

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

Ey swayel. Ey kw'els kw'etslome, el siyaye.

K'utk'unukws

June 21, 2017 was an important day for Metchosin and the Beecher Bay/Scia'new First Nation. Set to coincide with National Aboriginal Day, the Beecher Bay/District of Metchosin Reconciliation Celebration brought people of both communities along with dignitaries from other communities together in a spirit of openness, respect and recognition.

Master of Ceremonies Rick Peters conducted the celebration in accordance with feast traditions of his people,



One of the young singers.

taking time to explain why things were being done in the way they were. Elders from both communities were recognized as formal witnesses to the proceedings, an important aspect of the oral culture of North West First Nations.

Mayor John Ranns and Chief Russ Chipps both spoke from the heart, describing how the relationship between the two communities has grown significantly over the past few years, reflected in the innovative solution to the challenging land component of the treaty recently negotiated. Elder Andy Charles, introduced by Peters as "one of our libraries," reflecting the importance of remembering accurately what is said in the feast hall, sat with Ranns and explained what the word that was to be anglicized to "Metchosin" actually meant to his people and the circumstances leading to the place being called that.

Langford Mayor Stu Young congratulated all involved in the recent land agreement, and Mayor Ken Williams of the District of the Highlands presented Chipps and Ranns with books. Neil Vallance, whose PhD dissertation



Beecher Bay "library" Andy Charles tells the story of the origin of the name Metchosin to Mayor John Ranns. Barb Sawatsky photos

focused on the 14 Douglas Treaties on Vancouver Island, spoke on the history of the local Douglas Treaty and how it fits into the context of the current evolving relationship between the parties today.

There were speeches and song, there was drumming and there was food. There were artifacts displayed.

Following Northwest custom, witnesses were compensated. It really was a feast. Not that long ago, in accordance with the Potlatch Laws, all present would have been subject to arrest, for being where traditional cultural practices took place and where the land question was discussed. We really have come a long way.

Note: The headline "Ey swayel. Ey kw'els kw'etslome, el siyaye" means "Good Day. It's good to see you, my friend" in Halq'emeylem, the predominant indigenous language of Scia'new. K'utk'unukws was one name given to Muse co-editor Brian Domney when he was Principal of Nisga'a Elementary-Secondary School in the Nass Valley.

Happy 150th, Canada!

Brian Domney

Some call it our Canadian smugness, but when people who have lived and travelled throughout the world call Canada the best country in the world, there has to be something there. July 1 marks the 150th anniversary of the creation of this nation, although British Columbia will have to wait a little over four years to celebrate the 150th anniversary as a Canadian province, and we're still working on some of the Terms of Union. We joined the gang on July 20, 1871. Newfoundland has only been a province for 68 years!

Regardless, the original concept is 150 years old,

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This Ain't No Beauty Pageant

Brian Domney

Sheepdog trials are not dog shows. If you're looking to cheer men and women in fancy suits and dresses as they prance around a ring with a weird-looking dog and then have another man or woman approach them, look in the dog's mouth, and grab its crotch like an American president, you're probably not a likely spectator at the Metchosin Sheepdog Trial in August.

The Trial is not a fashion show cat walk. The Trial is for real working dogs, bred for centuries not to look good, or weird, or funny, but to know how to work for a very specific reason. Most trial dogs are border collies, but any breed can enter, and in fact, the movie *Babe*, farfetched as it was, reflected the importance of performance, not appearance.

One of the first trials was held in Britain in 1876, when "show collies" were becoming popular, and shepherds were becoming concerned that behaviour breeding was becoming supplanted by appearance breeding. Show collie breeders wanted to show that their dogs still had what it took to herd sheep. The result was a disaster for the pretty dogs. They yelped, they bit, they ran around

like maniacs and often completely lost control of the sheep. It was no contest.

If you watch the Westminster Dog Show on TSN every year, you will probably know that border collies have only very recently been seen on that dog show. That is because the American Kennel Club and the various breeders' associations were not able to reach agreement on what was important when judging the dog. The Kennel Club was interested in "conformation" - things like the sweep of the tail, the depth of the chest, the shape of the face, ears, snout. And yes - is it "intact." How it moved was probably the closest criteria the two groups came to, but having a handler trying to guide a dog that sprinted, then came to a dead stop and stared for a bit, then moved suddenly to one side, was not what the Kennel Club had in mind as far as pace went. The Kennel Club has the dog equivalent of the Miss America Pageant. The breeders said no way. The dogs are working dogs, bred to work sheep (and sometimes cattle). If you're going to judge them, you have to judge them on the criteria for which they were bred. If the breeders ran the Miss America Pageant, Rosie O'Donnell could win it! And Meryl Streep could too! The same impasse has existed in Canada, and

you will rarely see a border collie in a dog show.

Border collies have been bred for excellence in three of the four characteristics of a wolf. They hunt, they stalk, and they eye (that intense stare you may have seen), but they do not kill. The dogs are an incredible combination of innate behaviour and the ability to listen to their handler. At the Trial in August, you will see dogs demonstrating balance - knowing where to be to keep the sheep under control; power - asserting itself in a way that makes the sheep not challenge it; style - how it moves, how it uses "eye" to intimidate the sheep; while all the while paying attention to the "suggestions" their handler is making. A good handler with a good dog is a work of art. The handler allows the dog to do what it has been bred to do, to use its judgment as much as possible, and the dog knows to listen.

So "come by" on August 5 and 6, the long weekend in August, to see real dogs do real work. And if you really want to get involved, consider volunteering. The organizing committee is still looking for a few folks to help out during the event.

Check the "Metchosin Sheepdog Trial" Facebook page regularly for updates. "That'll do."

Metchosin Muse

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The 15th of each month. Please send copy as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text or RTF to: metmuse@shaw.ca. Typewritten or handwritten copy is acceptable if you have no access to a computer. Do not send PDFs. Photos should be high resolution, i.e., not taken with phone or tablet. Leave hard copies of articles in the *Muse* box at the Metchosin Country Store or fax 250-483-5352. Please visit our website for more information: www.metchosinmuse.ca

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 Beecher 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.

CURRENT CIRCULATION: 2800

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.

The Mighty Garage Sale

While the garage sale was undoubtedly a big success, those that volunteered countless hours before and after the weekend of the sale truly need to be recognized as the unsung heroes of the day. Their creativity and expertise in sorting and breathing new life in some items worthy of the silent auction was brilliant. The hours and days were long. How these people kept their sense of humour but still had time for a laugh or chat is beyond me. It can only be considered as a labour of love, as no one was paid a wage.

At the end of the day, people went home happy with their purchases, running into friends, comparing their great treasures, having fulfilled another "support our community" event. New volunteers would always be welcomed ... roll up your sleeves and jump in for 2018!

Avril Yoachim

Huy ch q'u, Thank you

On behalf of the Beecher Bay and District of Metchosin Reconciliation Celebration Planning Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the Celebration on Aboriginal Day, Wednesday, June 21, at the District Grounds.

Thank you to Chief Russ Chipps and Mayor John Ranns and their councils and staff and to Beecher Bay's MC, Rick Peters and all our neighbours at Beecher Bay.

To all Beecher Bay and Metchosin Elders who attended and witnessed this important event, a big thank you. Most assuredly thanks to our speakers Bert Charles, Chris Pratt and Neil Valance. Thanks to the honoured guests and to everyone in the community who attended. I extend a special thanks to the Hans Helgesen School children who sang and drummed, and to the many artists who displayed their beautiful

works. Thanks to the numerous volunteers who set up and decorated the tables, the stage and the entire site in the terrific winds on the day prior to the event. Thank you to the children who served the Elders their meals, and to the musicians who provided lovely music during and after the feast, and to each and every volunteer who assisted in guiding the coordination team through this day, by preparing and serving the feast. Last but not least, to those who stayed long afterwards and pitched in with the recycling clean up. We are most grateful for the incredibly generous donations by our local sponsors.

The celebration was one of the most meaningful community events we have had the honour to participate in.

Sincerely, Gaert Linnaea
and BBFNDMRC
Planning Committee

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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10 Bradene Road
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Tel: 250-478-3451

Or you can email us at: metmuse@shaw.ca



Things are heating up! Take note.



... but is closed burning open?

Barb Sawatsky photo

Current fire regulations:

- Yard burning in Metchosin is closed until further notice.
- All open fires are now banned from all beach areas within the District of Metchosin. Propane fire pits and briquette barbecues are allowed.
- Camp fires (small cooking fires only) were still allowed as of June 25 when the *Muse* went to press.

Please check the website at www.metchosinfire.ca for current fire regulations over the course of the summer.

EMERGENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION

First Responders Using Technology as a Tool

Charla Huber, Metchosin Emergency Program

First Responders Using Technology as a Tool

Tuesday, July 18, 7:00 pm
Metchosin Fire Hall, 4440 Happy Valley Rd.

Emergency situations are nothing new, but with modern technology we are changing how we react to these situations, using modern tools to help serve the community better.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are being used, providing tools and data that can be used in planning for emergency situations.

Search and Rescue teams can use tools such as mapping and drones to help locate people faster. Drones can also be flown around a structure fire to help firefighters determine the best options when they arrive.

The Metchosin Emergency Program is hosting a free information session to discuss GIS mapping, drones, and emergency management in Metchosin.

Join us for the free information session on July 18 at the Metchosin Fire Hall, 4440 Happy Valley Road. If you have any questions or would like any further information, please call 250-478-1307. We also have a door prize at every session.

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25 words or less \$10
Deadline: 15th of each month.
Monthly payment in advance. Please call Eileen Carlson 250-478-1036.

Got feedback? You can contact the *Muse* team by sending email to metmuse@shaw.ca.

Johannes Nicolaas van der Wereld

February 23, 1927–May 30, 2017



Johannes "John" van der Wereld

Submitted by Ina van der Wereld and Kate Adams

Europe in 1927 was still recovering from the first World War. It was a hard time in rural Holland where my father, Johannes van der Wereld was born, but he had a cheerful spirit that saw him through some tough times over the next 90 years.

Dad was a teenager through the years of the Second World War. One story in particular from that time strikes me as a building block for Dad's lifelong philosophy:

"The first time we really realized that the war had started," Dad would say, "was an ordinary day. I was in the garden with my brothers planting potatoes when we heard a loud noise, and big warplanes flew low over the garden where we were working. We were nervous and asked my father what we should do. Picking up his shovel, he told us, 'well, we don't know what's going to happen, but one thing is for sure ... no matter what, someone will need to eat these potatoes'."

Another story about the war that Dad loved to tell was about how he outsmarted the German soldiers. Everything of value was being confiscated, so to protect his new bike, he had to hide it. He sunk it in the canal, anchoring it firmly to the bottom. He explained that this was a great, safe place because metal only rusts when it is exposed to air, so by having the bike completely submerged it stayed in good shape and he was able to reclaim it after the war.

Dad grew up in a large family of 16 children. They lived on a farm that mainly produced vegetables, but they also had pigs and chickens. When asked what the farm produced, much of it taken to auction where it was sold to the highest bidder, Dad always said "anything eatable."

After finishing elementary school at age 13, he studied agricultural techniques as well as farm accounting and marketing. With his hands-on

experience, and this training, his father hoped he would take over the family business, but things didn't turn out as planned.

He met and proposed to Adriana Zoet (Jean), but after the Second World War there was a housing shortage in Holland. After four years they decided they didn't want to wait any longer to get married and become independent, so they decided to emigrate to Canada. Dad and Mom were married in 1952 in Holland, and left for Canada two weeks later. With just \$50 cash and high hopes, the couple began a five-day trip by ship to Halifax, then another five days by train across Canada to Vancouver. From there they took the old CP night steamer, a five-hour overnight trip, to Victoria, where they knew no one.

Dad's first job was at Brown's Nursery in Esquimalt. He later moved to the Oak Bay Beach Hotel Farm in Metchosin, where he and Mom lived and worked, tending to pigs, turkeys and hens, a fruit orchard and vegetable garden. At Christmas they picked holly from the trees out front to decorate the hotel.

After a couple of years, they went to work on a chicken farm for the Nikkels family while Mom was busy caring for their growing family. Besides his work with the chickens, Dad had a vegetable garden, and he liked to tell us how surprised he was to find out that his veggies had won first prize at the Luxton Fall Fair – it turns out that the Nikkels' son had "borrowed" some vegetables from Dad's garden to enter in the contest.

In 1957 John and his brother Cor, newly emigrated from Holland, bought the Oak Bay Beach Hotel Farm together, and it became the family home for the next 30 years. When they first started out, the brothers focused on raising laying hens for eggs and eventually switched to growing frying chickens. In the early days, running the farm involved a lot of hard work, but automation and nine kids to help out with the chores made things easier.

Maybe it was because he had spent time at the auction when he was young, but years later Dad still enjoyed going to auctions. He would load up the car with kids and drive up to Whippletree Junction to see what they could get. One of these trips was to the livestock auction, where Dad bought two calves. On the way back the car got a flat tire. They had a spare stored under the seat, so it wouldn't have been much of a problem, except that

there were five kids and two calves on that seat. Dad had to unload everyone onto the side of Malahat Drive, a much more rugged road at the time, before he could start fixing the car.

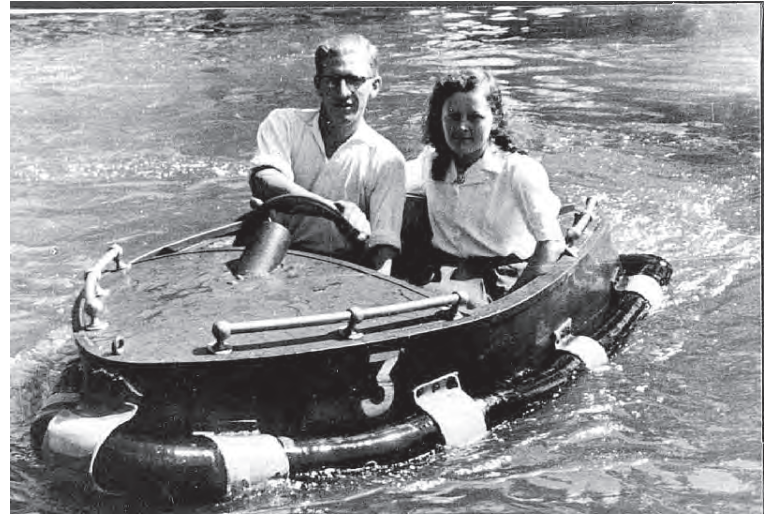
Dad was a long-time member of the Metchosin Volunteer Fire Department, and eventually became Chief, only retiring when he moved to Colwood in 1987. Tony remembers going with Dad to a few fires, and shared this story: "I remember one forest fire where a Martin Mars water bomber was flying just a couple of hundred feet overhead when it dropped its load. The water knocked us over and we struggled to hold on to the fire hose and dodge broken branches raining down on us while we were being washed down a hill. Firefighting wasn't as safety conscious back then."

Dad loved being a fireman, and was very proud of the 22 years of service he put in. In his later years, if he was ever having a bad day, it was easy to cheer him up. All you had to do was mention that he used to be a fireman in Metchosin. His eyes would light up and he'd reply, "Oh yes, and I was even the boss there!"

In the 80s Dad began to think about his eventual retirement from farming. With 20 acres of land, his plan was to build a smaller house for Mom and himself, and have his son Leo move into the old farmhouse and gradually take over the chicken operation. Unfortunately zoning laws didn't allow for this, so he and Mom moved to Colwood, where Dad graduated to being Opa. He adored spending time with his grandkids, and later, great grandkids, telling them his old stories of days long past.

In his last years Dad experienced the gradual onset of Alzheimer's disease. Sometimes it was frustrating for him, but more often than not he just accepted it, saying "oh well, when you're almost 100 you can't expect to remember everything." He maintained his good sense of humour and spent his days in simple activities that he enjoyed very much. His favourite activity by far was working on jigsaw puzzles, and we all spent many hours at the puzzle table with him. He delighted in small toys and games too, tossing a ball unexpectedly at whoever was nearby to see if they were paying attention.

One blessing of Dad's struggles with memory was that when Mom died last fall, although he knew she was gone and that he missed her, he felt as though it was



Johannes van der Wereld and Adriana Zoet in the Netherlands before they were married, 1951.

something that had happened quite a few years ago. He would often look at her picture and talk about her, but he spoke about getting old and dying as being "just the way things are," and not

something to dwell on. Perhaps Mom was on his mind more than we knew, because he went to join her just two days after what would have been their 65th wedding anniversary.



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The Best of the Muse

Volumes 1 and 2 are available at the Metchosin Country Store

Metchosin Foundation Awards High School Scholarships

Carol Carman

Four \$500 scholarships have been awarded by the Metchosin Foundation to high school students from Metchosin who plan on furthering their education to a post-secondary level. The funds are available thanks to the generous donation of a Metchosin resident who has asked to remain anonymous.

The scholarship for Academic Achievement has been awarded to Cyrus Dinh. His marks indicate that he excels in every subject from physics and pre-calculus to physical education. The University of Victoria has already accepted him into the science faculty, and Cyrus would like to become a secondary school teacher someday.

The scholarship for Community Citizenship has been awarded to Savannah Askew. She has been a long-term volunteer for organizations such as The Priory, the Mustard Seed, the Salvation Army, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and the Boys and Girls Club. All this she achieves while maintaining great marks in all of her high school courses. Her ambition is to become an emergency room nurse or nurse practitioner, and to this end she has already been accepted to Camosun College's University Transfer program.

The scholarship for Environmental Stewardship has been awarded to the unique and adventurous Abbey Christ-Rowling who has been accepted by the United World College in Swaziland to earn

a two-year International Baccalaureate diploma. She has pulled invasive species out of the forests from Metchosin to Banff, planted trees, worked on organic farms, cleaned up countless beaches and is constantly aware of the wasteful use of water. Through her interests in law, mathematics and the humanities, we are confident that Abbey will have a profound effect on the health of our environment, both here in Metchosin and around the world.

The scholarship designated for a Beecher Bay student is for all three of these categories: community service, academic achievement and environmental stewardship. Award winner Stacy Charles is currently attending Camosun College with a strong interest in a range of language, community and indigenous social work issues.

All of us in Metchosin can be proud of these remarkable young people as they set out on their life journeys.

Congratulations to Cyrus, Savannah, Abbey and Stacy! We wish you the best of luck in your future careers.

The Metchosin Foundation is a registered charity. Charitable BN/Registration #81576 1556 RR0001. Your kind donations are tax deductible.

For further information, please visit our website at: www.metchosinfoundation.ca

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COUNCIL NEWS JULY/AUGUST 2017



2017 METCHOSIN DAY – SEPTEMBER 10

Our annual Metchosin Day Celebration is being planned again with many activities, exhibits and entertainment for the entire family, attracting visitors from across the island and beyond. This year we're planning for the weather to cooperate, so we can again end the day with our traditional home-grown Lamb and Salmon Barbeque dinner!

The event would not be successful without the dedication of our volunteers and we welcome anyone who can offer help – even for a couple of hours, a half-day, set-up, tear down and of course, on the day of the event! Please send a note to info@metchosinday.ca or visit our Facebook Page @Metchosin Day – or call the Metchosin Community House at 250-478-5155.

PARKING ON WITTY BEACH ROAD — SUMMER 2017

It is critical that emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire trucks have unimpeded access to the end of Witty Beach Road so that they can respond immediately if there is an accident or fire. The yellow "No Parking" lines on the road have been established with the purpose of ensuring that these emergency vehicles can access the end of the road on busy beach use days. In addition, several residents have large vehicles and trailers which require the full width of their driveway to exit their property.

Please be advised if you are parked illegally you may be towed: Are you parked in the "No Parking" area by the steps to the beach? Are your tires on the pavement? Are you parked on, over or inside the yellow lines?

WESTSHORE TRIATHLON CYCLING PORTION – JULY 9, 2017

Proposed route is Happy Valley, Metchosin, Latoria and back on Happy Valley. Starting at 7:30 am and finishing at 10:30 am (approximately).

RYDER HESJEDAL'S TOUR DE VICTORIA 2017 CYCLING RACE – AUGUST 20, 2017

Proposed route is Metchosin Road, William Head Road, Lombard Drive, Rocky Point Road, Kangaroo Road, Lindholm Road and Happy Valley Road. Starting time is estimated to be at 7:00 am, and finish time is estimated at 10:00 am. Please expect partial road closures on roads that cyclists are traveling on.

COUGARS AND BEARS

If you see a cougar or bear, please call the Conservation Officer at 1-877-952-7277. The Municipal Office tracks all cougar and bear sightings for our residents; please call the Conservation Officer first, then call the District Office at 250-474-3167.

The BC Ministry of Environment's Bear Smart Community Program encourages efforts to reduce bear-human conflicts. Some things you can do to help to bear-proof your home:

- keep garbage in the house or shed until pick up day
- don't add meat or cooked food to your compost
- pick ripe fruit and fallen fruit daily
- use bird-feeders only in the winter
- clean your BBQ after each use and store in a secure area
- don't feed pets or store pet food outdoors

Visit our district website for more information: <http://www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/>

DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Council and Standing Committees: July 10, 7:00 pm

Council and Standing Committees: August 14, 7:00 pm

Environmental Advisory Committee (MEASC): August 22, 7:00 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.metchosin.ca. Thank you.

SIRC SENIORS' INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTRE



Above: Audrey Jenkins and Chris Van de Water.
Left: Frank Mitchell en plein air at the Parisien Café.

Dar Churcher photos

Summer Hours of Operation

SIRC will be open weekly from noon to 5:00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. We will be closed the first week of July and the first week of August.

Our email and telephone access for Better at Home volunteers and caregiver support, KIT (RCMP Keep In Touch program), Community Response Network (WS CRN) and service pro referrals, is available during open hours.

Please leave a message at 250-478-5150 or email info@metchosinseniors.ca.

Funky Farm Tour and Tea Will Be Fun for All Ages

A one-of-a-kind, Family Farm Tour and Tea is being planned for one day only, on Saturday, July 8 at Ravenhill Homestead, Farm and Pioneer Museum. This unique MSA fundraiser will showcase a variety of farm animals, along with the Metchosin 4H Club displays. Bring the kids and grandkids to the farm petting place and visit the historical Jenkins' Pioneer Museum, and enjoy servings of specialty tea and fresh, home-baked goodies.

A shuttle service will also be available at the farm for those with mobility challenges. Get your tickets at SIRC.

Adults, \$20; Children, \$5. Choose either 10:00 am morning or 1:00 pm afternoon Tour and Tea. *Note:* Limited spaces available!

Metchosin Better at Home Support

If you are over age 65, dealing with an illness or disability, need help or know a senior neighbour, family member or friend who could use our

support, we can provide transportation, technology learning, referrals, companionship, home visits and more.

Call SIRC to apply or to find out how to sign up as a volunteer!

SIRC and RCMP Keep in Touch (KIT)

The KIT Program is run through the West Shore RCMP Detachment's Community Policing Section and is overseen by a police officer and staffed by volunteers. The KIT Program is essential to ensure elderly residents who are living alone are monitored and safe in their own homes. This helps to foster continual independent living for those who have no relatives or friends close by. Volunteers contact elderly residents daily by phone to check in.

For more information on the KIT Program or to get involved, call West Shore RCMP Community Policing at 250-391-3327.

Smile Cards Serve Local Seniors

Drop by SIRC to claim your free Thrifty Foods Smile Card. You can give back to our community and help to raise funds to support SIRC's many local programs.

Each time you use your Thrifty's Smile Card to shop locally at Thrifty's, they will kick back five per cent of your total spent to SIRC. Every little purchase adds up to more donations, with very little effort on our part!

Summertime Supper Club

There is no cost to attend and all ages are welcome! Volunteer drivers and diners travel

SIRC Summer Programs

Open Tech Learning Lab	Tuesdays	1:00-3:00 pm
	Thursdays	1:00-3:00 pm
Tea Time/Coffee Chat	Wednesdays	1:00-3:00 pm

Note: Monday Mah-Jong will resume in the fall

to and from Gordon United Church in Langford to enjoy a meal together every other Monday. Please RSVP for our Drive and Dine dinners or call us to learn more!

We will leave SIRC at 5:30 pm sharp and return by 7:00 pm on Monday, July 3 and Monday, August 28.

Note: Drive and Dine is cancelled for July 17, July 31, and August 14.

Log on, Learn and Play at SIRC's Open Computer Lab

SIRC has free Wi-Fi, laptops, desktops, printers, tablets, Macs, smartphones etc., for our members, to learn on and borrow. You can also book your personal Geek Session for up to one hour.

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NEW! SIRC's Seasonal Newsletter

Drop by for a copy of our summer newsletter at SIRC. Learn about our membership, programs and volunteer opportunities for all ages.

Metchosin Community Association AGM Postponed

Johnny Carline, President, MCA

It was announced in the last issue of the *Muse* that the Annual General Meeting of the Metchosin Community Association (MCA) would take place on June 24.

However, the MCA is going to have to completely overhaul its constitution and bylaws to comply with the new *Societies Act* and it is now apparent that this will take a good deal of work. The results would also have to be approved at a General Meeting of the membership.

Therefore, rather than call two General Meetings, the MCA Board has postponed the Annual General Meeting until September 30. At that time it hopes to not only conduct the regular business of an AGM, including an election of a new Board, but also bring forward a new constitution for the approval of the membership and at least a broad set of new bylaws to allow the new Board to hit the ground running.

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<http://www.metchosinmuse.ca>

There's a lot going on in Metchosin this summer!

For information on local events, see **Important Dates and Events**, p. 16.



Heritage Cemetery Tour

Gaert Linnaea

Heritage Cemetery Tour
Sunday, August 20
2:00–5:00 pm, Church of
St. Mary the Virgin
4354 Metchosin Road

This summer, in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday, there will be a cemetery tour, including refreshments, music and other fun activities at Metchosin's Church of St. Mary the Virgin in the Metchosin Village Centre. All are welcome to attend this event which is hosted by the District of Metchosin Heritage Committee and the St. Mary's Cemetery Committee, with members of the Metchosin Museum Society also on hand.

St. Mary the Virgin Church was built in 1873, a few years after Confederation. The cemetery, which is known for its profusion of native spring flowers, contains the graves of many of Metchosin's

pioneer settlers. At this event newly prepared maps, historic photos and other archival information will be displayed to illustrate many of the early farms such as Witty, Helgesen, Weir, and others. Each year the tour guides organize a new scavenger hunt; this year the questions revolve around the era of 1867.

Andrew Spray and Doug Ruth of the Cemetery Crew will give the tours and be there to answer questions. You are welcome to take photos and enjoy the stories. As an added attraction there will be live harp music provided by Allison Marshall, her students and other musicians. Displays will be set up and tea and refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall adjacent to the Church.

Questions regarding this year's tour can be addressed to Gaert Linnaea at 250-514-9750 or linnaea1@telus.net.



Joan Kew photo

We suggest that your enjoyment of this event may be enhanced by a visit to Metchosin's Pioneer and School Museums. The hours of operation are:

Pioneer Museum, 4450 Happy Valley Road:
Sundays, 11:00 am–4:30 pm

School Museum, 4475 Happy Valley Road:
Saturdays and Sundays, 11:00 am–4:30 pm

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Nootka Rose Milling

Barb Sawatsky

Rumours of a new business coming to downtown Metchosin are true! The long-vacant space next to the Broken Paddle, once the home of a garage, then a feed and tack shop, and briefly a used furniture store, has been transformed into a cheerful, light-filled milling and retail store. Borrowing the name of the wild rose that grows abundantly around our community, Nootka Rose Milling will soon open. Co-owners are home-grown Metchosin lad Byron Fry of Fry's Bakery in Esquimalt, and Erika, owner of Wildfire Bakery in Victoria.

Before opening their doors to the public, the commercial space required rezoning and now, "after obtaining permits and making necessary changes, council approved the rezoning and is 100 per cent on board with us," said Erika. How industrial the working mill would be was one concern of Council but they were reassured that a craft grinding mill, custom made in Vermont and shipped here a year ago, will be used.

As much as possible, the store will be offering certified organic flour ground from organic or sustainably grown grain which currently is sourced from Fieldstone Granary based in Armstrong, BC. "Different grains can lead to inconsistencies but if possible we will use local and Saanich-grown grains and there will be absolutely no fillers," stated Erika. As well as marketing flour and grains, they intend to promote "nice, local items," anticipating the sale of honey, kombucha, locally grown vegetables and eggs, cheeses, and freezer meat. Although no baking will be done on site, they will bring in baked goods from both



Erika, Jarla and Petra with the mill.

Barb Sawatsky photo

Fry's and Wildfire bakeries and are considering a home delivery system.

Already time challenged with their businesses in Victoria, Byron and Erika have hired Jaroslav (Jarla) and Petra, who arrived in Metchosin in 2014 from Czechoslovakia as WWOOFers (see <http://www.woofinternational.org>) to work on Metchosin Farm. Jarla is now Nootka Rose's miller; Petra will run the store.

They hope to have a soft opening before the end of June but at the time of this

interview, it was still too early to predict a definite date. "We will probably open four days a week at first and we mindfully intend to do things differently to enhance, not to compete with, existing businesses," Erika stated emphatically.

With the successes of Wildfire and Fry's Bakeries behind them, I feel confident that Byron and Erika's Nootka Rose Milling enterprise will be embraced by the Metchosin community and wish them all the best.

Tell them you saw it in the *Muse!*

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Metchosin Day: Celebrating 50 Years, 1967–2017

Golden Anniversary of Metchosin Day Is Sunday, September 10

Mary Gidney

Mark your calendar now – Sunday, September 10 – fun all day! We will be celebrating Metchosin Day's 50th anniversary with surprises throughout the day. See the next issue of the *Muse* to learn more, or visit the website at www.metchosinday.ca, where you can also find vendor applications.

Want to enter a contest? We have baking – pie and cake, and produce – vegetable or fruit. Maybe photography is your thing? Start your planning now.

Begin your morning on September 10 with a five-kilometre run, and win valuable prizes. It could be a zucchini!

View the cakes, pies, fruits and vegetables in the Council Chamber to see the prize winners.

Remember the day is filled with entertainment on stage showcasing Metchosin musicians. The Beer Garden is there to quench your thirst. Over 100 vendors are on site to fill everyone's wants and needs. Old Barn Books can help to keep you informed with a wide selection of books. Relax at the Community House and take in the photography contest.

On the front field you won't want to miss the vintage car show with some classic vehicles and maybe a motorcycle or two. Motorcycle jumps and tricks are happening on the front field too. Come and cheer on these young performers.

Want to learn more about horses? The riding ring never fails to entertain with demonstrations. This year you can see some ponies and sheep for the little ones while catching a snack at the concession stand. Metchosin 4-H is the group to watch at Metchosin Day. Come and see the members display the projects that they have been working so hard on all year and watch as they demonstrate their Showmanship Skills to the judges. The Metchosin 4-H is a community-minded, non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young people.

Hungry? We have sausages, hamburgers, doughnuts, corn on the cob, snow cones, ice cream, and treats throughout the area. The Village Green, the centre of the field, will have the Pet Show at 11:00 am for all kinds of pets, followed by children's games for the kid in you. There are always plans for more happenings; stay tuned!

Don't forget the hayride and digger at 1967 ticket prices, Junior Fire Fighters, dunk tank, and more ... The best part of the day is the salmon and lamb BBQ dinner with all the trimmings – bun, coleslaw, corn, tomatoes and basil, watermelon, mint sauce ... only \$20.

What makes Metchosin Day so special is our volunteers who highlight all that is Metchosin – a rural, caring, community. We invite other communities to come out on September 10 to see why Metchosin is so special.

This year Sally Walker and Martha Haylor have offered to help organize the day. With some help from past chair Mary Gidney, they will showcase Metchosin. It takes a team to put the day on, and while we have a great, hard-working team, we need more volunteers. We are looking for someone(s) to step up to learn how to organize Metchosin Day by shadowing those who have done it before. Here is a chance to give back to the community. Want to be part of the day and volunteer? You can email info@metchosinday.ca. Please see the September *Muse* for more details, or visit www.metchosinday.ca.

Tell Us about Your Metchosin Day!

Wendy Mitchell

We've heard the stories and the rumours, such as some of our prominent locals sneaking down to a creek to have a brew because Tommy Douglas was making an appearance, and he was a teetotaler.

What was your first memory of Metchosin Day? Your best memory? Your worst memory? How old were you? Did you meet your true love? Did it rain? Was it hot? Who was the Citizen of the Year?

We invite you to share, in a few words, your stories to add to the history of Metchosin's communal memory. Send them along to metmuse@shaw.ca by Friday, August 11.



Chicken Bingo in 2012, another Metchosin special – and we're not talking pizza! Peter M. Lewis photo



Everyone's always a winner in the Pet Show!

Peter M. Lewis photo, September 2015

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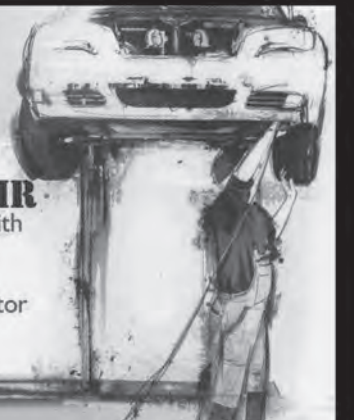
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Where Did It All Go?

Bob Burgis, MCA Past President

We sell a whole lot of stuff at the Metchosin Mighty Garage Sale, but each year there is always quite a bit left unsold. Some of you may wonder what happens to these left-overs; you'll be happy to know that we don't just drive it all to the dump.

Volunteers sort through the leftover donations to rescue items that can be used by local charities. It takes a lot of work and time but, this year, the Salvation Army was delighted to receive seven pick-up truck loads of clothing and shoes and three truckloads of kitchen items – glassware, dinner services and other serviceable items. Thus, the donations you generously donated to us have assisted not only our own Metchosin Community, but have assisted folk across the lower island.

The Metchosin Community Association wishes to extend its appreciation and thanks to everyone who donated items and to all the volunteers who donated hours of their time. The funds raised are used to support the administration and maintenance of the Community House and support its key programs, such as the Friday Parents and Tots program, and thanks to all of you, the Garage Sale once again exceeded its target budget.





Johnny Carline firing up the patrons waiting for the Mighty Garage Sale to open. Joan Kew photo


Below left: Gatekeepers Linda Hemus, Sheila Moul, and Claire Lowery. Barb Sawatsky photo

Below right: Wendy Mitchell, Gaert Linnaea, and Stephanie Dunlop at the big garage sale. Barb Sawatsky photo



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Sparky and Her Pal, Cocoa

Marcia Koenders

Meet Sparky and Cocoa, two celebrities who have been long-time friends. Cocoa is my parents' dog and the unofficial mascot at Beacon Hill Children's Farm where the two first met. One day my parents discovered a feral cat with five kittens at the farm, and they gave them to animal control for care. When the kittens were available for adoption they adopted two of them. The brother and sister came to live at our Metchosin farm across from the Metchosin Fire Hall and where the Beacon Hill animals call home during the winter months. Cocoa loved the kittens and the kittens loved Cocoa. They would play together all the time.

Smokey grew fast, becoming much bigger than Tigger. We think she got fed up with her brother's roughhousing and took off. Months went by with no sign of Tigger but then one day she came home. She would stay for a while then off she would go again. My dad saw her cross the street and walk into the Metchosin Fire Hall, where it seemed that she had made her new home. He mentioned to one of the firefighters that our family had been missing our Tigger for months and learned that Tigger was now called Sparky, and liked to sleep on Engine #9. The firefighter assumed he had come to collect the cat and started packing up her cat belongings to return Sparky but my dad said, "no no, we can share."

So, she continues to cross the street to visit her good friend Cocoa but she mostly lives at the Metchosin Fire Hall. I was able to capture this lovely moment in July, 2016 when she came over to visit Cocoa.



The two pals contemplating life. Marcia Koenders photo

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A False Nest for Future Generations

Meghan Hatch and Christina Carrières

Like other owls, Great Horned owls are opportunistic when it comes to nest and nest site selection. In fact, they do not build their own nest, but rather re-use those abandoned by other birds such as eagles, hawks, herons, crows and ravens. In some cases, these nests are not in great condition and can fall apart from wind and wear; sometimes this happens while the owlets are still in the nest.

This was most likely the case when nearly a year ago, a concerned citizen came across three Great Horned owlets huddled on the ground in North Saanich. Unfortunately, one had succumbed to its injuries, but the other two were bright and alert, and immediately transported to BC SPCA's Wild ARC. Despite the long fall, the owlets were

in fairly good condition, suffering only from some bruising and dehydration.

The wildlife rehabilitation team at Wild ARC performed a complete physical examination and, given their condition, the young owls were administered rehydration fluids and hand fed mice to ensure that their nutritional needs were met. Whenever possible, Wild ARC staff will attempt to reunite babies with their parents, especially for species needing extensive parental care to learn critical skills such as hunting for prey. In this case, the owlets were healthy and staff decided to attempt reuniting the family. In order to do so, Wild ARC volunteers were deployed to the nest site to see if the parents were still in the area.

Once it was confirmed that the parents were present, the second step to the re-nesting process was put into motion.

Since the original nest was no longer viable, a substitute needed to be built for the owlets to be returned high up into a tree where the parents could care for them. A wicker basket was chosen for its natural properties and to ensure good drainage during rainfall. Jeff Krieger, from Alternative Wildlife Solutions, offered to help in this process by climbing up a suitable tree to secure the nest between large fir branches. The babies were then placed in a kennel tied to a rope and were hoisted up to the false nest by Krieger, who delicately transferred the owlets into their new nest. For the next couple of hours, Krieger, a staff member and a volunteer, moved away from the nest tree, but kept a sharp eye on the babies while waiting for the parents to return. Recognizing the calls of their young, both adults approached the nest and investigated the presence of this new feature in the tree and, by the time the sun set, the family was back together. The young owls thrived on the care from their parents and successfully fledged from their false nest a few weeks later.

Wildlife rehabilitation is in part treating injured and orphaned wild animals, but in many cases, the care they need is simply to find a safe way to return them to their parents. This was a very successful story, but like many stories, it wasn't quite the end for the adult pair. Remember how owls will re-use other



Looks a little fancy for us, but we'll take it. Dan Takahashi photo

birds' nests? In this case, they re-used this human-made one. Great Horned owls are early nesters and in March 2017, a hiker noticed that the Great Horned owls had returned to the wicker nest to

rear their new brood. This is a unique case where Wild ARC not only helped these fallen owlets, but also helped the future generations of Great Horned owls in the area.



Two lucky rescued owlets at Wild ARC. Christina Carrières photo

The Cinnabar Moth (*Tyria jacobaeae*) vs Tansy Ragwort

Moralea Milne

If you see brilliant red flashes of what appears to be a butterfly cruising low over the ground, you've actually seen the increasingly common cinnabar moth. As I write this in late May, you can find a large number of them flying in the open fields by Pedder Bay Marina and as the season progresses you will find their distinctive caterpillars on their host plant, tansy ragwort.

In 1962, cinnabar moths were introduced to Abbotsford as part of a three-pronged (or three invertebrate) approach to combat the introduced and invasive tansy ragwort, along with the flea beetle (*Longitarsus jacobaeae*) and the ragwort seedfly (*Hylemya seneciella*). From Abbotsford, the weed made its way to Vancouver Island, although I have been unable to determine if it spread on its own, or was intentionally introduced (which seems more likely).

The adult female moths lay multiple eggs on tansy ragwort and the resulting orange and black striped caterpillars will completely defoliate the plants, often causing the plants to die over winter. Unfortunately, the abundance

of caterpillars on single plants or within small clusters will result in them eating themselves out of house and home and if they are not able to find alternate plants nearby, they will starve. Sometimes, even though the plants have been well chewed, they will attempt a later flowering, resulting in some seed dispersal. That's where the "Three Musketeer" approach comes into play as the root-eating larva of the flea beetle and the seedfly join forces to further decimate the plant.

Red and orange in the insect world denotes the very real danger of poisoning if insects with these colours are ingested. The cinnabar caterpillars consume tansy ragwort, which has high concentrations of toxic alkaloids (the same alkaloids that potentially poison grazing animals), thus reducing their palatability to some predators. However, it appears there are a number of insect species that do readily consume these juvenile moths, including ants, carabid beetles and spiders. As if predation by many insects is not enough to give a young caterpillar nightmares, apparently when food supplies are scarce, they are not above a little cannibalism. When you



If you see this on a tansy ragwort plant, leave it to do its work. Moralea Milne photo

look closely into the workings of Mother Nature, there is a lot of tough love going on!

A concern has been raised that the introduction of cinnabar moths, with their toxic properties, might be having a detrimental effect on our native alligator lizards. As so often happens when we meddle with nature, our best intentions sometimes have unintended consequences.

If you find tansy ragwort plants with cinnabar moth caterpillars, you might want to leave them standing; they are helping to reduce the tansy ragwort infestations that are a very real risk to the health of our horses, sheep, cattle, and deer populations.

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Christel Kaiser reads the *Muse* on a beach in Costa Rica while visiting her family in May.

One of Life's Little Surprises



A baby western painted turtle.

Monique Anstee photo

Monique Anstee

Just found a wee baby while I was gardening! I thought it was a red and black button and picked it up to toss it, only to realize that I found my first baby turtle! The nest was on part of my driveway in the Kangaroo Road area.

Happy 150th, Canada!

continued from page 1

and that's worthy of not only a party but some genuine reflection too. Think about what Canada is and what it means to be Canadian, and let the *Muse* know at metmuse@shaw.ca. Some have described us as "polite, unarmed Americans with a health plan," but that's a little cynical, eh? Some talk about our vast natural resources, there to be exploited, while others see them as part of what are to be treasured and carefully stewarded. Are we a mosaic, or are we a melting pot? Send us your thoughts.

Happy Birthday, Canada. Keep your innocence, your social conscience, your clean, green wilderness and your sense of humour as you move into middle age. And get those Terms of Union done, eh?

Dale Morrison

Mark your calendars now for Wednesday, September 13, date of the first East Sooke community sing-along. We will be using the formula of the very successful Metchosin Rough Voice Singers, which is not a performance choir, and has been going for four years at the Community House on Happy Valley Road. Quoting a Metchosin Rough Voice member: "I have never been more enthusiastic about a

group of people, and I look forward to every session, never knowing who is going to show up and what is going to happen. There are no pretensions, no auditions and "shower singers" make up the majority. It is all inclusive, multi generational and we are only there for fun, filling a much-needed gap at a dreary and often isolating time of year."

If you play an instrument and would like to lead a song or more, or if you have any

questions, please contact Dale Morrison at 250-642-0583. Mark your calendars: Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 pm at the East Sooke Community Hall.

Metchosin Rough Voice Singers begins a new season on Monday, September 11 at 7:00 pm at the Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road. Questions? Phone Barb or Doug at 250-478-0553.

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The Old Barn Goes Solar

Ric Perron

Next time you are at the Metchosin Market, look up on the roof of the Bookstore Museum and you will see sixteen solar panels – nice black frames, 260-watt PV (photovoltaic) output panels.

I pitched the idea to Council a year and a half ago. It had to be the right plan for the right price and place; that's why it took a year and a half. Each step of the process was agreed upon unanimously by Council to move ahead. There was the pitch, the business plan, the tweaking, and the

installation. Each time, Council was reminded of the key benefits: reducing hydro costs, helping the environment by reducing the need for another dam and upgrading transmission lines, showing community leadership, and besides, having it pay for itself in 12 years.

So how did council afford the high price of solar? It wasn't high at all. Local solar PV installers Perron and Pardell electrical companies teamed together, installing it for free as a service to our community. Also, thanks to councilors MacKinnon and Milne for coaching my presentation to council and keeping the subject ordered and direct.

There is a global appetite for solar PV, wind, and biogas utilities. Technology is changing rapidly to meet the demands of growing energy consumption. It has driven prices to affordable levels. There is more growth and jobs in the renewable sector nationally and internationally than there is in hydro, nuclear, and coal industries combined. A December 2014 article in the *Globe and Mail* stated that "According to a new report from Clean Energy Canada, 23,700 people who work in green energy organizations outnumber the 22,340 whose work relates to the oil sands." In May 2016 that changed to



The panels. Rick Perron photo

"36,400 renewable-related jobs," more than a 50 per cent increase in less than two years.

This transition to renewables is necessary to sustain our global presence, since we are slowly consuming this planet. Do you remember grade four science? Energy can't be created or destroyed; rather, it transforms from one form to another? I've been thinking a lot about this and I have a theory. It's called my SoyLent Green Theory. Three things are happening sequentially: the environment grows; we eat it; then we grow in its place. Look how big and abundant we are now. Watch out for the Big Burp.



Peter Pardell and Ric Perron on the Old Barn roof working to delay the Big Burp. Rick Perron photo



HOUSE HAPPENINGS

Metchosin Community House 4430 Happy Valley Road Info: 250-478-5155
Email: mcahouse@telus.net Web: www.metchosincommunityhouse.com

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.

Buddies – 2:45–4:30 pm. Buddies offers Reading and Math tutoring as well as help with homework for Metchosin students grades K–6. Students receive a half hour, one-to-one tutoring session with an adult or teen volunteer. Registration forms are available at Hans Helgesen School or call MCH at 250-478-5155 or the coordinator, Nancy Evans at 250-642-4613. The program will start again in September.

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 250-474-0634 and leave a message to see if you might be eligible. Finished for the season and will return in September.

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. This program has finished for the season and will return on September 18.

Singalong – Metchosin Rough Voice Singers – The Rough Voice Singers meet 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). Finished for the season. Restarting in September.

Tuesdays

Drop In Painters Art Group. This friendly and supportive group of artists and hobbyists meets Tuesday mornings 9:30 am–noon at the MCH. Everyone is welcome. This group is not meeting at the House again until September 5.

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. The last session of the season is July 25 and then it will restart on September 12.

Wednesdays

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

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 (email blueheronstudio@telus.net, or call 250-595-6406) 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 support the Community House and cover refreshment costs. This group is finished for the season and will return on September 7.

Community Potluck Lunch – Last Thursday of each month, 12:00–1:30 pm. All welcome.

Fridays

Parent and Tot 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 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.

Pearson Student Teatime Drop-In – 2:45–4:30 pm. Enjoy a cup of tea and conversation with international students from Pearson College. Finished for the season, will return in September.

Music Night – 7:00–9:00 pm. Second Friday of each month. Finished for the season and will return in September.

Ukulele Gathering – 5:00–6:30 pm. First Friday of each month. Tell all your ukulele-playing students, friends, and relatives! Open to community members of all ages and levels of talent. Bring: a ukulele, capo, tuner, music stand, and a few songs you are willing to share/lead/teach others with song sheets for others, if not from songbook below. Suggested songbook: *Jumpin' Jim's Daily Ukulele* (as a base resource to work from) if you have it.

Events

Guest Speaker – Finished for the season but will return September 21.

Film Night – Finished for the season but will return on September 29.

Art on the Walls – MCHouse Art Group. The Art Group will display some of their works for the month of July. There will be a variety of works such as carvings, photos, paintings and cards. Viewing times are Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm. 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.

Frank Mitchell in His Right Mind



Marlene Bowman

Artist Frank Mitchell, retired World Bank economist, spent his working life using the analytical side of his brain, the left side, the one that deals objectively with the cold hard facts. The story of how he

nourished the creative right side is a fascinating one.

After university Frank spent a large part of his early life abroad. It began with a youthful adventure traveling with a friend across the African continent – for him an utterly foreign world.

Throughout his time in Africa, Frank encountered a vastly diverse mix of people – convivial Catholic priests, high-caste Brahmins, local politicians, dynamic progressive women who nevertheless supported female circumcision, and even Barack Obama’s father. He also was inoculated against Islamophobia when he discovered that the Ismailis were, to him, the most enlightened people in East Africa. Many more illuminating encounters occurred in the Middle East and South Asia, to say nothing of

Washington, DC. Much more than cold hard facts there!

Since his retirement in 1992 to their farm in Metchosin, Frank and his wife Jo have been deeply involved in community activities. Jo was on Metchosin Council for three terms. Frank attends many meetings. He keeps the locals informed about community events and Council doings amongst other volunteer tasks including a stint enumerating the homeless. If you have seen him at a meeting, you will have noticed that, while he listens intently to what is going on and contributes wisely, he is also always busy with pen on paper. He says he’s doodling. Those who know him say he’s sketching. Whatever it is, he has been doing a lot of it for a lot of years.

Back in 1975 Frank took a position with the World Bank in Washington, DC, which came with the perk of a private secretary, a woman who, according to rumour, was very meticulous and a bit of a battle-axe. As Frank saw it, however, the greatest perk of the job was not the private secretary, battle-axe or not, but the proximity to the Smithsonian galleries, the Philips Collection, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and various other galleries where he spent his every lunch break soaking up art.

His position was a demanding one and involved, of course, many meetings. Countless “doodles” were produced. He would casually toss them into his bottom drawer when he returned to his office. One day several years later, he was astounded when he opened his office

door. On the wall, occupying a wide space, mounted in a very prominent position, was a collage, an attractive and meticulous compilation of the contents of his bottom drawer.

This secretarial encouragement marked a turning point. Instead of shrugging off the creative power of the right side of his brain, he began to acknowledge, nourish and strengthen it. Opportunities to study at the nearby Corcoran School of Art presented themselves and the art within him has been flourishing ever since.

Frank’s work is varied. Every Monday and Friday, weather permitting, he paints in plein air with fellow artists around the region. A rich and varied series of landscapes of Metchosin and beyond is the result. There are political pieces such as “The Axis of Evil” with 37 portraits including Osama Bin Laden, Toady Blair, George Bush and a moving picture of collateral damage in Iraq – a weeping child. Other themes include annual self portraits and hotel views from rooms he occupied while traveling. The proceeds

of two other series, “About Face” and “House Portraits,” were donated to the Community House and the Metchosin Foundation.

Recently he has been experimenting with perspective, stretching both sides of the brain. One investigation seeks to put on the flat picture plane everything that can be seen from a single point in every direction; another series consists of 360-degree panoramas of entries to Metchosin and views of the family farm.

A chance to see Frank’s art and talk with him about it is coming up on the Stinking Fish Studio Tour, Thursday, July 27 to Monday, July 31, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. He will be showing at 580 Witty Beach Road along with his sister Wendy Mitchell and guest artist Carol Rae. Twelve artists, including three new guests, will show at nine studios. Maps of the tour are available at Metchosin Country Store, My-Chosen Cafe, The Broken Paddle and many other locations from Sooke to Sidney. Check the website at www.stinkingfishstudiotour.com for more information.



Frank’s painting of Metchosin’s St Mary the Virgin church.

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Are You a Good Neighbour to Our Shoreline?

HAT launches stewardship program in Metchosin

Paige Erickson-McGee

The gentle lapping of a shoreline as the tide ebbs and flows over pebbles, with beach grasses whistling in the wind, is a familiar sound to many in Metchosin. Not far away, new subdivisions and homes have taken root with rows of budding families finding a place to call home. With so many of these changes to the lands around the lagoons, salt marshes, and estuaries in the Metchosin region, the future of our healthy shorelines could be bleak.

“The communities in and around Metchosin are gifted with such superb intact natural areas, and the fate of the shores could be very different if local residents understand the value of what they have, and what they could be losing in the long run” says Paige Erickson-McGee, Stewardship Coordinator with Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT).

That is why HAT is focusing their Good Neighbours

Stewardship program this year on the Metchosin shoreline, and the surrounding upstream lands that drain into the ocean. HAT is offering free and confidential land care visits with a site plan and report to qualified and interested landowners to support and enhance natural shoreline features on their land, while maintaining current land use such as farming or recreation.

“Residents can learn how to control invasive species, provide habitat for birds, or create a garden that needs little to no water even in the dry summer months” says McGee, project manager for this initiative. “Whether or not you live by a stream or right on the ocean, we all contribute to what flows into them and can help be responsible for their well-being. The health of the creek impacts the estuary downstream and each landowner can play a role by being a good neighbour to nature,” says McGee.

We want to hear from you about barriers to stewarding your land – what has prevented you from taking that first step? Contact us or visit the HAT information booth at the Metchosin Farmer’s Market, at Marine Day on July 11 at Witty’s Lagoon, and at many other upcoming Metchosin community events.

This project is funded in part by the Metchosin Foundation and donations from the public. For more information visit hat.bc.ca, call 250-995-2428 or email hatmail@hat.bc.ca.

Visit the HAT information booth at the Metchosin Farmer’s Market, or at the CRD’s Marine Day on July 11 at Witty’s Lagoon. See Events, p. 16, for more information on these events.

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Pearson Host Honoured



Dieza Dolencio, or "Tita" (meaning "aunt" in the Philippine language Tagalog), has been hosting students from Pearson College for over 40 years. This spring, three Pearson alumni honoured her by creating a Pearson scholarship in her name. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni came together to celebrate Tita's 80th birthday in May. Pearson College photo

Chief Academic Officer Announced at Pearson College UWC

Nikola Mende

Heather Gross has been appointed Chief Academic Officer and Vice-President of Education and Programming for Pearson College UWC. Heather graduated from Pearson in 1995, returning to the international school 12 years later to lead student Admissions and Counseling. As CAO, she will manage, develop and ensure the delivery of curricular and co-curricular programming; learning through study, service and experience; and living together on campus in a cross-cultural setting.



Pearson College photo

Want to Volunteer for the BC Bat Count?

Katie A. H. Bell, HAT Bat Stewardship Coordinator

The Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) Community Bat Program is the South Vancouver Island and southern Gulf Islands representative of the BC Community Bat Program (www.bcbats.ca). HAT is seeking volunteers and bat colonies for the Annual Bat Count. This citizen-science initiative encourages residents to count bats at local roost sites. "Bat counts are a wonderful way for residents to get involved in collecting important scientific information" says Katie A.H. Bell, Bat Stewardship Coordinator with Habitat Acquisition Trust. "No special skills are needed, kids can be involved, and you can relax in a deck chair while counting."

This year the Annual Bat Count will collect baseline data on bat populations before the devastating White Nose Syndrome fungal disease affects bats in the province. "White Nose Syndrome is estimated to have killed more than six million bats since it was first discovered in eastern North America a decade ago," says biologist Mandy Kellner, Coordinator of the BC Community Bat Program. "In March 2016, the disease was detected just east of Seattle. This has greatly increased our urgency to understand bat populations in BC. We need the public's help to census local bat populations. The summer of 2017 may be our last year to obtain population estimates before White Nose Syndrome causes widespread declines in western North America."

Volunteers wait outside a known roost site, such as a bat-house, barn, bridge or attic, and count bats as they fly



Townsend's big-eared bats waiting to be counted. HAT photo

out at twilight. They record the final number along with basic information on weather conditions. Ideally, one or two counts were done between June 1 and 21 before pups are born, and one or two more will be done between July 21 and August 15 when pups are flying.

"We know relatively little about bats in Victoria including basic information on population numbers" says Bell. "This information will be extremely valuable, particularly if it is collected annually. If people want to get involved but don't have a roost site on their property, we will try to match them with a roost site nearby."

Funded by the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation and with support of the BC Conservation Foundation, the Province of BC, LUSH and MEC, HAT's Community Bat Program provides information for people dealing with bat issues on their property or who have questions about how to attract bats.

To find out more about or to register for a bat count, or to get assistance dealing with bat issues, visit www.bcbats.ca or call 1-855-9BC-BATS. To contact the HAT Community Bat Program directly, please call 250-995-2428 and ask to speak to Katie or email bat@hat.bc.ca.



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NEWS FROM HANS HELGESEN SCHOOL

Year End at Hans Helgesen Elementary School

Debra Stoutley, Principal

The end of the year saw several events I'd like to share with you from Hans Helgesen. As well as the important focus that school has on academic learning, June is the time to celebrate and enjoy more outdoor activities. We have been reaping the rewards of our "Growing Young Farmers" garden, showing our athletic prowess at the district track events and celebrating our community with a Fun Fair!

Several teachers worked together this year to establish Hans Helgesen School's Courtyard Garden. Raised garden beds were donated and assembled by a parent, and dirt was donated by Chief Russell Chipps when the project started in February. Students are now eating lettuce, peas, bok choy, and many other delicious greens! We are growing some indigenous plants as well and were fortunate to have aboriginal

role models take our students around our area to identify edible plants used by First Nation people in the past and today. Thank you to our PAC as well for helping to fund this garden. We expect the garden to continue to benefit many students in the future.

Our District Track and Field Day on June 3 was a huge success for our school. Hans Helgesen students achieved first place in six events that day! That is a lot of athletic achievement for our little school considering there are 17 schools competing in the five categories. I'm proud to announce our winners, starting with Grade 4 Shot Put: Hayden Stecher came first with a throw of 829 centimetres (more than 100 centimetres farther than the winning Grade 5 student in the district). Grade 4 student Laney Stewart was first in the 800 metre race for girls. Ben Harrold was the first place Grade 5 boy in the district in the 400 metre race. Two

students came first in the 100 metre race: Tommy Hoshal was the Grade 4 boys' winner and Jordan Prete was the Grade 5 girls' first place winner. Our 4x100 Relay team of Grade 4 boys (Matteo Snyder, Tommy Hoshal, Logan Harrold and Matthew Warren) were our other first place champions. We are so proud of the efforts and teamwork of all the students who represented Hans Helgesen at the track meet. It was wonderful that so many parents and grandparents came to watch the students compete and share photos! A huge thank you to the staff of Hans Helgesen who worked together to train the athletes, especially Mrs. Kelly Holtan, who has been this school's coach and Sports Council representative for several years. Her expertise and guidance is essential for our school's success on the track!

Finally, a noteworthy event happened at HH on June 8. We enjoyed an evening of

food, fun and community at our annual Fun Fair! Students and families were treated to various skills games, delicious barbecued food and a variety of fun activities. So many parents helped out that it would be impossible to thank them all, but I would like to especially thank Amanda Hunt (Chloe's mom) and Kathy Sadowski (Elianna's grandma) for organizing and coordinating this event. What a great team! We are fortunate to have had support from many community sponsors too and I hope that our school community will support these organizations as a thank you: Glenwood Meats, Thrifty Foods and the Hulitan Family and Community Services. Metchosin's volunteer firefighters were also on scene to help students learn about the fire truck and share in community time.


I'm grateful to sneak this last article into our *Metchosin Muse* for July! I appreciate the space to share our events and



In the courtyard garden. Debra Stoutley photo

celebrations. Happy summer break everyone. See you in September!

Please don't hesitate to contact me at the school if you have questions.



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Goodbye to Hans Helgesen, but not Metchosin

Joannie Challenger

When Helen Wood first walked into Hans Helgesen School six years ago as a classroom teacher, she was struck by the school's warm, welcoming feeling. "More than its small size, the children here are extremely friendly, and the parents outgoing and easy to talk to. They care about their neighbours and their

environment. I've taught for many years in a wide variety of places – in big cities like Toronto and Ottawa, and small northern communities, but what we have here in Metchosin is special. There's a sense of family."

In her years at Hans Helgesen, Helen has taught Grades 2 to 6, and is now preparing to retire from her teaching career. As she looks back and

reflects upon her time at Hans Helgesen School, she has many happy memories. "The best part of teaching has been the children. I've always been impressed with their extraordinary ability to soak up science. They also had mature opinions on many topics, and showed strong moral principles. We had many thoughtful conversations which I will remember always."

Although Helen will be leaving the school, she isn't planning to leave the community. A resident here for the past 14 years, she was drawn to Metchosin for much the same reasons that she has enjoyed her school: the comfortable, friendly atmosphere, with natural surroundings, where she could accommodate the many animals that she provided homes for over the years. Helen may start another career one day, but for now will be happy to enjoy the free time that retirement allows.

What message would Helen Wood like to pass on to the Metchosin community? "It has been a great privilege to teach your children. Keep doing what you're doing in Metchosin; your children have wonderful family values that I hope Metchosinites never lose! I want you to know how precious that is."



Helen hikes into retirement. Photo provided by Helen Wood

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Know any interesting residents of Metchosin?
Submit a story about them to the *Muse*!

RCMP Call-Outs MAY 2017

Constable Alex Bérubé, West Shore RCMP | GRC de West Shore

- May 1 **William Head Penitentiary** – Executed a DNA warrant on an inmate.
- May 2 **Arden Road** – Responded to a verbal argument between two individuals.
- May 3 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of an AWOL youth.
- May 4 **Rocky Point Road** – Single vehicle MVI, vehicle vs. stop sign. “N” driver left before police arrived.
- May 5 **Happy Valley Road** – Report of male protesting outside his van. Male checked and not contravening any laws.
- May 6 **Sooke Road** – request to assist Sooke RCMP with traffic diversion due to brush fire.
- May 7 **Pedder Bay** – Report of a suspicious vehicle. Police attended and vehicle deemed broken down.

- May 8 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of possible stolen bicycles. Investigation revealed not stolen.
- May 9 **Liberty Drive** – Report of hit and run. Suspect vehicle not located and no plate obtained.
- May 10 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of suspicious van parked near Metchosin Road. Vehicle parked legally and owner not infringing any laws.
- May 11 **William Head Road** – Parking complaint. Vehicle was gone upon police arrival.
- May 13 **Kangaroo Road** – Report of a flock of confused sheep walking in the middle of the road.
- May 14 **Park Drive** – Complaint of ATV riding on the road.

- May 15 **Woodruff Road** – Residential alarm, confirmed false.
- May 18 **Pearson College** – Report of a found bicycle. No serial number available.
- May 19 **Happy Valley Road** – Report of a stolen trailer plate.
- May 20 **Bennett Road** – Civil dispute over a horse. Police do not get involved in civil matters.
- May 21 **Rocky Point Road** – Report of a vehicle in a ditch. “N” driver charged for having too many passengers.
- May 22 **Sooke Road** – Report of stolen dirt bike.
- May 23 **Metchosin Road** – Road block conducted with CVSE.
- May 24 **Kangaroo Road** – Noise complaint regarding heavy equipment.
- May 25 **Bradene Road** – Complaint of vehicle parked in a no parking zone. Vehicle left before police arrival.
- May 26 **Kangaroo Road** – Complaint of lost wallet. Wallet later found and returned to owner.
- May 28 **Wootton Road** – Complaint of a dog left in a vehicle. Owner of vehicle spoken to.
- May 30 **Gemini Drive** – Check well-being on a residence. Nothing suspicious reported.

Fire Department Call-Outs APRIL/MAY 2017

Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop

Check out Metchosin Fire on Facebook or follow me on Twitter @ ChiefDunlop

- Apr 1 **Happy Valley Road** – Assistance – General Public
Taylor Road – Medical
- Apr 2 **Leefield Road** – Assistance – BCAS
Kangaroo Road – Medical
Bennett Road – Medical
- Apr 3 **Lomax Road** – Open Burn – General
Brotherstone Road – Open Burn – General
- Apr 5 **Tavane Road** – Medical
Olympic View – Medical
- Apr 6 **Tiswilde Road** – Hydro – Lines Down
- Apr 7 **Chapel Heights** – Medical
- Apr 9 Beach Fire
- Apr 10 **Metchosin Road** – Medical
Derrien – Alarm Bells – Commercial
Matheson Lake Park Road – Medical
- Apr 12 **Sooke Road** – Vehicle Fire
William Head Road – MVI
- Apr 13 **Happy Valley Road** – Hydro – Lines Down
- Apr 14 **Mountain Heights** – SFRes – Smoke/Smell in Structure
- Apr 16 **Sutiacum** – Open Burn – General
- Apr 18 Beach Fire
- Apr 21 **Sooke Road** – Assistance – Misc Complaint
- Apr 22 **Sooke Road** – Medical
William Head Road – Open Burn – General
- Apr 24 **William Head Road** – Medical
- Apr 25 **Duke Road** – Medical
- Apr 26 **William Head Road** – Medical
Cardsview Terrace – Open Burn – General
- Apr 28 **Sooke Road** – MVI
- May 1 **Kangaroo Road** – Rescue – Animal
Michelson Road – SFRes
Rocky Point Road – HAZ MAT – Chemical / Unknown Spill / Leak
- May 3 **Bethany Place** – SFRes – Smoke/Smell in Structure
- May 5 **Happy Valley Road** – Community Event
Saddleback Road – Medical
Duke Road – Assistance – Public Works
Wootton Road – Assistance – General Public
East Sooke Road – Medical
- May 6 **Aquarius Road** – Assistance – General Public
Happy Valley Road – MVI
- May 7 **Aquarius Road** – Open Burn – General
Swanwick Road – Open Burn – General

- May 8 Beach Fire
Aquarius Road – Open Burn – General
Happy Valley Road – Assistance – General Public
Kangaroo Road – Assistance – Misc Complaint
 - May 9 **Leefield Road** – Medical
 - May 12 **Rocky Point Road** – Medical
Duke Road – Fire – Misc Fire
Dover Road – SFRes
Chapel Heights Drive – Open Burn – General
 - May 13 **Robalee Place** – Medical
Kestrel – SFComm – Smoke/Smell in Structure
Sooke Road – Open Burn – General
 - May 14 **Sooke Road** – Fire – Misc Fire
 - May 15 **Chapel Heights Drive** – Medical
Chapel Heights Drive – Medical
 - May 17 **Dutnall Road** – Open Burn – General
 - May 18 **Metchosin Road** – Open Burn – General
Metchosin Road – Medical
 - May 19 **Bennett Road** – Medical
 - May 20 **Hilltop Crescent** – Open Burn – General
 - May 21 **Kangaroo Road** – Fire – Misc Fire
Pegasus – Medical
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
 - May 22 **Happy Valley Road** – Assistance – General Public
Boulderpath – Medical
Leeron – Medical
William Head Road – Medical
Parry Cross Road – Open Burn – Camp Fire
Lindholm Road – MVI
 - May 23 **Happy Valley Road** – Hydro – Tree on Lines
Neild Road – Hydro – Fire
 - May 24 **Duke Road** – Medical
Albert Head Road – Medical
 - May 27 **Rocky Point Road** – Open Burn – General
 - May 28 **Neild Road** – Medical
 - May 29 Beach Fire
 - May 30 **Chapel Heights** – Open Burn – General
Chapel Heights – Open Burn – General
- MVI: Motor Vehicle Incident
SFRes: Structure Fire Residential
SFComm: Structure Fire Commercial
BCAS: BC Ambulance Service

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\$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.

HOUSE – small family looking to buy house/acreage/or land in Metchosin area. Please contact rddc2004@yahoo.ca or call 306-230-7793 and leave voice mail. Thank you and Good day.

SEEKING LONG-TERM HOUSING, 1+bd w/moderate rent in Metchosin, starting Aug/Sep/Oct. Bright, private, clean, mold-free, with good

oven (home-based/market biz) Garden is a plus! Excellent references. Traci 250-295-5406.

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LOST

Elderly dog, deaf, blind in one eye, torn ears, walks with a pronounced limp. Answers to “Lucky.” If found, contact metmuse@shaw.ca.

Annual RASC Metchosin Star Party!

Once again, the Victoria Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada will be holding its annual Star Party on the Metchosin cricket field, on the weekend of July 28–30. Everyone is invited!

We will have great guest speakers, daytime solar viewing, door prizes, talk-and-walk among the stars, and viewing through our members' telescopes. Something fun for star-gazers of all ages!

Come for an evening, or stay the whole weekend with us. Camping on the field is permitted, and admission is always FREE!

Many thanks to Metchosin Mayor and Council, and Metchosin Fire Department for their support!

Where: Cricket field behind Metchosin District offices.

When: Noon July 28 to noon July 30, 2017

More information: <https://victoria.rasc.ca/events/rascals-star-party/>

Contact: Chris Purse, president@victoria.rasc.ca

See you there!

Perseids Peak August 12

August brings the annual Perseid meteor shower, a great time to sleep under the stars. Meteors are common on days either side of the peak time, although August 12 is best.

"A meteor shower is a spike in the number of meteors or 'shooting stars' that streak through the night sky. Most meteor showers are spawned by comets [shedding] an icy, dusty debris stream. Although the meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, the meteors in each shower appear to 'rain' into the sky from the same region. The Perseid meteor shower is so named because meteors appear to fall from a point in the constellation Perseus." (from stardate.org/nightsky/meteors)

Important Dates and Events

- June 30 **Film Night at the Community House**, 7:00–9:00 pm. Two short films: *Ghosts of The Joe Henry* (26 minutes), and *Return to Zanskar* (23 minutes).
 - July 1 **Happy Birthday, Canada!**
 - July 11 **HAT at CRD Marine Day**, Witty's Lagoon Regional Park, 10:00 am–1:00 pm p. 12
 - July 18 **First Responders Using Technology as a Tool** p. 2
 - July 28–30 **RASC Star Party** p. 16
 - Aug. 5–6 **Metchosin-Swanwick Ranch Sheepdog Trials** p. 1
 - Aug. 12 **Perseids Meteor Shower Peaks** p. 16
 - Aug. 20 **Heritage Cemetery Tour** p. 6
- Metchosin Farmers Market, Old Barn Books:** Metchosin Municipal Grounds, 4450 Happy Valley Road, Sundays, 11:00 am–2:00 pm. **Poultry Swap** on July 9 and August 13 only at the same location from 11:00 am–1:00 pm.

Museums – Pioneer Museum, 4450 Happy Valley Road: Sundays, 11:00 am–4:30 pm. **School Museum**, 4475 Happy Valley Road: Saturdays and Sundays, 11:00 am–4:30 pm

For ongoing events at the **Metchosin Community House**, please see p. 11. For **Council meetings**, please see p. 4. For **SIRC events**, please see p. 5.

CRD Nature Events take place throughout the year in Metchosin, East Sooke, Sooke, and Langford. For details, go to crd.bc.ca/parks-events.

Clip and save this listing!



'CHOSIN POTTERY
Robin Hopper & Judi Dyelle
250-474-2676

4283 Metchosin Rd., Victoria
Weekends 10am - 5pm Weekdays call ahead
www.chosinpottery.ca

Bella Yoga Studio
Yoga in the Neighbourhood - Duke Rd W.
Yoga For All! Hatha Yoga! All Levels

Curvy Yoga* Ayurveda*
Yogalites* Workshops.
Beginners Yoga & All Levels Welcome.
Beautiful - Fun - Safe - Peaceful - Explore
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Hatha Yoga - & Move your body!

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Directory of Organizations

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
Facebook: Metchosin APRM

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 4-H CLUB

metchosin4h@gmail.com
www.metchosin4h.com

METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE ASSOCIATION (MACCA)

info@metchosinartcentre.ca
www.metchosinartcentre.ca

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

250-478-2374
tammyberry269@hotmail.com
www.mesmetchosin.com

METCHOSIN FOUNDATION

metchosinfoundation@gmail.com
<http://metchosinfoundation.ca>

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, 250-478-0765

METCHOSIN PONY CLUB

250-727-3595

METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL

250-478-9241
metchosinpreschool@gmail.com
www.metchosinpreschool.com

METCHOSIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com
Facebook: Metchosin Farmers' Market

METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE

250-478-2210
<http://www.metchosinsar.ca>

METCHOSIN SENIORS' INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC) and METCHOSIN SENIORS' ASSOCIATION (MSA)

250-478-5150
msirc@shaw.ca
www.metchosinseiors.ca

MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

250-642-0238

PACIFIC CENTRE FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

345 Wale Road, Colwood
250-886-2481
www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org

NEIGHBOURHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (POD Leaders)

Kathleen Sutherland
250-474-3966
neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com

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

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Audrey 250-478-1352
Marnie 250-478-9637

SWANWICK CENTRE

A centre for spiritual inquiry
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.westshorercreation.ca

WESTSHORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

U14.U16.manager@gmail.com
westshorerfc.com

FAITHS

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.opengatechurch.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

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