots of new members as registration is going on now. It was another successful year all around and we look forward to seeing everyone again next time!



Taylor Church and Curtis Petillion, among the many volunteers in the food tent.

Photo by Curtis Becker

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Registered Speech-Language Pathologist
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250-474-6368 or mmlewis@shaw.ca



Make a Difference in Metchosin

The Metchosin Volunteer Fire Department is looking for recruits. If you are looking for an opportunity to make a significant contribution to your community, while getting valuable training, consider applying. **Deadline for application is October 15**, with an information session on October 21. For further information call 250-478-1307, please visit www.metchosinfire.ca or contact the Fire Chief at firechief@metchosinfire.ca.

Fire Dept. Call-Outs

AUGUST 1-31, 2015

FIRE CHIEF STEPHANIE DUNLOP

- Check out Metchosin Fire on Facebook or follow me on Twitter @ ChiefDunlop
- Aug 01 **Latoria Road** – Medical
 - Aug 02 **East Sooke Road** – Medical
 - Sutiacum Road** – Medical
 - Aug 03 **East Sooke Road** – Medical
 - Happy Valley Road** – Assistance – General Public
 - East Sooke Road** – Medical
 - Aug 04 **East Sooke Road** – SFRes – Smoke / Smell in Structure
 - Aug 06 **Rocky Point Road** – Medical
 - Aug 07 **Neild Road** – Medical
 - Aug 09 **Boulderpath Road** – Medical
 - Aug 11 **Taylor Road** – Beach Fire
 - Albert Head** – Alarm Bells – Residential

- Pearson College** – Alarm Bells – Commercial
- Aug 12 **Albert Head** – Alarm Bells – Commercial
- Clapham Road** – MVI
- Aug 13 **McVicker Road** – MVI
- Aug 14 **Sandgate Road** – Beach Fire
- Lindholm Road** – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell / Sighting
- Aug 15 **Happy Valley Road** – Medical
- Aug 16 **William Head Road** – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell / Sighting
- Aug 17 **Blanchard** – SFRes – Smoke/Smell in Structure
- East Sooke Road** – Brush/Grass – Fire
- Aug 19 **Chapel Heights Road** – Medical
- Aug 20 **Centremont Road** – Medical
- Albert Head Road** – Alarm Bells – Commercial
- Kangaroo Road** – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell / Sighting
- Aug 21 **East Sooke Road** – Brush/Grass – Bark Mulch
- Aug 23 **Otter Point Road** – Brush/Grass – Fire
- Aug 26 **Duke Road** – Medical
- Aug 27 **Rocky Point Road** – Medical
- Kangaroo Road** – Assistance – Misc Complaint
- Aug 28 **Happy Valley Road** – Open Burn – General
- Kangaroo Road** – Open Burn – General
- Albert Head Road** – False Alarm Bells – Commercial
- Albert Head Road** – Alarm Bells – Commercial
- Aug 30 **Pearson College** – Open Burn – General

RCMP Call-Outs AUGUST 1-30, 2015

BY CPL. BRIAN KERR, CENTRAL SAANICH POLICE

- Aug 02 **Pedder Bay Marina** – Complaint of dog bit by another dog, turned over to CRD Bylaws.
- Albert Head Road** – Vehicle stopped by Military Police, driver found to be under the influence by a drug, investigation continuing.
- Aug 03 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of person driving a vehicle while smoking marihuana, vehicle not located.
- Aug 04 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of a domestic dispute, no assault.
- Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of theft of a bike.
- Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of breach of the peace.
- Aug 06 **Kangaroo Road** – Complaint of shots being fired, extensive patrols requested.
- William Head Road** – Complaint of two vehicle accident, no injuries, rear end collision.
- Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of a disturbance, no one located.
- Aug 07 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of accident, person was towing a trailer which came unhitched and slammed into the vehicle towing it.
- Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of threats, one person warned but not charged.
- Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of erratic driver, vehicle not located.
- Aug 09 **Lindholm Road** – Complaint of theft from vehicle. Licence plate stolen.
- La Bonne Road** – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, not located.
- Aug 11 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of erratic driver, vehicle all over the road, vehicle located by Sooke RCMP.
- Aug 12 **Taylor Beach** – Complaint of male exposing himself, not located.
- Aug 13 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of possible fraud.
- McVicker Road** – Complaint of one person killed, another injured after crane tipped over, investigation continuing.
- Farhill Road** – Complaint of youths partying on the beach.
- Aug 14 **William Head Road area** – Complaint of possible fraud involving a credit card, still under investigation.
- Kangaroo Road** – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, vehicle located and not a problem.
- Farhill Road** – Complaint of youths partying on the beach.
- Aug 15 **Farhill Road** – Complaint of youths consuming liquor, youths were located and liquor seized.
- Aug 16 **Matheson Lake** – Complaint of bear being observed off the Goose Trail.
- Aug 17 **Neff Road** – Complaint of suspicious activity.
- Albert Head Lagoon** – Complaint of nude male on the beach, male located and given warning.
- Aug 18 **Farhill Road** – Complaint of youths partying near the beach.
- Aug 19 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of break, enter and theft to residence, still under investigation.
- Kangaroo Road** – Complaint of a disturbance, one person spoken to.
- Neild Road area** – Complaint of suspicious person, not located.
- Aug 20 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint to check well being of a person, located.
- Aug 21 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of threats to a person, still under investigation.
- Sundance Drive** – Complaint of motor vehicle accident, one vehicle left scene, no injuries, driver charged with hit and run.
- Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of motor vehicle accident, no injuries, minor damage to vehicles.
- Aug 22 **Ferncliffe Place** – Complaint of loud party, warning given.
- Aug 23 **Race Rocks** – Complaint of fisherman locating body in water, identified as the person who went missing while scuba diving, still under investigation.
- Aug 24 **Taylor Road** – Complaint of stolen vehicle, vehicle stolen while owner on walk at the beach, located later near by in the ditch, investigation continuing.
- Rocky Point Road area** – Complaint of possible suicidal person, one person taken to hospital.
- Aug 25 **Neff Road** – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, vehicle located with stolen licence plates, investigation continuing.
- Aug 26 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of attempted break-in to trailer at the Tech School, entry not gained.
- William Head Road area** – Complaint of family dispute.
- Aug 27 **Liberty Drive** – Complaint of person breaching court order.
- Aug 28 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of possible impaired driver, vehicle stopped by Sooke RCMP and driver found to be sober.
- Neff Road** – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, vehicle located with stolen licence plates.
- Aug 29 **Sooke Road** – Vehicle stopped on Sooke Road, outstanding warrant for arrest for the driver, taken into custody and held for court.
- Aug 30 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of disturbance, both persons spoken to.

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CLASSIFIEDS

\$10 per 25 words to go in this monthly paper which is mailed to every Metchosin household. Envelopes for submissions and payments are provided at Metchosin Country Store.
Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month and can be dropped off at Metchosin Country Store.

WANTED

COOKIES CRITTER CARE is collecting beverage containers, dog food, leashes, collars and toys for animal rescue. Call Cookie @ 250-415-9335 for pickup.

SERVICES

COOKIES CRITTER CARE – Metchosin’s Professional Pet-Sitter and Dog-Walker since 2006. Fully insured, bondable and First Aid certified. Cookie 250-415-9335. Comes highly recommended and recognized.

HANDY MAN – Yard and house maintenance int/ext painting, power washing,

lawns, small construction fences, decks and yard clean-ups. Call Scott, 250-532-8379.

PEOPLE PETS AND PLANTS – Mature Practical Nurse available part time to care for your loved ones. Please email janhomenurse@gmail.com or call 778-433-4000.

LESSONS

FOODSAFE – LEVELS 1 & 2, MARKETS SAFE AND WHMIS – Classes taught by certified instructors. See website www.hospitalitytrainingplus.com for information or contact Evelyn for on-site group classes. Call 250-474-5596.

Events

Friday, October 16 – Bandwagon Music Night at Metchosin Golf Course featuring *Fine Spirits*, Metchosin's own Lesley and Dave Preston. \$5 donation at the door goes to the musicians; kitchen and bar open at 5:30 pm, music and dancing 7:00–9:00 pm. Come early – seating is limited. <http://metchosinbandwagon.shawwebpace.ca/>

Monday, October 19 – Federal Election Voting Day

Wednesday, October 21 – Information Session for Fire Hall Recruits. See www.metchosinfire.ca for more information.

CRD events in our area – Please visit the CRD website for information: <https://crd.bc.ca/about/events>

For more on events of interest to Metchosinites, see "Important Dates," page 1.

Directory of Organizations

The following is contact information for not-for-profit organizations, but fuller descriptions are given in the "Directory of Metchosin," available at the Municipal Hall and the Community House. Brief articles highlighting special events should be mailed to metmuse@shaw.ca by the 15th of each month, as should any amendments or additions to this list.

AIR CADETS
www.848royalroadsaircadets.com
www.facebook.com/848aircadets
 250-590-3690
848air@cadets.gc.ca

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC
 250-382-2052,
www.alzheimerbc.org

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL METCHOSIN (APRM)
 250-478-1197, www.aprm.ca

BADMINTON
 Women's 250-478-9648

BILSTON WATERSHED HABITAT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
 250-478-2387,
ikmcken@islandnet.com,
www.bilstoncreek.org

'CHOSIN CHATTERS TOASTMASTERS
info@chosinchatters.org,
www.chosinchatters.org

CRD PARKS
 250-478-3344,
crdparks@crd.bc.ca,
www.crd.bc.ca/parks

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)
tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca,
 250-478-5484

LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA
 250-727-4384

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE
 250-478-5155,
mcahouse@telus.net,
www.metchosincommunityhouse.com

METCHOSIN COUNCIL
 250-474-3167,
mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca,
www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings

METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
 250-478-1307, ham operators call in on 146.550. POD members can call FRS (Family Radio Service) radios: Channel 1 with "0" privacy tone

METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY
 250-391-7511,
exchanging@shaw.ca,
www.mesmetchosin.org

METCHOSIN FOUNDATION
metchosinfoundation@gmail.com,
<http://metchosinfoundation.ca>

METCHOSIN 4H
 250-478-4677
Metchosin4H@gmail.com,
www.metchosin4h.com

METCHOSIN GARDEN CLUB
 250-298-7877

METCHOSIN HALL SOCIETY
 250-478-6424,
<http://metchosinhall.com/>

METCHOSIN HIKING CLUB
 250-478-4778

METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY
 Pioneer Museum, 250-382-1989,
 School Museum, 250-478-5447

METCHOSIN PONY CLUB
 250-727-3595

METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL
 250-478-9241,
metchosinpreschool@gmail.com,
www.metchosinpreschool.wordpress.com

METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE
 250-478-2210

MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY
 250-642-0238

POD LEADERS
 Kathleen Sutherland
 250-474-3966

ROUGH VOICE SINGERS
 September to April
 250-478-0553

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 91, Station Rd, Langford
 Ladies Auxiliary
 250-478-5484

SCOUTS CANADA
14thjuandefuca@victoriascouts.ca

SEA CADETS
 250-478-7813

SENIORS' INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)
 250-478-5150, msirc@shaw.ca

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
 Brian 250-474-1665
 Marni 250-999-6757

SWANWICK CENTRE
 A centre for spiritual inquiry
 538 Swanwick Road
 250-744-3354
programs@swanwickcentre.ca
www.swanwickcentre.ca

WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL
 250-478-2286,
info@westshorearts.org,
www.westshorearts.org

WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND
 250-474-3999

WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION
 250-478-8384,
www.westshorererecreation.ca

CHURCHES

BAHA'I FAITH
 250-514-1757

GORDON UNITED CHURCH
 250-478-6632
www.gordonunitedchurch.ca

HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 250-727-3722

OPEN GATE CHURCH
 250-590-6736
www.theopengate.ca

ST MARYS' METCHOSIN
 Anglican Church of Canada
 250-474-4119
stmarysmetchosin.ca

WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH
www.westsidefamily.org
 250-478-8066

WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY
 250-474-5967
www.westsong.ca



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 phone 778-967-2952
 email metchosinyogastudio@gmail.com
www.westshoremetchosinyoga.com
 @ Westshore Metchosin Yoga Studio



The above is a directory of organizations only. Please submit changes to this information to metmuse@shaw.ca. Individuals, groups and organizations are invited to submit details on upcoming events, to be included under "Events" on this page. Deadline for submission is, as always, the 15th of the month preceding the issue date.