



## Provincial Election 2017

### May 9 – Decision Day in British Columbia

May 9 is General Election day in British Columbia, and Metchosin is now part of a new electoral riding, with six brand-spanking new candidates vying to be the first MLA for Esquimalt–Metchosin. You'll find profiles and mug shots of all of them who chose to send us the information (as they sent it and not edited) and you will find information on the Metchosin All Candidates Forum on this page of the *Muse*. At press time, there were at least two scheduled for here in Metchosin – one at Pearson College (held April 25), and one at the Community Hall on May 1.

The election is not wanting for issues – some province wide, some regional, and perhaps some specific to our community. We would appear to have a full range of political perspectives on the ballot, from a young Communist to a Libertarian. Two of the candidates are Metchosin residents.

#### Mitzi Dean, New Democratic Party



I am proud to carry the banner for the BC NDP in Esquimalt–Metchosin. Running for provincial politics is a natural extension of the work I have been doing for the last 10 years as Executive Director of the Pacific Centre Family Services Association.

We serve about 1600 British Columbians every year and I hear from members of our community on a daily basis how tough their lives are. Families are working hard, and not getting ahead, living from paycheque to paycheque.

The policies of the BC Liberal government over the last 16 years have made it harder – not easier – for people to make ends meet. So many of our communities are seeing families squeezed out of adequate housing and young people move away because they cannot afford to stay.

John Horgan and the BC NDP will make life more affordable for people in our community, improve the services that we all count on, and build a sustainable economy with jobs that last. We have a plan and our fully costed platform lays it out at [bcndp.ca/platform](http://bcndp.ca/platform).

We'll make BC a leader in climate action with a comprehensive climate action plan.

We understand that a sustainable, clean growth economy is essential to creating good jobs and growing the economy, while also reducing carbon pollution and protecting the environment.

In partnership with First Nations and communities, we will modernize land-use planning to effectively and sustainably manage BC's ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth, while accounting for cumulative effects. We will take an evidence-based scientific approach and use the ecosystem-based management of the Great Bear Rainforest as a model.

Governing is all about choices. It's time to make the right choices and get our government working for the people in our community once again with better services, lower costs and good jobs. I hope I can count on your support on May 9.

#### Barb Desjardins BC Liberals



Our communities need and deserve strong and experienced leadership from their MLA. I felt that I had had some success in affecting positive change in Esquimalt and the region from my municipal political positions

and saw the opportunity to do the same at the riding and provincial level. Through the past several years with our daughter's illness, our family has navigated countless issues within provincial jurisdiction: healthcare, social assistance, disability challenges, etc. Following that experience, and equipped with all that new knowledge, I wanted to apply what I had learned firsthand to help make our province an even better place to live.

I am running in this election because I care about the Community, the Island, and BC. I've been Mayor of Esquimalt for eight years and strongly advocated for my constituents, often against tough opposition from others in the CRD. I've worked hard to be an accessible, visible, and vocal representative. I will continue to do this as an MLA. Delving into tough issues is not something I shy away from. I work hard to develop collaborative solutions for the betterment of all.

Since becoming the Chairperson of the CRD in 2016, I have learned a great deal about the community values and concerns of Metchosin residents. Metchosin is a unique rural community, it has a diverse natural environment with a strong marine orientation. I understand it is vital that Metchosin be preserved as a low density rural-agricultural community. Residents place a high priority on rural lifestyle, maintenance of an agricultural economy, and the upgrading of regional parks and open spaces. This strong connection to the land and environment is very important and I will fight to preserve that. I will work to ensure the rural benefits of Metchosin are maintained as the community desires and deserves.

Please vote. Study the candidates' platforms, ask them questions, and vote. Encourage the cynics to vote too. Encourage young people to vote. Vote.

It seems politics is becoming more and more divisive and polarizing – some would say crazy and out of touch with real people and their values and beliefs. Voter turnout in elections continues to decline. People are cynical. Jaded. Many say they will not vote because they don't believe they can make a difference and change the system. But that approach becomes part of the problem, not part of the solution. We may all be a bit horrified with what happened to our neighbours to the south, but "he who cannot be named" and Bernie were symptoms of what is happening all over the world, and lunatics are taking advantage of the cynicism.

You can vote in the 2017 Provincial General Election if you are a Canadian citizen, 18 or older on General Voting Day, and a resident of BC for the past six months. The Metchosin Community Hall at 4401 William Head Road is our local voting place for both Advanced Polls (April 29, 30 and May 3, 4, 5 and 6) as well as General Voting on May 9. You can find a wealth of information at [www.elections.bc.ca](http://www.elections.bc.ca) or contact them at [electionsbc@elections.bc.ca](mailto:electionsbc@elections.bc.ca) or 1-800-661-8683.

#### All Candidates Meeting May 1 in Metchosin

The Metchosin Community Association has joined forces with the Metchosin Hall Society to host an all candidates meeting for the upcoming provincial election. The event will take place at the Metchosin Community Hall on Monday, May 1, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm; the doors will be open about half an hour before that.

All six candidates are expected to be present at the event. They will each have the opportunity to make an opening statement of about three minutes in length. There will then be a question period. There will be no floor mikes, but you will have an opportunity to write out questions on

cards provided. If you have a question you want to pose to the candidates, it might be an idea to write it out beforehand and give it to one of the volunteers as you enter the hall.

The candidates will have the opportunity to make short closing statements after the question period is over.

All of these candidates are offering themselves to serve this community. This is our opportunity to hear them answer our questions and judge for ourselves which candidate we think would serve us best. There is a limit on how many people we can squeeze into the hall, so you may want to be there early.

#### Andy MacKinnon, Green Party



I am a Metchosin Councillor, a naturalist, a teacher, and a retired Professional Forester and Professional Biologist. I've been a tireless advocate for environmental issues in this region, and led the initiative to protect more old-growth forest on Vancouver Island.

I support sustainable economic development that protects our communities as well as our natural environment. Among my priorities:

- We need to do a better job of resource management in our province. BC needs to shift its focus away from exports of fossil fuels (liquified natural gas, diluted bitumen) and

minimally-processed forest products, if we're to secure an economic future for future generations. Raw log exports must be greatly reduced or eliminated, and we have to produce more value-added wood products.

- Our provincial funding needs to support local transportation solutions. We need public transit that works for our community, including light rail and dedicated bus lanes to solve regional transportation problems.
- People and businesses are drawn to this area for its vibrant communities and magnificent natural environment. Our economic and social futures depend on protecting our natural wealth, including our coastlines and forests.

I believe the Green Party's approach to evidence-based decision making is the best way to secure BC's economic and environmental future.

#### Delmar Martay, Independent

The *Muse* did not receive information from Delmar Martay, Independent, by press time.

# Metchosin Muse

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## SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND HOW TO SEND COPY

The 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please send copy as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text or RTF to: [metmuse@shaw.ca](mailto: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](http://www.metchosinmuse.ca)

## AD DEADLINE

The 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

CURRENT CIRCULATION: 2800 (July/August: 3000)

continued from page 1

## Josh Steffler, Libertarian Party



My name is Josh Steffler, and I am the deputy leader of the BC Libertarian Party. We are the fastest growing party in BC because we are different than the others. We are the party of smaller government, lower taxes and individual liberty. We believe the government needs to get out of the way of the people of BC who want to be the change they wish to see in the world. Our platform is the only one to include eliminating the Carbon Tax, opening up government monopolies to competition, and providing real choice in all consumer sectors, education and healthcare. We also propose bringing back homesteading to help with the housing crisis. We will take the lead on the future of cannabis in BC, fighting to release all people convicted of non-violent cannabis crimes in BC. Opening up the market for cannabis will deliver billions of dollars to our government coffers allowing us to reduce taxation in meaningful ways. We will staunchly defend all peoples fundamental freedoms in BC including freedom of expression, freedom of religion, and freedom of association. This time around you have a choice, you can

vote for good rather than out of hate or fear. Never listen to those who tell you your vote won't count, they are selling you fear and division. Your vote matters, and you should give it to those who represent your values and principals not those working against your interests. Communism always fails, freedom is popular! You are now witnessing the #Riseofthelibertarians. [www.joshsteffler.com](http://www.joshsteffler.com)

## Tyson Strandlund, Communist Party



Tyson is starting his MA in cultural, social, and political thought in September at UVic, from where he'll soon be receiving a BA – a double major in history and Slavic studies. Tyson was born in Victoria, and has lived in the riding his entire life, including Colwood, Esquimalt, and Metchosin, where he still loves to take his dog hiking whenever possible. Despite being a full-time student and part-time worker, Tyson finds time to organise the Victoria branch of the Communist Party's youth wing, the Young Communist League, which was instrumental in organising a rally

for free post-secondary at UVic in November. Tyson has also volunteered his time for other non-partisan organisations such as Anti-Racist Action, Canadians for Peace and Justice in the Middle East, and the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria. Tyson's Métis heritage is a source of pride and he is a ferocious advocate of Indigenous rights and decolonisation. The Communist Party is demanding full recognition of inherent indigenous title to all unceded traditional territories.

Tyson sees the current problems faced by British Columbians – pipelines, resource projects, oil tankers, stagnant wages, rising costs, homelessness, addiction, corporate undermining of democracy – as symptoms of a deep crisis of capitalism, demanding socialist solutions rooted in democratic principles. He regularly expresses profound indignity that politicians feel entitled to their massive salaries while 1/5 BC children live in poverty, and believes politicians should be paid the equivalent of the average BC worker. Tyson hopes to strike fear in the hearts of multinational corporations who think they can get away with paying miserable wages and destroying the planet.

"Capitalism is a system that turns misery, death, and destruction into money," he states. "As a system that relies on racism, exploitation and war to maintain the massive profits of the few - it's time is long overdue, and we need nothing short of a revolution."

## Visit our website! [www.metchosinmuse.ca](http://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.

Please remember to vote on May 9!

## 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](mailto:metmuse@shaw.ca)



# Rare Opportunity to Visit Race Rocks

Jane Hammond

The KULE Foundation's fundraising and immensely popular boat ride to Race Rocks is once again taking place this spring.

We invite you to join in a unique opportunity to visit this ecological site. Race Rocks is under the stewardship of Pearson College and not open to the general public.

The Metchosin community has a good record of supporting KULE, particularly in its efforts to build the library of a secondary school in rural Kenya and supply books for

it. The funds raised this year will go towards constructing two classrooms for a nursery / primary school project in the same village.

The trip to Race Rocks is approximately two hours in length and costs \$120 per person.

All those interested can contact Jane Hammond at [jh5447@shaw.ca](mailto:jh5447@shaw.ca) or Geoffrey Tindye-bwa (250-391-0258), the founder and director of the KULE Foundation ([www.kulefoundation.org](http://www.kulefoundation.org)). Geoffrey is also a long-serving faculty member at Pearson College.

Because of the high tidal currents, which is the reason for its name, Race Rocks is home to a wide variety of species, and is the northernmost birthing colony for the Northern Elephant Seal, with males reaching up to 2,500 kilograms (5,500 pounds). There is evidence that suggests that Race Rocks played an important role in local Coast Salish culture for centuries. The lighthouse on Race Rocks was built in 1860 with granite blocks, cut and numbered in Scotland, and shipped here as ballast.

Photo by Ric Perron



## METCHOSIN MUSE AD RATES

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1/6 page (V) – 3.925" w x 5" h	\$95.00	\$87.00	\$75.00
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For more information please contact the editor, [metmuse@shaw.ca](mailto:metmuse@shaw.ca).

### Classified Ads

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

# Robin Hopper Passes



It was with great sadness that the *Muse* learned recently of the passing of the great Robin Hopper, long-time Metchosin resident, highly respected ceramics artist, teacher and author, and recent recipient of the Order of Canada.

A Celebration of Life for Robin Hopper will be held Tuesday, May 16 at 2:00 pm at the Olympic View Golf Club, 643 Latoria Road.

See next month's *Muse* for a full tribute to this remarkable man.

# Metchosin and Beecher Bay Join in Reconciliation

Charla Huber

Mark your calendar for the most anticipated salmon barbeque of the year. On National Aboriginal Day, June 21, residents of Metchosin and Beecher Bay communities are invited to attend a reconciliation celebration at the Metchosin Municipal Grounds.

Along with a salmon barbeque, entertainment and children's activities, leaders from both communities will speak to and explain what reconciliation means to our communities.

Both communities have been planning the event for the past few months and are

equally involved. Elders and seniors from both communities will be represented and honoured.

This is a family-friendly celebration and all residents of Metchosin and Beecher Bay are encouraged to attend. This is a free event for residents of each community, with shared costs being covered by the District and the Nation.

The Metchosin and Beecher Bay Reconciliation Celebration is on June 21 at the Metchosin Municipal Grounds, 4450 Happy Valley Road from 4:00-8:00 pm. For more information check next month's *Muse*.



Chief Randy Chipps and Mayor John Ranns present elder Isabel Tipton with a formal invitation to the Reconciliation Celebration on June 21.

Wendy Mitchell photo

## EMERGENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION

# Emergency Preparedness When You Live in the Forest

Charla Huber, Metchosin Emergency Program

### Emergency Preparedness When You Live in the Forest

Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 pm  
Metchosin Fire Hall, 4440 Happy Valley Rd.

Living in Metchosin we have a beautiful landscape that surrounds us. We have beautiful beaches, meadows and of course forests.

When we think of emergency preparedness, we need to take some time to focus on wild-fire prevention. We can take steps to reduce the impact around our homes, properties and communities.

For a wildfire to grow there needs to be fire and fuel. We can note that coniferous trees are highly flammable and deciduous trees, or leafy trees, are much less flammable. We can also

look around the property for items that could be considered "surface fuels," such as plants, twigs, woodpiles and dried grasses.

Fires can spread from embers, extreme heat and direct flame. You can identify hazards at your home and property and note potential challenges that could arise in case of a fire.

There are many factors involved in this and the Metchosin Emergency Program is hosting a free information session on the BC Forest Services. If you have any questions on Provincial Safety Initiatives, how the province fights fires, or what we can do to prevent forest fires this would be a great session to attend.

Join us for the free information session on May 16 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.

## TALK AND WALK

Unless otherwise noted, all talks take place at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Hall, 4450 Happy Valley Road, behind the Fire Hall.



**THE BEES' NEEDS: Wild pollinators of the Garry Oak Ecosystem and why gardens are important for conservation, with Professor Elizabeth Elle, Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at SFU – May 5 and 6**

If bees give you a buzz, please join us for our May Talk and Walk at 7:00 pm on Friday, May 5 at the Metchosin municipal hall (behind the Fire Hall). Then meet for the Walk on Saturday at 10:00 am (location TBA), to seek out our pollinating friends!

Elizabeth Elle is Professor and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at SFU. She has been a member of national (the Canadian Pollination Initiative) and international (the Integrated Crop Pollination Project) research collaborations aimed at protecting pollinators and enhancing pollination services to wildflowers and crops. She is also an award-winning teacher dedicated to both traditional university education and public engagement with the important conservation issues of our day. Although much of her time is currently dedicated to managing a large and complex university department, she really just wants everyone to know that bees are awesome, and if you are worried about pollinator declines you should plant a garden.

Contact [moraleamilne@gmail.com](mailto:moraleamilne@gmail.com) or call 250-478-3838 for further information about these programs.



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# Happy 100 to Madeline!



Pearson College students in the MCA-sponsored Monday program helped celebrate the 100th birthday of Metchosinite Madeline Pridmore Kowalysen.

Photo by Somchit Kittisak, Pearson College student

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## COUNCIL NEWS MAY 2017



### 2017 DRAFT BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the 2017 budget include the purchase of a used Public Works ten-ton dump truck, replacing an older five-ton truck. There are two substantial resurfacing projects planned in the 2017 capital plan; locations will be on Metchosin Road and William Head Road. Also in the capital plan is the replacement of aging Fire Department equipment including hydraulic, extrication cutters and spreaders. Council will be considering adoption of the draft five-year financial plan at its April 24 meeting. The plan shows a 1.8% increase in municipal property taxes for the current year.

### 2017 PROPERTY TAXES

Metchosin residents should expect to receive their 2017 property tax notices by June 1. If you have not received your notice by June 1, please contact the municipal office to obtain a duplicate copy. Taxes are due on July 4, 2017; penalties will be levied on the following day and cannot be waived, even if you have not received your tax notice.

### 2017 ROBERT CAMERON LAW CYCLING RACE – JUNE 3, 2017

Russ Hay's Racing Cycling Club will be having a cycling race on Saturday, June 3, 2017. Set up for the race will begin at 5:00 am, race will start at 8:00 am and finish at 1:00 pm. The cleanup after the race will be until 2:00 pm. The race will begin at Rocky Point Road near Hans Helgesen Elementary School and will then proceed to Liberty Drive, La Bonne Road, Barrow Road, Kangaroo Road and finishing back at Rocky Point Road. The course will be partially closed to traffic. There will be approximately 200 racers.

### 2017 VICTORIA WHEELERS CYCLING CLUB RACE – MAY 24, 2017

Victoria Wheelers Cycling Club will be having a one hill climb time trial along Neild Road on Wednesday, May 24 starting at 6:30 pm. The race will last approximately one hour and will be an individual time trial where the participants ride alone against the clock, starting at one minute intervals. The proposed route is up the hill on Neild Road starting west of the intersection with Hibbert Lane, past the houses on this part of the road. There will be approximately 20 to 50 riders.

### WEST SHORE RCMP COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENT

The District of Metchosin is looking for a Citizen Appointment to the Community Policing Advisory Committee. The West Shore Community Policing Advisory Committee was originally formed to provide a forum for local municipalities and various community groups and organizations served by the West Shore RCMP detachment to discuss policing procedures, address public concerns, and exchange information aimed at increasing public safety. If you are interested, please contact the District of Metchosin.

### 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.

Healthy Communities Advisory Committee (HCAC) . . . . .	May 3, 7:00 pm	Parks and Trails Advisory Committee (PTASC) . . . . .	May 16, 7:00 pm
Finance and Environment Committee . . . . .	May 8, 7:00 pm	Environmental Advisory Committee (MEASC) . . . . .	May 23, 7:00 pm
Council Meeting . . . . .	May 8, 7:00 pm	Heritage Advisory Committee (HASC) . . . . .	May 24, 7:00 pm
Planning, Parks and Highways and Public Works . . . . .	May 15, 7:00 pm	Council Meeting . . . . .	May 29, 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.district.metchosin.bc.ca](http://www.district.metchosin.bc.ca). Thank you.

# SIRC SENIORS' INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTRE

Dawn Boshcoff

## About SIRC

SIRC is open from Tuesday through Friday 11:00 am–3:00 pm for drop-ins and phone calls. Effective June 5 we will be open noon – 5:00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and closed Fridays through June, July, August.

Contact us at 250-478-5150 for more information. Visit us at 4495 Happy Valley Road. A lifetime membership is only \$10. We welcome all ages!

## Happy Mother's Day

Celebrate all mothers, grandmothers, and greatest grands on Sunday, May 14!

## SIRC's Volunteers Provide Support to Local Seniors

Please call Metchosin's Better at Home Coordinator at SIRC to find out how to access help for a senior neighbour, family member or friend. Our team of volunteers support this program with driving and transport, technology learning, companionship visits and more.

## Blog Basics and Beginnings

Tech-Talk on Tuesday, May 30 at Noon

Do you have a passion for storytelling or a desire to engage with people online? Photographers, world travellers, artists, gurus, teachers and many others, who call themselves bloggers, can attest to the fun of blogging, the work



## Put the Annual Parisien Café on Your June Must-Do List!

The annual Parisien Café will be held on Saturday, June 3 from 10:00 am–noon. Come and celebrate with our members, volunteers and supporters at our delightful free outdoor café, to be held in the schoolyard in front of SIRC. The 2017 Parisien Café is made possible this year with generous donations from MACCA, Families Mitchell, Fuoco and Carman, Capamara Publishing and Community Care.

required to keep it up and the business side of it too. Join us for a Q&A on blogging and get all kinds of ideas to get started with your own blog. Bring your handheld device or laptop and a list of questions. Please RSVP as sessions fill quickly!

## Open Computer Lab Encourages Practice and Play

Any Tuesday, Thursday or Friday between 1:00–3:00 pm, you can book your individual Geek Session for up to one hour – we'll help you overcome your tech-challenges! Free access to SIRC's wifi, laptops, desktops, printers, fax, tablets, Macs, and smartphones too!

## Drive and Dine in May

Volunteer drivers and diners travel to and from these free meal events together. Don't forget to RSVP for Drive and Dine events. Call us to learn more!

## Monday Community Suppers

At Gordon United Church in Langford

We leave SIRC at 5:30 pm sharp and return by 7:00 pm on May 8 and May 22.

## Subscribe Free to SIRC News Updates

We're also on Facebook @ SIRC – Metchosin Seniors' Information and Resource Centre. To get on our snail-mail list, simply drop by or contact us with your information. Visit us online at [www.metchosinseniors.ca](http://www.metchosinseniors.ca).

## Happening in May at SIRC

Hours of operation for phone enquiries and drop-ins: Tuesday–Friday, 11:00 am–3:00 pm.

Please drop by and visit us at 4495 Happy Valley Road or call 250-478-5150 for more information.

Play Mah-Jong*	Mondays	10:00 am–noon
Open Computer Learning Lab	Tuesdays	1:00–3:00 pm
Tea Time 'n' Coffee Chat	Wednesdays	1:00–3:00 pm
Open Computer Learning Lab	Thursdays	1:00–3:00 pm
Open Computer Learning Lab	Fridays	1:00–3:00 pm

\*Mah-Jong information? Please email [mhaylor@telus.net](mailto:mhaylor@telus.net).

## Attention Local Producers

The Metchosin Muse will again be promoting local producers who have produce for sale to residents. This is done at no charge and is intended to promote buying locally.

Please contact us at [metmuse@shaw.ca](mailto:metmuse@shaw.ca) by May 10 if you wish to be included.



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Got feedback? You can contact the Muse team by sending email to [metmuse@shaw.ca](mailto:metmuse@shaw.ca).

# Mitzi Dean BC NDP

BC NDP Candidate Esquimalt-Metchosin

VOTE MAY 9

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Authorized by Amber Hockin, Financial Agent, 604-430-8600  
CUPE 3787

# Metchosin Museum Society Annual General Meeting

May 4, 7:00 pm, Metchosin Community House

Special Presentation:  
Archival Photo Slides of Our  
"Metchosin: Home Sweet Home"

Commentary by legendary Mr. Chris Pratt

Join us for refreshments and good company!



Rocky Point near Kangaroo, headed to Victoria, Winter 1957.

Tell them you saw it in the *Muse!*

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## The Rural Gardener

by Isabel Tipton

Gardening season is starting at long last, with the soil drying out and warming up at least a month later than last year.

The migratory hummingbirds are back but not, as I write, the swallows, and we rescued a bumble bee from the old church at Consider the Lilies – he had overwintered in a felt flower!

In springtime I search out the latest gardening trends, according to Google, and sift through them for things of interest. Outdoor living rooms, with portable propane heaters are "in" as gardeners seem to like being outside even on chilly evenings. Garden rooms are still trending, they never seem to go out of favour; the first I remember reading about were those of Vita Sackville-West at Sissinghurst in Kent. This would have been in the 1950s.

Currently, planting based on native plants for your area is recommended, as we are becoming more environmentally minded and habitat destruction is so pervasive. Wetlands are in particular danger, as we tend to drain the swamps and build on them. I have probably told you before that Beth Chatto, the distinguished English gardener, said the high point of her first visit to BC was the swamp with the skunk cabbages blooming that she saw on the way in from the airport.

Another thing to consider is fireproofing. Besides getting the broom and the gorse cut and delivered to the roadside for burning, the trails of highly combustible plants leading straight to your house, barn, woodshed or whatever are worthy of attention. Here is a link to the University of Oregon's brochure on fire resistant plantings: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/osu-extension-offers-list-fire-resistant-plants-web>.

Plants which are more likely to burn include:

- those with fibrous, loose bark (e.g., Stringybark eucalyptus)
- those with volatile oils in their leaves
- those with volatile, resinous foliage (e.g., many conifers)
- those with dry foliage
- those which retain or accumulate dead leaves and twigs

The mindfulness trend is hitting horticulture, where it is called "attentive gardening," and focuses on "finding one's way to oneself via the work in the flora and fauna." Annual German trade show spoga+gafa (September 2017) says this means "growing old vegetable varieties such as chard or turnips, or lolling on old rocking chairs or sofas in the garden."

Vegetables go in and out of favour. I read recently, and I believe it to have been written seriously, is that "parsnips are the new cauliflower." Last year they wrote that "cauliflower was the new kale"! Do plant your parsnips, and have an old chair ready for the mindful resting.

As a thought spinning off this, British catalogues have many more varieties of some vegetables than North American – parsnips, broad beans and in small fruits, gooseberries. They also have potatoes we have never heard of.

I am watching to see if there are fewer slugs around; the winter should have killed off a lot of their eggs. One can but hope. The winter, though brutal and endless from our point of view, does seem to have let a lot of doubtfully hardy plants survive. In our early years on this property I lost a *Clematis Armandii*, the evergreen one currently in bloom, but the one my son started from a cutting last year is up on the deck rail blooming its head off, and the Fitzroya, definitely not hardy, is putting out new growth – it is a sad specimen, always looking like a parking lot survivor, but bravely trying.

The deer have distinguished themselves this spring by eating the *Erythroniums* (fawn lilies), both white and yellow flowered. I have hopes of survival, if not bloom, but the deer are getting just a bit much! Those who would quietly remove them have been removed from this earth, so I have no recourse but to grit my teeth and consider fencing, though that is impractical where the lilies grow.

The deer problem has many of us growing treasures in pots on decks or balconies. Watering and feeding are critical for containers. Rigging up a drip system is recommended if you can, the human brain being what it is, and do remember to feed every week or two. I was

given a generous Lee Valley gift certificate, and am looking at two containers specifically for growing treasures on the deck. One is raised, the other somewhat larger is more or less square, sits flat on a surface, and has a plastic dome over it. Shallow-rooted veggies would thrive in either. Filled with good soil augmented with compost, sea soil or organic nutrients either would keep a salad bar for a small family going, or I could plant those special seeds I have collected.

Plants are getting very expensive; you might consider cuttings.\* Many of our common shrubs will start fairly consistently. Prepare a bed, box, pot or whatever, make sure there are drainage holes, and fill it with sand and peat, about half and half, water well, particularly if using beach sand. Take your cuttings from this year's wood, what the garden experts call "half ripe." Bend a six-inch piece and if it bends but does not break or squash flat, it is ready. Cut a piece at a 45-degree angle, long enough that you can leave at least four leaves without them touching the soil. Dip in rooting hormone, and insert a couple of inches into your pot of mix. Rig up a cover (a plastic bag held up with three stakes works), water well, and keep an eye on it, watering when necessary. Keep the whole thing in the shade, and in a few weeks you should see signs of new growth. The temptation is always to pull one out to see what is going on, but restrain yourself. Roses strike from a stem that has already bloomed, lavender from heel cuttings. Those are taken with a "heel" of the main branch at the base of the cutting. Both my mother and my son have had success with just half breaking a branch that is close enough to the soil to be held down by a rock so the break is in the soil. Rhododendrons and azaleas root that way.

This is definitely a year for short season corn and tomato – read the information on varieties and plant accordingly. See you whenever – we are getting close to the *Muse's* summer break.

\*Editor's note: In addition to cuttings, consider attending the Metchosin Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale. See details on page 9.

**Don't miss this year's  
Mighty Metchosin  
Garage Sale!  
May 27/28**

**METCHOSIN VOLUNTEERS**



Volunteer pep talk just before the opening of the 2014 sale. Joan Kew photo

# Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale Volunteers

Jim MacPherson

Looking for a decent set of lawn chairs? A good, used electric drill? Maybe a replacement electric can opener? You might just find it at the Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale. Or, if not, you might just find something else that you didn't know you needed. Or just tickled your fancy!

This event, held in late spring every year, is sponsored by the Metchosin Community Association (MCA) and is a major source of revenue for the association, supporting the Metchosin Community House and all of its programs. Last year, the Garage Sale raised just over \$19,000, almost half of the association's annual revenue.

The Garage Sale is a big deal, and it seems to be growing every year. I have heard numerous enquiries as to when this year's sale will be. Metchosinites obviously look forward to the sale.

This year the Garage Sale will be held May 27-28. Preparation for the sale begins May 20, with donations being accepted from May 20 to May 26.

All of this is put on by a core group of about 15 committed volunteers who have come together every year, but also helped by several new volunteers. A volunteer member of the MCA Board looks after overall organization of volunteers although some volunteers have experience and know from past sales what needs to be done.

The first thing volunteers do is look after advertising and issue a call for more volunteers to help out with the sale. About two weeks before the sale, volunteers start coming together to prepare to receive goods donated to the sale (no donations before May 20, please!). This involves setting up the tent, with help from the Metchosin Garden Club. During this week-long drop-off period, two volunteers are always on hand to screen donations. The last three days before the Garage Sale starts are especially busy for drop-offs.

There are some things, such as old TVs or old refrigerators and freezers, and fabric covered furniture, that cannot be accepted. And, of course, nothing that is broken. If you are planning on donating items and are not sure whether they might be accepted, you might want to call the

MCA office at 250-478-5155 between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm and find out whether they can be donated.

Volunteers organize separate areas for donated items. Areas for furniture, clothes, tools and outdoor equipment and other categories of goods are set aside to make it easier for buyers to find what they might be looking for.

Other volunteers select especially good items to be set aside for the silent auction, held on the first day of the sale, May 27. The silent auction is a major fundraiser, accounting for about one quarter of the total value raised by the Garage Sale. Items which do not sell through the silent auction are moved over to the regular sale.

In recent years the "Chic Boutique" has been set up to handle those items which didn't quite make the silent auction. These are items whose sale price can be negotiated.

After the Garage Sale is over, there is the inevitable clean-up operation. Not everything is sold; there are always items left over from the sale. There is a grace period for a few days for people to come down and continue to buy. One representative from a charity organization (this year, The Compassionate Resource Warehouse) comes by and selects items that the charity will try to sell. After that, anything left over is hauled away to the landfill. This whole clean-up period will last about a week.

Putting on the Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale means a lot of work, and people pour in a lot of hours. And it is all done by volunteers. A special thank you to them all for their commitment to this major MCA event.

Once again, this year's Garage Sale will be held May 27-28. Donations of appropriate goods can be dropped off from May 20 to 26.

*Shop Locally ...  
and tell them  
you saw it  
in the Muse!*

# Tractor Safety Course



Brent Donaldson, Metchosin Agricultural Advisory Committee member (left) and Nick Moss, owner of Tractor Time (right) discuss upcoming Tractor Safety Course being held on Saturday, May 13.

Brent Donaldson

Metchosin Agricultural Advisory Committee has partnered with Tractor Time to host a tractor safety course presented by Ken Lacroix of AgSafe BC. This is a 2.5-hour course addressing tractor maintenance and safety aspects of tractor operation. This course is offered at no charge and lunch will be provided. The

event will be held in the District of Metchosin Council Chambers, located at 4450 Happy Valley Road on Saturday, May 13. Start time is 9:30 am sharp.

If you own a tractor, or are in the process of purchasing one, this course is for you.

For more information contact Brent at 250-474-7303.

Know any interesting residents of Metchosin?  
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# New Faces at Wild ARC

Jim MacPherson

Time flies and after many years of service at SPCA's Wild ARC, manager Kari Marks and assistant manager Heather Schmitt have left for new endeavours. They will be missed, but filling their shoes are a new manager, Andrea Wallace, and assistant manager, Meghan Hatch.

Andrea has her doctorate and other academic qualifications in wildlife ecology, natural resource management, and conservation science. She has extensive British Columbian, Canadian and international experience managing diverse and multifaceted projects. Her most recent experience was as Field Station Manager for the Salmon Coast Field

Station Society in the Broughton Archipelago. Her experience includes coaching staff and volunteers, community outreach, and establishing strong stakeholder and partner relationships. Andrea's experience with wildlife and her strong project management background are very important components of the Wild ARC program, which depends strongly on the contributions of staff, the local community, and over 200 volunteers. Andrea joined Wild ARC on March 6. She lives in Victoria and looks forward to her new career in wild animal rehabilitation and to working with the people and Council of Metchosin.

Meghan Hatch joined Wild ARC on February 18. From


the time when she volunteered at the Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre at Napanee, Ontario to enhancing wildlife habitat and populations on Vancouver Island, she has had a passion for wildlife. She is an amateur birder and last year brought to Wild ARC its 3,000th rehabilitation patient. Her passion, together with the management experience she acquired with her own gardening company, will serve Wild ARC well. One of the things Meghan will be doing is to continue submitting monthly Wild ARC articles to the Muse.

As a Wild ARC volunteer myself, I look forward to working with Andrea and Meghan. Welcome to Metchosin.



Meghan Hatch (left) and Andrea Wallace (right), the new team at Wild ARC. Joannie Challenger photo

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Richard Blackford

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## Metchosin Equestrian Society Fundraising Paint-In Open to All

Eila Zylak

March 12 marked the first of an exciting new series. Now, what do horses have to do with art and fundraising, you might ask? Normally, not too much, aside from being beautiful subjects to paint; but we combined the three at this first fundraiser. The majority of the funds raised will go to maintenance of the Metchosin Riding Ring, and the remainder of the collected fees are for art supplies. Instruction is kindly donated by artist Rachel Healey.

Thank you to our full house of participants who in general had very little artistic or painting background, just a zest to try! Amazing hidden talent was displayed by all of the rising stars, and everyone had a ton of fun. Several are now anxiously awaiting the next "Paint-In."

The afternoon started with a discussion of some canvasses of horse images to be painted in whatever fashion the budding artist desired. A huge rainbow of colours (acrylics) was provided for use and a selection of brushes to apply the medium. Our gracious host, Rachel, provided her fabulous roomy studio for the event along with plates/trays of goodies for everyone. The finished canvasses were signed by the artists and proudly taken home. Everyone did a fantastic job and was delighted with what they were able to accomplish in just two hours! The second Paint-In was held on April 23 and the theme was "Pet Portraits." Same fun, same satisfaction.

If you have always wanted to try to paint, then join us. All adults are welcome! This is a fun, welcoming atmosphere and very reasonable at a rate of \$30.00 per session. If you have a photo that

you would like to turn into a painting, please email it to me at eilazylak@shaw.ca. The canvas will be prepared with an image of your pet sketched in.

We will be conducting sessions with various themes about every six weeks as per the schedule below. Sessions are on Sundays from 2:00-4:00 pm (Liberty Drive/Deerpark Trail area). Even if you are not "a horsey person" per se, feel free to come and join us!

- June 11 – Flowers/garden/blooms (end of spring)
- July 23 – Beach/ocean/lake/countryside/landscape
- August 27 – Holiday/vacation pictures
- October 8 – Colourful leaves (autumn)
- November 19 – Mixed media arts and crafts – Christmas cards
- December 3 – Paint a Christmas present

The process remains the same – send in a photo to eilazylak@shaw.ca and a canvas will be prepared for you to paint. Also, please provide your details and we will tell

you where you can mail your registration fee. These are all pre-registered events. You can purchase a second canvas for \$5.00 if you would like to paint two.

Updates are provided on our Facebook page (Metchosin Equestrian Society) and on our website: <http://www.mesmetchosin.com/>



Top, the photo submitted; bottom, the personal work of art that resulted!



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# Spring Time for Landscape Design: "The Whole Nine Yards"

Judith van Manen

**Garden Club Meeting with Jeff de Jong: "The Whole Nine Yards"**  
Wednesday, May 3  
7:30 pm at the Metchosin Community House

Chatting with Jeff de Jong about his next Metchosin Garden Club presentation, I learned that he had just experienced a spring-time predicament when doing a landscape project. He said, "When my friend asked me to help him design and install his West Coast landscape, I thought it would be a fun spring project. It would include designing the front, side and back garden. We began by putting in the hard scape. Then, Spring or not, we had to move on and do the whole nine yards."

This spring has been most unpredictable for Metchosin gardeners. I too, had planned to do a redesign of our front garden landscape, but the weather did not seem to want to cooperate. Spring was supposed to be here but then decided not to arrive. I was advised to hold off for

another month planting the ten trees I had purchased last fall, but I seemed to be caught in a Kairos moment. Do it now or wait and risk failure? Having to make a timely decision reminded me of the tension between Chronos time and Kairos time. We all know Chronos the Greek god of the continuity of clock time: spring, summer, fall, winter. But strangely, Kairos is little known. Since ancient times a Kairos moment has been described as a transformative moment of chance, depending on our ability and willingness to seize the opportunity that is offered in it. Kairos moments are pure, perfect, unpredictable and uncontrollable moments that possess possibility. Kairos is a whimsical, rebellious, and creative deity. He is bald except for long forelocks of hair growing from his forehead or around his face. If Kairos comes in your direction, he will race by on his wild wings.

This is a provocative image, but one that is striking and clarifying of the human predicament when something hangs in the balance: of needing to deal with a decision

that confronts us in the now, but that will be too late to face when the now has passed. Gardening activities are often beset with Kairos moments. Should we do the pruning now? Should we plant out the seedlings now? Or is the temperature still too low? Kairos demands of us the right thing at the right time. If you hesitate to grab for his hair and stop him rushing by, the Kairos moment passes and all that you'll be left with is empty regret. Like Jeff de Jong, I decided to seize the moment and start my landscaping project in the middle of March. It was a daring Kairos moment. I look forward to hearing Jeff talk about the many activities and decisions involved in doing a timely landscaping project.

We have been fortunate to repeatedly feature Jeff de Jong for the last number of years, and he never fails to produce and present an original talk in his humorous and inimitable style, especially designed for Metchosin gardeners. This time his topic is landscaping and Jeff's PowerPoint presentation is entitled "The Whole Nine Yards."

Jeff de Jong is a professional horticulturist who spent many years instructing the Landscaping Management Program at Olds College in Alberta. Later, when he relocated to Victoria, he became an instructor in the Master Gardener Program at the Pacific Horticultural Institute and has offered countless courses for gardening groups and organizations throughout the province.

Jeff is also a garden writer, photographer, and watercolour artist. He loves to travel, which has resulted in him leading special "Garden Tours" to New Zealand, Europe, and South Africa. Jeff de Jong has won several awards for his innovative garden designs. He writes articles for several gardening magazines including the *Canadian Gardener*, and as a popular radio broadcaster, he can be heard every Sunday morning from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on C-FAX 1070 AM on the



Kairos

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Saturday, May 13: Metchosin Garden Club Mothers' Day Plant Sale, Metchosin Community House, 10:00 am-2:00 pm**

program "Gardening 101," which is Victoria's only radio gardening program.

Please join us with Jeff de Jong on Wednesday, May 3 at 7:30 pm at the Community House. Come early, or it will be a Kairos moment: standing room only.

# The Metchosin Community Association Says Thank You!

Johnny Carline

The 2017 Metchosin Community Association (MCA) Service Auction was a tremendous success, both socially and financially, and the MCA is deeply grateful to all the people who helped make it so.

While the Service Auction is one of the two main fund raisers which enable the MCA to keep the Community House running and hosting all the many programs which this community so enjoys, it has also become one of the most entertaining evenings in the Metchosin social calendar. For the last two years this has been largely due to the extraordinary talent of the two auctioneers – CHEK TV personality Stacy Ross and local wit Mike Van de Water. Theirs is a type of comedy which defies being captured in an "after the fact report," a combination of antics and sparkling, spontaneous repartee that once again prompted almost continuous chuckles, guffaws and downright belly laughs from the audience.

The full-house crowd played its part too. On a number of occasions good-natured bidding wars broke out, taking the bid price generously beyond the stated value of the item. Past president Bob Burgis (in the back row) and wife Jennifer (in the front row with the bidding paddle) added to the fun with Jennifer responding theatrically to Bob's



Stacy and Mike, hard at work at the 2017 Metchosin Community Services Auction. Brian Domney photo

booming announcements that "Jennifer will bid ..."

Benoit Charlesbois, looking remarkably like a Brazilian parrot, proved to be a very entertaining 50-50 seller while Penny McCulloch-Barratt's wine and cheese helped create the sociable atmosphere.

None of this, of course, would be possible without the generous donations from businesses serving this area. Items valued from about \$50 to well over \$1000 made up a diverse and desirable set of items to bid for, climaxing with the bidding war for a performance at a private party by Metchosin's most famous and beloved rock star (I think you all know who that is). The MCA is profoundly grateful to all those donors. You will find a list of them on the Metchosin Community

Association website. We hope Metchosinites will take note and consider patronizing these generous supporters of this community.

Almost 20 per cent of the MCA's annual revenue comes from this one event. So, whether you are a member of the Parents and Tots group or the Homework buddies, whether you enjoy the Rough Voice or Knitting Café, the film night, the music night or the guest speaker night, whether you are a member of 4-H, Toastmasters or the Garden Club, or any of the other many wonderful groups who use the House, I'm sure you will want to join me in a vote of thanks to our donors, auctioneers, bidders, and volunteers who helped make this event such a success.

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# ROUGH VOICE: So Not Kumbaya!

Barb Sawatsky

So you think Rough Voice is all Kumbaya, do you? Although we're finished for the season, join us in September to prove to yourself that your perception is so, so wrong. After growing in numbers and volume for over four years, it looks like we're here to stay at least for a few more seasons. From humble beginnings we now boast 13 musicians who accompany a full House of singers.

Comments such as, "I felt I belonged with this group from the minute I walked into the room" and "we look forward to our evenings of singing for days before the night of the sing-along" acknowledge that we're spot on with what this community was missing – a program of regular folks singing together for fun during the dark winter months.

It's becoming more difficult to say that you haven't heard about the Rough Voice sing-along program. There is an update in every month's *Muse* coupled with Frank Mitchell's notices and the Community House reminders along with the bright red and yellow sandwich board sign made by Sharie and Al Epp which is outside the Community House announcing nights that singing takes place.

If your taste in music runs to Creedence, The Beatles, Woody Guthrie, The Soggy Bottom Boys, Abba, Pete Seeger, Elvis, BJ Thomas, Louis Armstrong, Jimmy Buffet, The Carter Family, Van Morrison, traditional and spiritual songs, and songs from the 1920s to the 1970s, we hope you were with us during this long, wet, cold winter. Singing together brought warmth and a glow

to the people who showed up on Rough Voice nights.

This season's wind-up on April 10 was a mix of up-beat, popular music played spectacularly and encouraged by an energetic and wildly enthusiastic capacity crowd of singers. Ghost Riders in the Sky accompanied by Richard producing galloping hoof beats on bongo and Ken cracking the whip on a "whipper snapper" brought wild laughter which was upstaged only by a photo of Mr. Bean in his underwear that Doug Sawatsky flashed onto the screen after Calendar Girls. Doug has been attaching historical and sometimes hysterical bits of history and photos to the song words which are projected onto the TV monitor, adding another entertaining and sometimes educational dimension to the program. Giving in to the beat of Chris Van de Water's Rock Around the Clock, Jeanette along with Bethany and Lois Wiens, jitterbugged in the kitchen.

Accompanists to songs consist of The Barn Cats: a brother-sister duo of Sharie Epp (ukulele) and Dallas Hansen (bass guitar) and some of Sharie's ukulele students: Nic Carolsfeld, Charlotte Robinson and Barb Sawatsky, plus Emma Robbins on her acoustic guitar, Chris Van de Water on piano and accordion, Lois Wiens on



Chris Van de Water leads the Rough Voice ensemble.

Barb Sawatsky photo

piano, two sets of guitarists: Ken Fiege and Richard Gaunt and Kym Hill and Charles Knighton along with Jeanette McMillan on harmonica.

Appreciation and support for the time which the musicians and organizers put in to coordinate each show was overwhelming. Generous with donations of food to share at the break, generous with donations of money at the door and generous with their participation and applause, we know the effort is well worth continuing.

For the season's grand finale on April 10, Sharie organized the wrap-up number with all the musicians standing together singing and playing Put a Little Love in Your Heart. Everyone



present wanted the moment to carry on, resulting in the final line being sung so many times that Dallas finally had to ask people to stop singing, at which point everyone jumped out of their seats to give a standing ovation to this talented group of musicians who brings song to the hearts of our community. It was a perfect ending to another wonderful year of growth.


The Rough Voice sing-along, drop-in group returns on September 11 to the Metchosin Community House on the second and fourth Mondays between September and April. Asking for only a \$2 donation, over \$800 was raised and donated to the House this season.




Left to right, Richard Gaunt, Ken Fiege, Sharie Epp, and Dallas Hansen. Barb Sawatsky photo

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# MCA House Concert: Knacker's Yard

Erin Van de Water

The upcoming House Concert on Friday, May 12 will be the last one until fall, and you won't want to miss it! Since it will be the final one for a while, the MCA figured we should go all out. Bringing in a six-piece Celtic traditional folk band, Knacker's Yard, to showcase their musical talents, as well as applying for a liquor license for the evening, the wine will be flowing and the dance floor will be hopping! Bring

your dancing shoes, this concert is sure to get you moving.

Knacker's Yard was formed in Victoria in the spring of 2012, with the intent of performing traditional Celtic and English folk songs, instrumentals and ballads dating from the 1600s up to the 1960s. The band's repertoire includes songs made popular by voices such as Ewan MacColl, Shirley Collins, Luke Kelly, Ronnie Drew, Enoch Kent, Andy Irvine, Paul Brady and well-known musical groups such as the Dubliners, The Pogues, Corries,

The Wolfe Tones, Planxty, De Danaan, and the Bothy Band, to name a few.

Those who have had the pleasure of listening to Knacker's Yard at the Metchosin Golf Course in the past know what a treat it is to have them back once again to finish off this year's House Concert Series.

See you there: Friday, May 12 at the Metchosin Community House. Doors open at 6:30 pm, show from 7:00–9:00 pm with a suggested donation of \$7–12.



## 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. May 8 is the last meeting; 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, or email [laura.farquharson@shaw.ca](mailto:laura.farquharson@shaw.ca).

**Singalong – Metchosin Rough Voice Singers** – 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. No Art Group May 23.

**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. No Knitting Café on May 23.

#### 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](mailto: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 cover refreshment costs.

**Community Potluck Lunch** – Last Thursday of each month, 12:00–1:30 pm. All welcome. No Potluck Lunch on May 25.

#### 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. No Parents and Tots May 26.

**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 (see above).

**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 appropriate 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.

#### Saturday

**Monthly Community Potluck Dinners** for all new and long-term residents of Metchosin! The community dinners will be every third Saturday, from 4:00–7:00 pm. **Special date this month: May 6;** please mark your calendars. Thank you for sharing your cooking and love – please invite those you care about for warm free meal. The public and children are all welcome!

### Events

**Concert at the Community House – Friday, May 12, 7:00–9:00 pm.** Knacker's Yard will perform traditional Celtic and English folk songs, instrumentals and ballads. Doors 6:30 pm, suggested donation \$7–12.

**Film Night** – No film night for May.

**Guest Speaker** – No guest speaker for May.

**Mighty Garage Sale – May 27 and 28.** Donations can be dropped off starting May 20. We need your unwanted “stuff” ... including antiques, collectibles, clothing, books, furniture in reasonable condition, small appliances in reasonable working order, tools, sporting goods, china, and household goods. Donations can be dropped off at the tents beside the Community House daily, from Saturday, May 20 through to Friday, May 26 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please no mattresses, exercise equipment, TVs, pillows, old shoes, soiled clothing, microwaves, typewriters, BBQs, large appliances, old computers, ski equipment, cribs, car seats or magazines.

For more info call 250-478-5155. The Garage Sale is May 27 and May 28, 9:00 am–3:00 pm. Come and browse through the big tents for furniture, electronics, sporting goods, yard goods, tools, housewares, collectibles, antiques and “mystery stuff.” Be sure to participate in the silent auction inside the Community House for a chance to get some of the choicest donations. Items will be auctioned off on Saturday.

Entry to the garage sale is by cash donation at the gate. All proceeds from the event go to support the Metchosin Community Association.

If you are interested in being part of this fun event and have some free time to volunteer, please call the MCA office at 250-478-5155 to join in!

**Local Kids Can Earn Spending Money** – Hey kids, why not earn some coin to help fund your summer holidays? Pocket some cash in exchange for those old toys, e-games, cartoon videos, volumes of nursery rhymes, stacks of comics, Hot Wheels, Barbies, Braats, and books!

As an incentive to our Metchosin youth, we are offering a section of the yard to local kids ages 12 to 18 who would like to set up a sales table (or tarp) on Saturday for FREE. Bring your own table (or tarp), cash float, and the items to sell – it has to be YOUR STUFF, not your parents' things. All items must be organized and in reasonable repair and you must take away unsold items. You want your stuff to sell, so don't bring junk.

**Art on the Walls** – Doug Gilbert, in collaboration with the Metchosin School Museum Society, has compiled and organized a show of 18 historic photographs of Metchosin dating back to the early 1900s. They are hanging on the Community House walls for all to come and enjoy. 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.

# Metchosin Foundation AGM Features Award-Winning Climate Scientist

Carol Carman

The past year has been active for the Metchosin Foundation through environmental covenants, outreach to youth and collaboration with other key community partners. This coming year is shaping up to be even more productive. Please join us at the new St. Mary's Church on Sunday, May 7 at 7:00 pm to hear our plans and offer your ideas.

We are honoured to be welcoming Dr. Richard Hebda as our guest speaker. He has been curator of Botany and Earth History at the Royal BC Museum for 32 years and

is an adjunct member of the University of Victoria's Biology, Earth and Ocean Sciences faculty.

At the AGM, Dr. Hebda will share his knowledge about past climates in BC, future projections, and actions we all can take to help us adapt to a changing climate. One of his particular areas of interest is in growing food locally, particularly heritage varieties of vegetables that maintain genetic diversity in our food crops.

For his work, he is the winner of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal as well as the 2015 Bruce Naylor

Award from the Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada. Dr. Hebda draws on his research with plants to shed light on the condition, history and evolution of BC's landscape and climate. Dr. Hebda has mentored many graduate students and students in the Restoration of Natural Systems Program at the University of Victoria. For further information about Dr. Hebda, visit his website: [http://staff.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/author/rbcm\\_rhebda/](http://staff.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/author/rbcm_rhebda/)

## Scholarships for Graduating Grade 12 Students

Three \$500 scholarships are being made available by the Metchosin Foundation to graduating Canadian Grade 12 students who live in Metchosin. These are in the areas of:

- Academic achievement
- Community citizenship
- Environmental stewardship

A fourth scholarship of \$500 is being made available to a Beecher Bay First Nation resident student. These funds are being made available thanks to a generous Metchosin donor who chooses to remain anonymous. Application forms are available at the school offices of Belmont, Royal Bay and Edward Milne High Schools, on their websites, as well as on the website of the Metchosin Foundation. **The deadline for the submission of all applications is Monday, May 15.**

## Bat Boxes

Many thanks to the volunteers who worked for a day at Fischervale Farms to assemble 24 bat boxes that have now gone to 24 bat-loving homes across Metchosin. Special thanks to Ole Frang for his hard work and precise carpentry in creating all the parts for these complex boxes for the team to assemble.



The Ussery-Woodland B&B (Bed and Bats?!). Joel Ussery photo

The Metchosin Foundation is a registered charity. Charitable BN/Registration #81576 1556 RR0001. Your kind donations are tax deductible. For further information please see our website at [www.metchosinfoundation.ca](http://www.metchosinfoundation.ca)



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# Come and Give Rugby a "Try" at Your Local Club



The Westshore team takes on Cowichan at the Cumberland Jamboree.

Gary Beels photo

Gary Beels

If you have ever thought you would like your children to be engaged in a sport that develops both confidence and respect, then look no further. Rugby is played throughout the world and our own National Women's Rugby 7s team won a Bronze medal at the most recent Olympic Games. It is truly a sport for everyone, with a position in the team for every size and shape and level of fitness.

Westshore Rugby Football Club is located at the rugby pitch at the side of the Q Centre at Westshore Parks and Recreation, and has a thriving adult club membership. The club offers a youth and junior program from age four through to Under 18,

both men and women. Up to the age of ten, the game is flag rugby, with no contact, played on a smaller pitch. As your children progress through the age groups they are slowly introduced to more aspects of the game and in particular safe tackling.

My older children, Samuel and Elliot, both students at Westmont Montessori School, have played for the club for the last two years and have both thrived on the game, which boasts state-of-the-art facilities as well as truly dedicated coaches and team managers. The club is currently actively recruiting all ages and is focussed on developing the Under 14, 16 and 18 teams for next year. I will be managing the Under 14s boys' team and I have made it my goal to

bring this truly amazing game to as many young athletes as possible.

The only kit you need to buy is a pair of cleats and a mouthguard. If you would like to come along and try a session for free before you commit, please contact me (see below) and I will put you in contact with the appropriate team manager. If you register to play it will cost only about \$200 per year and that includes all insurance, your rugby jersey, shorts, and socks.

If you would like more information or to arrange a club visit, please feel free to contact me direct at [u14.u16.manager@gmail.com](mailto:u14.u16.manager@gmail.com), or for more details about the club, go to [westshorerfc.com](http://westshorerfc.com).

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# Jo and Frank Celebrate 80th Birthdays



Jo and Frank Mitchell, who have both just turned 80, were the guests of honour at a country breakfast served recently at the Community House. Delegates from nine community groups gathered to share their memories of working with Frank or Jo on various projects and to express their praise and thanks for the Mitchells' contributions and commitment to Metchosin. Pancakes were provided by the West Shore Lions. Peter M. Lewis photo

## Why You Should Watch Metchosin Cricket

Johnny Carline

One of the finest, but perhaps lesser known, splendours of Metchosin is the Metchosin Cricket Club. It could have been baseball. But it isn't. And here is my take on why.

First, Metchosinites appreciate history, and cricket has been played since at least as far back as 1550. True, it had its early difficulties. Two fellows were prosecuted in 1611 for playing cricket rather than going to church. Oliver Cromwell's boring old roundheads tried to clamp down on it as they did on pretty well anything enjoyable.

But the Restoration of the monarchy brought back cricket and, ever since, village cricket has been a tradition that is often the social glue that brings communities together.

Contrast this with baseball, which appears to have been derived from the almost identical English game of "rounders." This was a game reserved for girls who were thought to be incapable of mastering cricket. Now that women have proved that misogynist notion to be totally false, women play cricket and "rounders" has deservedly faded into obscurity.

However, while cricket flourished in the rest of the world and came to Canada some time in the 19th century, it was more popular in 1860 than it was in 1960. While Brits, Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans, Indians, West Indians, Pakistanis, and people from just about all over the Commonwealth found a bat, a ball, improvised some stumps and played cricket, Canadians followed Americans into the wastelands of baseball!

With Canada's 150th anniversary coming up this year, I have to wonder: "Do Canadians want to continue to

be regarded as a people who don't quite have the mental wherewithal to understand cricket and therefore have to play glorified rounders instead? Isn't our 150th anniversary the time to show some pride and show other countries that we can indeed play the noble, and venerable, game of cricket instead of running in circles around a field in our pyjamas?" Supporting our Metchosin Cricket Club thus becomes more than just a pleasure; it is almost our patriotic duty.

And what about the language of these competing summer games? Metchosin has quite a literary population which enjoys creative adult language. Can baseball satisfy such people? The safe havens that baseball batters try to run to are called "first base," "second base" and (drumroll please) "third base." The fielders who try to prevent this happening are called "first basemen," "second basemen" and (can you stand it already?) "third basemen." And if the ball gets past these men, it gets to "left field" or "right field" or somewhere in between called – you guessed it – "centre field." As sparkling as a morbid moose!

Compare that with the language of cricket, where a bat is eloquently referred to as a "willow," after its constituent wood, and the shiny red ball is commonly called a "cherry." The names of fielders are generous and gentlemanly. You can be as bow-legged as Charlie Chaplin and still field at "fine leg," have the stature of Toulouse Lautrec and still field at "long leg," and you can be "third man" even if you were included in the eleven only because the captain's grandfather had an attack of rheumatism. But if you field very close to the batsman you are

called "silly." That's an official cricketing term.

The player who propels the ball at the batsman is a "bowler," like Sir Francis Drake – not a pitcher. A pitcher is something into which you put beer – which probably explains the baseball terminology. Some bowlers are "seamers" while others are leg spinners who baffle you with googlies.

Where else can you have a "tickle down the leg," be "dropped in the slips," "caught out in the covers" and "keep your wicket intact" because the bowler was determined to have "no balls" in his over? Only in cricket; it isn't just a game, it is pure adult poetry.

Cricket is a game anyone can enjoy. So wander down to the cricket field, have a picnic, and enjoy learning about this worldwide and endlessly fascinating game as you watch our own Metchosin teams compete. Our Division One team plays on weekends – the first home game starts at noon on May 7. Our midweek team's home opener is on May 23, starting at 6:00 pm. And we even have a children's program. For more details, call me at 250-474-4601.

*Editor's note:* My co-editor colleague has danced close to the edge of one of our guiding principles in the *Muse* – to promote community harmony – but given his accent and advanced age, I've chosen to give him this one. Let's hope he doesn't try to compare field hockey and real hockey some time ...

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

*There's a lot going on in Metchosin!*

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



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## NEWS FROM HANS HELGESEN SCHOOL

Debra Stoutley, Principal

Hans Helgesen School brings this year to a close with many school and community experiences. Some activities we've been enjoying since spring break include Earth Week, Music Monday, Jump Rope for Heart, regular year-end activities and preparing for Aboriginal Day on June 21. We are very grateful to see the weather improving and warming up!

Earth Week saw HH students enjoying "litterless" lunches, doing activities for the planet, and enjoying nature. We strive to have healthy eating as part of our day-to-day experience and Earth Week reminds us that we can also work to create less litter in our eating habits. Students always enjoy the opportunity to have picnics on the lawn when this time of year arrives as well. We focus one day on

water use and another day on our electricity consumption. Our culminating walk to Devonian Beach helps us enjoy the pristine environment that we are trying to conserve and preserve.

Our "Jump Rope for Heart" event is happening May 5. We do this event just for fun and awareness but we acknowledge that some people would like to contribute to this worthy cause, so this year families who would like to contribute to the fundraising are asked to go online to register at [JumpRopeForHeart.ca](http://JumpRopeForHeart.ca). As well as being a marathon-style jump rope activity for awareness for heart health for our students, our school has fundraised more than \$17,000 over the years! We were fortunate to have a local skipping team join us in March to demonstrate some amazing skipping moves and inspire our students.



Above, and below, left: Kindergarten students plant garden beds at Hans Helgesen. Thank you to James Baluch and Chief Russell Chipps for the donations of the beds and soil. Our PAC paid for the "Growing Young Farmers" group to help four divisions become involved in this experience.

We will soon be busy training our grade three to five students for the district track meet this year. As always, the first Friday in June (this year June 2) is the day that elementary schools compete in track events. This is an event that is always popular and fun for students and families.

In June, when the District of Metchosin and the Beecher Bay Band celebrate together with a community dinner, our students will be there with the drum group again this year. We are all looking forward to contributing to this gathering and celebrating Aboriginal Day!

Year-end field studies and field trips are always a highlight for our students. From "Rocks and Minerals" to university and museum visits, the teachers provide a wealth of learning opportunities for our students. The entire school has a beach day at Aylard Beach planned for Monday, June 26. As we did last year, we will share the beach with Sassenos Elementary School. Our similar sizes make it a nice experience. Parents are welcome to meet us at the beach that day since our bus space is limited. This has been an annual tradition that everyone seems to enjoy.

Our final school assembly happens on Thursday, June 29 at 1:00 pm. Parents are always welcome to attend this celebration of our year and the grade five students' transition to middle school.

Thank you to the *Muse* for giving us this space to keep our community informed and thank you for reading about your neighbourhood school. Please don't hesitate to contact me at the school if you have questions or concerns ([dstoutley@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:dstoutley@sd62.bc.ca)) You are also welcome to visit our website: [www.hanshelgesen.sd62.bc.ca](http://www.hanshelgesen.sd62.bc.ca). Happy summer break everyone!

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## 14<sup>TH</sup> JUAN DE FUCA (METCHOSIN) SCOUTS CANADA

### 14th Juan de Fuca Venturers

Markus Meyer

The weekend of April 8 and 9, the 14th Juan de Fuca Venturer company spent the night volunteering at Nite Hike, an event held at UBC's Pacific Spirit Regional Park. The company spent the day travelling and running their dance competition booth from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am the next morning. Many groups from across British Columbia and beyond (including some from the United States) came through and had a great time at the group's station. The station was equipped with high-end lighting and sound systems which made for a very energetic night. The Venturers all had a great and exhausting time!



The 14th Juan de Fuca Venturers at their station during the 12-hour-long Nite Hike.

### 14th Juan de Fuca Scouts

Scouter Toby

The 14th JDF Scouts have been doing a lot of activities this winter. A highlight was the snow camp at Mount Washington. There the youth braved two nights and three days in the snow. The first night they camped in tents. This is not simply setting up a tent and bedding down for the night. It first requires the youth to dig down a few feet and pack down the snow. If this is not done then the tent will not only be much colder as it is more exposed to the wind; it may also sink overnight which can make for an uncomfortable sleep or

having to dig and pack snow in the middle of the night. The second night the youth made snow caves which they slept in. Apparently one was comfortable and warm and the other not, due to the ceiling being too thin.

While half the troop were at Mt Washington, the other half were at Royal Roads taking part in the annual Klondike Derby. There the youth re-enacted the hardships of the gold rush by pushing a cart with their supplies through the "Yukon." They visited challenge stations and earned points depending on how well they succeeded at the challenges. These

ranged from making shelters to cooking and riding a zip line through the woods. At each station they earned gold nuggets which they traded in for gold chocolate coins – a well-deserved treat for a hard day's work.

Other activities the youth have done include badminton, bowling, other sports, and doing some baking for Victoria's homeless.

If you would like to be involved in these and other fun activities, then please contact us at [14thjuandefuca@victoriascouts.ca](mailto:14thjuandefuca@victoriascouts.ca). It is never too late to join!

# BC Community Response Network Aims to Build Safer Communities

Dawn Boshcoff

The BC Association of Community Response Networks (BCCRN) works at the local community level with service providers, agencies and community related members, to build a coordinated community response to the abuse, neglect and self-neglect of vulnerable adults. Metchosin has one of 63 community response networks in the province that values inclusion and respect of the increasingly vulnerable aging population. The BC CRN provides a broad base of support to BC's 142 communities being served.

CRN members can be anyone in the community

including designated agencies, police, and organizations serving specific groups, faith communities, financial institutions, advocacy teams and concerned citizens. SIRC's coordinator facilitates the Westshore BC CRN activities and welcomes new local volunteer members. There is no cost to join the network and you can apply at SIRC.

The BC CRN shares a vision for "Safe communities where adults are valued and protected from abuse and neglect."

It's Not Right! (INR) is a program to educate community groups and individuals – friends, neighbours and family – about issues surrounding

the abuse, neglect and self neglect of vulnerable individuals. The information presented teaches bystanders to recognize and address these important issues, with small and practical steps.

Gatekeeper is designed to work in combination with INR, as a best practice for identifying abused adults and connecting them to critical community services. Gatekeeper has been adopted all over the world.

To learn more about It's Not Right! and Gatekeeper, call 250-478-5150, visit [www.bccrns.ca](http://www.bccrns.ca), or drop by SIRC to pick up a program brochure.



"Springtime" has a new coat. Parry Bay Sheep Farm helper Marty found an old wool blanket that was cut up to make covers for the bottle-fed lambs. Lorraine Buchanan photo

## RCMP Call-Outs MARCH 2017

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


- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Mar 1 <b>Happy Valley Road</b> – Road block conducted with CVSE targeting unsafe vehicles.                 | Mar 15 <b>Kangaroo Road</b> – Complaint of a possible impaired driver. Vehicle not located.              |
| Mar 4 <b>Metchosin Road</b> – Assisted BC Ambulance with gaining entry to residence for medical call.      | Mar 16 <b>Rocky Point Road</b> – Complaint of an erratic driver.   |
| Mar 5 <b>Metchosin Road</b> – Checked on the mental health of an individual acting strangely.              | Mar 17 <b>Metchosin Road</b> – Recovered stolen vehicle.   |
| Mar 6 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Assisted another police officer who got assaulted during a check wellbeing call. | Mar 18 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Complaint of an unwanted person at a residence. Police attended to mediate.   |
| Mar 7 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Attended to a single vehicle MVI with serious injuries.                          | Mar 22 <b>Witty's Lagoon</b> – Report of a hit and run in the parking lot.                               |
| Mar 8 <b>Lindholm Road</b> – Report of a single vehicle MVI that went off the road.                        | Mar 24 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Road block conducted.   |
| Mar 9 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Complaint of an erratic driver.  | Mar 25 <b>Park Drive</b> – Report of a noise complaint.  |
| Mar 10 <b>Kangaroo Road</b> – Report of a tree that had fallen across the road.                            | Mar 26 <b>Pedder Bay</b> – Report of theft from vehicles.  |
| Mar 11 <b>Taylor Road</b> – Report of underage drinkers at a party.  | Mar 27 <b>Circle Drive</b> – Report of a suspicious person in the area. Left prior to police attendance. |
| Mar 12 <b>Metchosin Road</b> – Report of a deer hit by a vehicle.  | Mar 28 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Complaint of a speeding vehicle.  |
| Mar 13 <b>Leefield Road</b> – Abandoned 911 call received from a cellphone. Dialed in error.               | Mar 29 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Complaint of an erratic driver.   |
| Mar 14 <b>Metchosin Road</b> – Report of a Break and Enter at a business.                                  | Mar 31 <b>Sooke Road</b> – Complaint of a vehicle driving too slow.                                      |
- MVI: Motor Vehicle Incident

## Fire Department Call-Outs MARCH 2017

Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Mar 5 <b>Tiswilde Road</b> – medical                                    | Mar 21 <b>Albert Head Road</b> – alarm bells/ commercial       |
| Mar 6 <b>Pears Road</b> – medical                                       | <b>Sandgate Road</b> – open burn/general                       |
| Mar 7 <b>Veitch Creek Bridge</b> – MVI                                  | Mar 22 <b>Leefield Road</b> – alarm bells/comm                 |
| <b>Veitch Creek Bridge</b> – assistance/ RCMP                           | Mar 23 <b>Duke Road</b> – medical                              |
| Mar 8 <b>Lindholm Road</b> – MVI  | Mar 24 <b>Gilbert Drive</b> – HAZMAT – unknown spill/leak      |
| <b>William Head Road</b> – medical                                      | <b>Sandgate Road</b> – open burn/general                       |
| Mar 9 <b>East Sooke Road</b> – open burn                                | Mar 25 <b>Kangaroo</b> – medical                               |
| Mar 10 <b>Beckingham Road</b>   | Mar 26 <b>Sooke River Road</b> – rescue – rope/ high/ confined |
| Mar 11 <b>Kangaroo Road</b> – medical                                   | Mar 28 <b>Sandgate Road</b> – open burn/general                |
| <b>Young Lake Road, Otter Point</b> – SFRes – smoke/ smell in structure | <b>Sooke Road</b> – MVI  |
| Mar 15 <b>Sooke Road</b> – open burn/general                            | Mar 29 <b>Kangaroo Road</b> – Hydro/tree on lines              |
| Mar 16 <b>Labonne Road</b> – open burn/general                          | <b>Kangaroo Road</b> – Hydro/fire                              |
| Mar 17 Beach fire   | Mar 30 <b>Matheson Lake Park Road</b> – medical                |
| <b>Sooke Road</b> – open burn/general                                   |  |
| <b>Sooke Road</b> – medical   |  |
| Mar 18 <b>Happy Valley Road</b> – open burn                             |  |
| <b>Arden Road</b> – medical   |  |
| Mar 19 <b>Beaton Road, Sooke</b> – SFRes – smoke/ smell in structure    |  |
| Beach fire  |  |
- HAZMAT: Hazardous Materials  
MVI: Motor Vehicle Incident  
SFRes: Structure Fire Residential  
SFComm: Structure Fire Commercial



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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.**

<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SERVICES</div> <p><b>COOKIES CRITTER CARE</b> – 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.</p>	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">WANTED</div> <p><b>COOKIES CRITTER CARE</b> is collecting beverage containers, dog food, leashes, collars and toys for animal rescue. Call Cookie @ 250-415-9335 for pickup.</p> <p><b>HOUSE</b> – small family looking to buy house/acreage/or land in Metchosin area. Please email rdddc2004@yahoo.ca or call 306-230-7793 and leave voice mail. Thank you and good day.</p>
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FOR SALE

**SPIRAL STAIRS** – Black iron 39-inch radius, 107 inches height floor to floor; \$500. Call 250-478-1036.

## Important Dates and Events

- Apr. 28 **Film Night at the Community House:**  
*Samuel in the Clouds* (2016, 80 minutes), 7:00 pm
- May 1 **All Candidates Meeting** ..... p. 1
- May 3 **Metchosin Garden Club Meeting:**  
**The Whole Nine Yards** ..... p. 9
- May 4 **Metchosin Museum Society AGM** ..... p. 6
- May 5 **Hans Helgesen Jump Rope for Heart** ..... p. 14
- May 5/6 **Talk and Walk: The Bees' Needs** ..... p. 3
- May 6 **Community Potluck** ..... p. 11
- May 7 **Metchosin Foundation AGM**..... p. 12  
**Cricket Match, Municipal Grounds** ..... p. 13
- May 9 **Provincial Election** ..... p. 1
- May 10 **Deadline for Local Producers Info** ..... p. 5
- May 12 **MCA House Concert: Knacker's Yard** ..... p. 11
- May 13 **Tractor Safety Course** ..... p. 7  
**Metchosin Garden Club Mothers' Day Plant Sale** ..... p. 9
- May 16 **Emergency Program Information Session:**  
**Emergency Preparation When You Live in the Forest** ..... p. 3  
**Robin Hopper Celebration of Life** ..... p. 3
- May 20-26 **Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale**  
donations accepted, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- May 23 **Cricket Match, Municipal Grounds** ..... p. 13
- May 27/28 **Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale** ..... p. 7, 11

For SIRC events, please see page 5.

For ongoing events at the Metchosin Community House, please see page 11.

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

Clip and save this listing!



Some are saying the *Metchosin Muse* is reaching the lofty realm of international publications like the *Guardian* and the *Journal of Irreproducible Results*. It's been seen being read in Taiwan, the Galapagos Islands, Linlithgow Scotland, the Lesser Antilles, Hong Kong, and Tibet.

This shot was taken on a beach in Hawaii. If you happen to catch someone reading the *Muse* in an interesting place (read: "If you happen to be going to an interesting place and can take a *Muse* with you ..."), we would love to print a picture if you submit one.

## Directory of Organizations

### AIR CADETS

[www.848royalroadsaircadets.com](http://www.848royalroadsaircadets.com)  
[www.facebook.com/848aircadets](http://www.facebook.com/848aircadets)  
250-590-3690  
848air@cadets.gc.ca

### ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC

250-382-2052,  
[www.alzheimerbc.org](http://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](mailto:ikmcken@islandnet.com),  
[www.bilstoncreek.org](http://www.bilstoncreek.org)

### 'CHOSIN CHATTERS TOASTMASTERS

[info@chosinchatters.org](mailto:info@chosinchatters.org),  
[www.chosinchatters.org](http://www.chosinchatters.org)

### CRD PARKS

250-478-3344,  
[crdparks@crd.bc.ca](mailto:crdparks@crd.bc.ca),  
[www.crd.bc.ca/parks](http://www.crd.bc.ca/parks)

### GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)

[tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca](mailto:tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca),  
250-478-5484

### LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA

250-727-4384

### METCHOSIN 4-H CLUB

[metchosin4h@gmail.com](mailto:metchosin4h@gmail.com),  
[www.metchosin4h.com](http://www.metchosin4h.com)

### METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE ASSOCIATION (MACCA)

[info@metchosinartcentre.ca](mailto:info@metchosinartcentre.ca)  
[www.metchosinartcentre.ca](http://www.metchosinartcentre.ca)

### METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE

250-478-5155,  
[mcahouse@telus.net](mailto:mcahouse@telus.net),  
[www.metchosincommunityhouse.com](http://www.metchosincommunityhouse.com)

### METCHOSIN COUNCIL

250-474-3167,  
[mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca),  
[www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings](http://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](mailto:tammyberry269@hotmail.com),  
[www.mesmetchosin.com](http://www.mesmetchosin.com)

### METCHOSIN FOUNDATION

[metchosinfoundation@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:metchosinpreschool@gmail.com),  
[www.metchosinpreschool.com](http://www.metchosinpreschool.com)

### METCHOSIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

[metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com)  
Facebook: Metchosin Farmers' Market

### METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE

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

### METCHOSIN SENIORS' INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)

250-478-5150, [msirc@shaw.ca](mailto:msirc@shaw.ca)  
[www.metchosinseiors.ca](http://www.metchosinseiors.ca)

### METCHOSIN SENIORS' ASSOCIATION (MSA)

250-478-5150, [msirc@shaw.ca](mailto:msirc@shaw.ca)  
[www.metchosinseiors.ca](http://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](http://www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org)

### NEIGHBOURHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMME (POD Leaders)

Kathleen Sutherland  
250-474-3966,  
[neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:programs@swanwickcentre.ca)  
[www.swanwickcentre.ca](http://www.swanwickcentre.ca)

### WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL

250-478-2286,  
[info@westshorearts.org](mailto:info@westshorearts.org),  
[www.westshorearts.org](http://www.westshorearts.org)

### WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND

250-474-3999

### WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION

250-478-8384,  
[www.westshorererecreation.ca](http://www.westshorererecreation.ca)

### WESTSHORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

U14.U16.manager@gmail.com,  
[www.westshorerfc.com](http://www.westshorerfc.com)

## CHURCHES

### BAHA'I FAITH

250-514-1757

### GORDON UNITED CHURCH

250-478-6632  
[www.gordonunitedchurch.ca](http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca)

### HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH

250-727-3722

### OPEN GATE CHURCH

250-590-6736  
[www.opengatechurch.ca](http://www.opengatechurch.ca)

### ST MARYS' METCHOSIN

Anglican Church of Canada  
250-474-4119  
[stmarysmetchosin.ca](http://stmarysmetchosin.ca)

### WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH

[www.westsidefamily.org](http://www.westsidefamily.org)  
250-478-8066

### WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY

250-474-5967  
[www.westsong.ca](http://www.westsong.ca)

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## Where Was It?

Congratulations to Ric Perron, who identified the location of the mystery items (Pioneer Museum) in the April issue of the *Muse*. We hope Ric enjoys his free coffee compliments of the Broken Paddle Coffee House. Watch next month for another "What Is It" from the *Muse* team!

sponsored by **The Broken Paddle Coffee House**  
4480 Happy Valley Road, Metchosin

The above listing is a directory of organizations only. Please submit changes by email to [mettmuse@shaw.ca](mailto:mettmuse@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.