



Metchosin Muse

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

A Very Close Call



The fire as seen from Parry Bay Sheep Farm, with the bird dog plane guiding the water bomber as it drops fire retardant. Lorraine Buchanan photo.

BRIAN DOMNEY AND
STEPHANIE DUNLOP

Earthquakes and tsunamis are often considered the big threats on the west coast, but for many residents of Metchosin, wildfire is the threat that causes the most concern. It's been a while since we had a serious one here but the fire on Mount Blinkhorn in early September should be a wakeup call to us all. In fact, this is reported as being the largest fire on South Vancouver Island since 2002. This fire was measured at six and a half hectares, in comparison

to the 2002 Sooke fire which reached ten hectares, and the Pedder Bay fire in 2003 of just over two hectares.

The fire started about noon on Friday, September 12. Fire crews from Metchosin were alerted to the incident and immediately requested mutual aid from Langford, Sooke and the BC Forest Service (BCFS). Over thirty firefighters from seven different fire departments, and three BCFS unit crews were involved in the response, as well as two helicopters and an air tanker/water bomber dropping fire retardant. It took four days to

fully extinguish the fire and crews remained on the mountain for an additional four days to watch for hot spots and ensure any underground fire did not re-establish itself.

A number of residences were potentially under threat, a tactical evacuation alert was hand delivered to the homes along the perimeter of the fire, but at no time was an evacuation order issued.

Chief Stephanie Dunlop says that this was a particularly challenging situation. "Fighting this fire was made more difficult due to rocky terrain, lack of water and

steep access. Tanker trucks were used to fill holding tanks positioned up the mountain, and over six and a half kilometres of hose was laid throughout the top of Mount Blinkhorn. Although the fire generally did not 'crown' into the canopy, approximately five trees became unstable and had to be removed, as the fire burned into their roots and decayed the supporting trunk portion. There are other trees on the mountain top that will require continual observation for danger tree indicators."

Several factors led to a successful conclusion to this potential disaster. Obviously, the commitment and competence of the firefighters involved played a major role, but their work would have been made much more challenging if there had been the typical high Metchosin winds.

Dunlop says "We do have a general area of origin and speculate the fire was started by human carelessness, but may never have an exact origin and cause. We were lucky this time. A timely response

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Important Dates (for ongoing events in Metchosin, check the back page for contact information of organizations)

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		Oct 17	Talk and Walk/Burial Cairns p. 3		

Metchosin Muse

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The 15th of each month. Please send copy as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text or RTF to: metmuse@shaw.ca. Typewritten or handwritten copy is acceptable if you have no access to a computer. Do not send PDF as it does not convert properly. Leave hard copies of articles not sent via email in the *Muse* box at the Metchosin Country Store or fax to 250-483-5352.

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

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

The *Muse* is delivered, free of charge, to every household in Metchosin. Additional copies are available at My-Chosen Café, Metchosin Country Store, the Community House, Happy Valley Store, The Broken Paddle Coffee Shop and Willow Wind Feed & Tack Store on Sooke Road. It is also available at the Juan de Fuca branch of the Victoria Public Library.

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Letters to the Editor

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

Thank You, Fire Fighters and Colleagues

As the homeowner nearest the Blinkhorn Mountain fire (200 feet at one point), please allow me to express my admiration for, and gratitude to, the firefighters, paramedics and forestry folk who attended the blaze and succeeded in containing it.

Both paid and volunteer staff worked around the clock to control the fire. Community members who provided food for those fighting the fire, as well as those who offered me a place to stay if needed, are much appreciated. We have a wonderfully caring community.

Having a humongous fire truck in the front yard for days and nights, and fire retardant dropped on the house, are interesting experiences. I will have red dots left by the retardant in various places for some time, to remind me of the experience.

Gratefully, J. McRee (Mac) Elrod

A Big Thank You to Many Friends

Saturday, September 13 I woke up feeling quite nervous. Knowing that I'd be speaking to a room full of friends and acquaintances I had a dose of stage fright. This is somewhat surprising for someone who earned his living lecturing to large groups of students. I needed not to have worried however because Valerie's Celebration of Life at the Community House turned out to be a powerful and moving experience that filled my heart with a degree of warmth and gratitude that I had never experienced.

The lion's share of this success was due to the organizing and coordinating efforts of Heather Showers, Betty Hildreth and Larry Hildreth. They rallied a group of volunteers that gave their time, effort and skills to make this the great afternoon it turned out to be.

The following list of names is by no means complete and I apologize in advance to those I miss: Barrett Fullerton, Linda Hemus, Brian Domney, Jean Kilburn, Wendy Turner, Frances Krusekopf, Nicole and Faro Lalonde, Jane Hammond, Larry Tremblay, Joannie Challenger, June Reimer, Susan Sheridan, Christel Kaiser and the seventeen mainlanders who took the ferry to honour their old colleague and friend.

Also the speakers Chris Pratt, David Hawley, Doug Cochran, Greg Lee and others.

I give a special thanks to those of you who donated nearly \$4500 to the Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund, which means the fund has an opening balance of \$9000.

Your various contributions made Valerie's Celebration the moving experience it turned out to be and I shall be forever grateful for giving me that experience.

THANK YOU.

Charles Priester

Witty Beach Access

My wife and I are retired and live along Metchosin Road between the Witty Beach access routes. As most know, the Witty Beach Road access was recently closed off leaving only the long and difficult route down past the lagoon to access the beach. This, in effect, closes the beach off to young families and any others with mobility issues.

This morning we hiked down to the beach past the lagoon and indeed we found the return route up the staircase to Witty's Beach Road blocked. It was quite obvious though that the barriers put up by the CRD at the base and at the top of the staircase had provided little deterrent to any able bodied beach user.

The reason given for closing this beach access is soil instability, which is obviously bogus as our ground at this time of year is dry and very stable. There may be a case to be made though for seasonal closures through the wet season. This is a very popular beach access and pressure is sure to only increase. It is certainly no great engineering challenge to put in a safe year around pedestrian access across this public right of way. As it currently stands the CRD has aggravated the situation by creating an attractive hazard putting up obstacles to using their existing staircase. Had they been serious the stairs should have been removed. Rather than spending all this time and money though on trying to stop us from accessing our beautiful beach, how about spending a little on trying to provide us with safe access.

Steve Lee

Letters continue on page 18.

Editor's Note: The following update was found on the CRD website:

Update on Stairs at Witty's Beach Regional Park

CRD REGIONAL PARKS

Aug 21, 2014

Victoria, BC – The stairs to the main beach at Witty's Lagoon Regional Park in Metchosin will be closed for the remainder of the year. Third-party engineering reports recommended closure of the stairs this spring because the hillside on which the stairs are built is unstable and natural erosion is occurring; as a result, the stairs are not safe to use by the public.

The Capital Regional District is engaging an engineering consulting firm to explore options to provide safe public access from Witty Beach Road to the foreshore. Until safe access is provided, the CRD has a public responsibility to keep the stairs closed from public use.

Visitors can still access the beach from the main parking lot off Metchosin Road, via a 1.2 km moderate beach trail through the forest.

The CRD understands that the main trail to the beach is not easy for all park visitors. Within the park Tower Point, off Olympic View Drive, offers excellent picnic areas and ocean views via a 500m flat footpath.

For further information please contact:

Laurie Sthamann, Communications Coordinator
CRD Regional Parks
Tel: 250.360.3332 | Cell: 250.889.8030

On the web at www.district.metchosin.bc.ca under Community.

Muse Photos

Most of the photos in the *Muse* are taken by Roger St. Pierre or Peter Lewis (who also handles our advertising). They do this for us on a volunteer basis, and we think you will agree that their expertise has added greatly to the appearance of our newspaper. If you wish to order copies of any of these photos, please go to their respective websites for details on how to order:

Peter M. Lewis - www.intothelightimages.com
Roger St. Pierre - jazzcats@magma.ca

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Allis Pakki Chipps-Sawyer

January 28, 1946–August 23, 2014

MORALEA MILNE

Pakki, as she was known to all (and whose name translates to butterfly), was a woman with a depth of life experiences that were belied by her kind and quiet manner.

Born in Aarhus, Denmark in 1946 to her artist mother, Axe Petersen, and Knud Rasmussen, and granddaughter of the famous Knud Rasmussen (the first person to transverse Greenland by dogsled), Pakki immigrated to Toronto with her mother at the age of ten. In 1977 she traveled west and began a long association with Beecher Bay and the Chipps family.

By 1985 she had completed her BA from the University of Victoria and her MA in linguistics from York University, was the mother to two children, Casey and Weyla, and had begun her thirty-plus year relationship with Henry (Hank) Chipps.

Pakki had an acute case of itchy feet, supplemented with boundless curiosity, and she and her daughter Weyla would spend many years traveling about North America and Mexico, Pakki selling her art to finance their journeys, while car-schooling Weyla. During this time she would tell stories to her daughter, stories that eventually became a charming and thoughtful children's book, *Doll House*, which can be found online.

Since early childhood, Pakki wanted to be a part of First Nations' culture and she realised that aspiration, becoming a vital component of the Beecher Bay community. Pakki first learned about traditional culture and historical uses of plants through the teachings of her father-in-law, Gillette Chipps. Her deep love and respect for First Nations would guide the choices she made, and she devoted much of her working life and her considerable artistic talents to maintaining the heritage and language of her adopted people. Nature was an integral part of Pakki's life and art, and she produced many beautiful paintings that integrated her passions for First Nations and nature.

Pakki's career path was not particularly well remunerated but in reading her own words, it was wonderfully varied and full. "I have worked in many, many jobs – mostly low-paying jobs because I valued doing work I enjoyed and could give myself to wholeheartedly. I started and ran a coffee

house with three friends in Montreal (Le Baril, on Rue de la Montagne); started and ran a restaurant in Toronto (Deja Vu); started and worked in several unique youth clubs in Denmark; worked in tobacco fields; started and ran two free clinics (Rochdale Free Clinic and Hassle Free Clinic); worked in the Bohemian Embassy (an awesome coffee house); worked cutting herring fillets; worked as a bookkeeper for many companies, including freelancing; and much more," all this before her many years working at the Beecher Bay Tribal Learning Centre (1993–2005). At her memorial service on August 26, Chief Russ Chipps spoke of the immense contribution that Pakki made to their community through her utmost commitment to the education and well being of the children and people of Beecher Bay. No request for assistance in learning was ever turned away and the graduation rate from high school increased manifold under her tutelage.

Pakki was fluent in English and Danish and also spoke Nitinaht, Lushootseed, Romany (Gypsy), and a little bit of Greenlandic. Not content with teaching, Pakki completed her Ph.D. in Education (Curriculum and Instruction) and Environmental Studies in 2007 from UVic. After many years working on her degree, her feet and soul became hungry for new experiences and from 2008–2010 she took up a teaching position in Maniitsoq, Greenland, a country and people that captured her heart. She brought a number of students back to Canada for a month-long camping trip that stretched from Beecher Bay to Ucluelet, looking at sustainable seafood harvesting.

When Pakki was diagnosed with cancer, she identified three priorities that she would like to accomplish. One was a road trip with her daughter and granddaughter and they managed a last heartwarming journey together to Tofino. Another wish was to complete her latest painting, a beautiful and detailed work titled *Kako, Kako, Kako* (Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You) and finally, Pakki wished to leave her friends, family and community with a gift of her knowledge in the form of a book that she wrote, a primer on her First Nation's cultural and ethnobotanical knowledge. A case of the



I have left memories everywhere
I have collected memories everywhere
I have cherished the plants the sky
I have given life always wondering
until I sit here with you
peace filling my heart
until I sit here with you
the moment eternal
in love

By Pakki, July, 2014

books was delivered to her bed at the hospice, where she was able to experience the joy of knowing her dreams were complete.

Pakki had a generous spirit, although she could be fierce in her advocacy for First Nations' culture. You never visited her home without the offer of some refreshments and to partake of the simmering pot of stew or soup that seemed to eternally grace her stove. In some of our last emails she expressed how much fun she was having, enjoying "every incredible day." Her spirit remained strong, kind, and thoughtful.

Allis Pakki Chipps-Sawyer is predeceased by her beloved mother, Axe Petersen, and survived by her brother Steen Djervad and sister Lisbet Petersen, both living in Denmark, her daughter Weyla, much loved son-in-law Joshua Roy, son Casey, six grandchildren, Tarah, Jake, Alex, Cody, Payne and Laughlin, and her life partner, Henry. For many years, and countless times, Henry had asked Pakki to marry him and she had steadfastly refused. On August 13, Pakki relented and said yes.

TALK AND WALK

Fall 2014

Unless otherwise stated, all Talks begin at 7:00 pm at the Metchosin Municipal Hall, 4450 Happy Valley Road (behind the fire hall). Most Walks will convene at the municipal grounds at 10:00 am on the Saturday morning.

BURIAL CAIRNS – Friday October 17

The newly minted Dr Darcy Mathews will update us on his research into the subject of his PhD "Funerary Ritual, Ancestral Presence, and the Rocky Point Ways of Death." Darcy has kept us informed of his research into the burial cairns of Metchosin over the years, being a Talk and Walk presenter in both 2007 and 2010.

SECOND ANNUAL MYCOBLITZ – Friday November 7 and Saturday November 8

Britt A. Bunyard, PhD, the publisher and editor-in-chief of *FUNGI* magazine, will be leaving his home in Wisconsin to visit us and shed some light on the fascinating and slightly mysterious world of fungi.

The Agony and The Ecstasy, or Waiter, there's a fly agaric in my soup... and I love it! This talk, for general audiences with no prior scientific knowledge needed, will present a number of fungi common to our daily lives ... some less common and many bizarre. Some edible, some poisonous, all very intriguing.

Last year at our wildly successful first annual Myco-Blitz we were able to count approximately 200 species of fungi. Please join us again this year as we attempt to add new species to this already impressive list.

Contact moraleamilne@gmail.com for more information.



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Valerie Cochran – A Celebration of Life

BRIAN DOMNEY



The Metchosin Community House was overflowing with people attending the Celebration of Life for Valerie Ann Cochran on Saturday, September 13. Friends, former colleagues and family members came to celebrate the life of a remarkable woman, and to support her husband Charles Priester.

With Larry Hildreth as master of ceremonies, people spoke of the contributions Valerie made to Metchosin – she and Charles were very involved with Pearson College; she was a volunteer cook at the Fire Hall; she was very involved with the Metchosin Community Association; and perhaps her greatest love of all – working with the volunteers of the Metchosin *Muse*.

Former colleagues came from the mainland – a past President of Capilano

College/University, along with fellow faculty members; co-workers from when she was a legal secretary; sailing friends. A testament to the range of her influence came when a message was read from Beverly McLachlin, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, who was instrumental in getting Valerie to enter law school.

Valerie's brother Doug, also a lawyer, spoke of the role Valerie played in their family, and Chris Pratt encouraged people to consider contributing to the Valerie Cochran Memorial Trust Fund administered by the Metchosin Foundation.

One of the most poignant moments happened when three Pearson students spoke of the impact Valerie had had



Pearson College students speaking of the impact Valerie had on their lives.



Charles Priester speaking at the Celebration of Life for his wife.

on them, and when David Hawley read messages from former students from around the world about her influence on them.

The formal part of the afternoon ended with a playing of the "Mull of Kintyre" by Paul McCartney and the Campbelltown Pipe Band, a favourite of Valerie's that reminded her of the wonderful time she spent there with the love of her life, Charles.

The Celebration wound up in a way Valerie would have approved – informal conversation over a wonderful spread of delightful appetizers.

The Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund

Lester Pearson College of the Pacific and The Metchosin Foundation are pleased to announce the establishment of the Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund. The Fund has been established by Valerie's husband, Charles Priester, in memory of Valerie Cochran, to provide emergency loans to students of Lester Pearson College of the Pacific who encounter financial difficulty when an unanticipated crisis arises. The Fund will be administered by a board, and the Metchosin Foundation has agreed to be the Trustee for the Fund. Charles has committed to matching all contributions to a maximum of \$25,000.

The Metchosin Foundation is a registered charity, and will issue tax receipts on request. For more information, contact Lester Pearson College of the Pacific at 250-391-2411 or email the Metchosin Foundation at metchosinfoundation@gmail.com (no space in email address).

Know an interesting resident of Metchosin? Submit a story about them to the *Muse*!



Please consider voting for

ANDY MACKINNON
as Metchosin Councillor

in November's municipal elections.

Andy is a long-time Metchosin resident with plenty of volunteer experience in the community. He looks forward to aging gracefully in a lean, green Metchosin.

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COUNCIL NEWS

OCTOBER 2014

MUNICIPAL ELECTION – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

Vote for mayor, councillors and school trustees on Saturday, November 15 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the COMMUNITY HALL.

Advance Voting Opportunities – November 5 and November 12
Electors are welcome to vote in advance on Wednesday, November 5 and Wednesday, November 12 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the MUNICIPAL HALL (behind the Fire Hall).

Not on the voters list? You may be able to register to vote at the voting place.
Bring two pieces of identification that provide evidence of your identity and place of residence. Picture ID is not required, but one piece of ID must have your signature. For elector qualifications see www.metchosin.ca or call the Municipal Hall.

Do you need assistance voting?
If you have mobility difficulties and are unable to enter the voting place, election officials can attend to you in your vehicle. If you have difficulty marking a ballot, you may be assisted by an election official or someone accompanying you.

METCHOSIN HALLOWE'EN AT THE FIRE HALL

The Metchosin Volunteer Firefighter's Society and the District of Metchosin welcome everyone to the annual Hallowe'en party at the Fire Hall on Hallowe'en night. Doors open at 6:00 pm with a haunted house for the brave of heart from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Hallowe'en costume contest at 7:00 pm, free hot dogs and juice, a huge bonfire and of course fireworks around 8:30 pm! For more information check out www.metchosin.ca or call the Fire Department at 250-478-1307.

HALLOWE'EN FIREWORKS AND YOUR LIVESTOCK

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

For more information, contact the Metchosin Municipal Hall.

Metchosin Municipal Hall | www.metchosin.ca | 250-474-3167 | info@metchosin.ca

Metchosin Foundation Upcoming Events

HALLOWE'EN DANCE – Saturday, October 25 at 8:00 pm

Mark your calendars for this annual event at the Metchosin Community Hall, featuring the foot stomping music of the popular local band Fine Spirits. Some of the costumes in past years have been truly stellar, and we expect this year to be no different. The theme is Prom Queens and Greasers, but anything goes on Hallowe'en!

Please come, bring your friends and enjoy this fun community event, the Metchosin Foundation's main fundraiser for the year. Tickets (\$20) can be purchased at the Broken Paddle and The Metchosin Country Store after October 1.

APPLE-BEE FEST – Sunday, October 5

Join us at the Metchosin Community House from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm for this annual celebration. Last year hundreds of people joined us. The festival highlights everything to do with our local apples, including identifying, tasting, pressing, saucing, baking, and of course, for the kids, apple hurling.

This year will be the "bees knees" as beekeeper Derek Wulff will be featuring his honey bees and Bob Mitchell will present Power Point slides about bees and the unique extras that come with them, such as beeswax soaps and exotic hive extracts. Bring the family and join us for this Metchosin Foundation "foodie-fundraiser."

WILLS AND ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

Many Metchosinites have questions about topics such as financial planning, powers of attorney and representation agreements. The Foundation will sponsor a free seminar during the week of November 10 at which legal experts from the firm MacIsaac and MacIsaac will do a presentation and field your questions. Watch the next *Muse* for details of time and place.

For further information about Metchosin Foundation activities, please see our website at metchosinfoundation.ca or e-mail us at metchosinfoundation@gmail.com (no space in email address).

The 20th Annual Bite-Me! Fishing Derby

HEATHER JOHNSON

The 2014 Bite-Me Fishing Derby President, Richard Jones, presented a cheque for \$10,000 to Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society President, Robert Gamache on Tuesday, Sept 23. The Bite-Me Fishing Derby, this year sponsored by Alpine Marine, celebrated their twentieth anniversary. A total of more than \$143,000 has been raised by this small derby in the last twenty years and the net proceeds have been donated for local salmon conservation to ensure the continued future of sport fishing. The hatchery raises and releases many thousands of salmon into local spawning streams from where they migrate into the Strait of Juan de Fuca and then to the open Pacific Ocean. They return to spawn in local waters, thus ensuring the survival of a most precious asset – wild Pacific Salmon!

As well as supporting local salmon conservation, this year the Derby, with contributions from some generous Victorians, provided automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) to five local marinas including Pedder Bay. This was the brain child of Ted Lidster, Bite-Me Derby committee member. Having been shocked back to life with a defibrillator in January of 2013, Ted knows firsthand how effective AEDs are for the victims of cardiac arrest, but he also knows



Bite Me Derby Chairman Richard Jones presenting Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society President, Robert Gamache with a cheque for \$10,000 for local salmon conservation.

that if his attack had happened on his boat at Pedder Bay his chance of survival would have been slim.

The Derby continues to support their local community by processing the top three winning fish and donating it to the West Shore Food Bank to help fill the Christmas hampers. Linda and Bryan Mooney, owners of the E-Fish-Ent Fish Company Ltd, have generously donated their time to process the salmon.

When the fishing is done everyone on the committee looks forward to organizing and driving the hay wagons for Metchosin Day.

The Apple-Bee Festival

The mostly annual Metchosin Apple Festival – now including honey bees and their offerings!

DEREK WULFF

This year along with great apple activities such as making your own apple pie, candy apples and apple cider, we've added the excitement of those striped rascals – honey bees (and that elixir of life – honey!) with many interesting activities such as extracting honey, a demonstration hive and information on beekeeping. There are hands-on activities such as making your own honey-based facial scrub, beeswax-based body bar, and a mead-making demonstration!

There will be vendors selling apples by the bushel, apple trees and cider, as well as honey, and beeswax and honey products, but the classic activities of hurling apples with catapults and trebuchets, tasting fresh apple juice, apple sauce and dried apples will also be celebrated. There will also be an apple baked tea, with music by Sophia Higgins!

So bring the family and enjoy a few hours at our beautiful Community House, celebrating the best of what

Metchosin has to offer – natural organic apples, and local honey. You can take home a pie, learn some cool things and enjoy rural Metchosin at its finest!

Sunday October 5, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Community House. Sponsored by the Metchosin Foundation and the Metchosin Pomological Association – and your local Metchosin Bee Rodeo group.

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Metchosin Garden Club Welcomes Linda Gilkeson

JUDITH VAN MANEN

We are very fortunate to feature Linda Gilkeson as our guest speaker on October 14, 2014. Linda is an entomologist, author, instructor in the Master Gardener programs in BC, and a popular gardening speaker. Her recent book, *Backyard Bounty: The Complete Guide to Year-Round Organic Gardening in the Pacific Northwest*, has become a BC best seller.

In her presentation, "Feeding Your Organic Garden: Compost, Fertilizers, and Soil Preparation," Linda will discuss the nutritional needs of plants, easy composting, amendments worth buying, and soil pH.

We will all be interested in Linda's suggestions on how to prepare soil for a successful garden without backbreaking work!

Did you know that Metchosin Garden Club is thirty-three years old? We are looking for new members, and welcome you to attend. Regular meetings are held from 7:30-9:00 pm on the second Tuesday of the month (February to June, and September to November) in St. Mary's Anglican Church, 4125 Metchosin Road, across from the Metchosin Golf Course.

Our monthly meetings include knowledgeable and eloquent speakers who stir us with enthusiasm and helpful ideas for gardening challenges. Annual membership is \$10. Please contact the following members for more information:

Dorothy King, MGC Program Coordinator
778-679-3994, email: kking@telus.net

Suze Bowen, MGC President
250-298-7877, email: suzebowen@shaw.ca

Please join us at our October meeting and check out what you are missing; and please circle these dates on your calendar:

- November 11, 2014: Rachelle McElroy, Director of Coastal Invasive Species – "Grow Me Instead"
- February 10, 2015: Jeff de Jong, "Plants We Love" (Valentine's Day theme)
- March 10, 2015: Deborah Walker, CRD, "Tap Into Sustainability"



Lynda's Lore

WITH LYNDA DOWLING

What's next? Garden Math 102 in your garden!

Christmas, Easter ... Metchosin Day! Seasonal markers for you and me. As I write on the eve of the Autumn Solstice in our current endless lazy summer, motivation only kicks in as temperatures cool to renew our busy-ness energy. Part Squirrel the hoarder, part Grasshopper the story teller ... only real rain will penetrate our day-to-day gardening and change us into true fall action mode.

A fun project right now is treasure hunting in the squash and pumpkin patch! You never really know what you will find between those flagging mildew elephant-ear leaves ... At Metchosin Day, my red ribbon "Howden" pumpkin (West Coast seeds) was still green, a lovely Halloween orange now, a beauty weighing in at forty-seven pounds with a "waist" of forty-seven inches. It was one of seven pumpkins from one plant on my compost pile. My friend Stan Fry is still hesitant to pick his ginormous pumpkins as yet in case they can get even bigger! His definitely deserve an honorary Blue ribbon: grown on a six-foot pile of horse manure! Weights yet to be determined – if he can move them.

Basil, dear basil, the ultimate taste of summer is my first indicator of seasonal changes. As night time temperatures drop below 10°C so do basil's temperature-sensitive bottom leaves. Some years my first frost in the valley came as early as September 12 and I awoke to dramatically blackened basil plants top to bottom overnight. At one time, I used to hoop and cover even with bed sheets overnight to extend their life, faithfully uncovering mid-morning; in some ways it was a relief from this circus act when they were dead ... What was I thinking!

So during late August I have learned to start harvesting heavily and freezing Ziploc pouches of simply whizzed fresh basil with a dash of lemon juice and enough grapeseed or olive oil to roughly turn into an herbal paste to freeze – "pesto" simply meaning an herbal paste or puree.... There is no season on availability of fresh garlic, parmesan cheese or nuts to turn thawed basil packs into basil pesto and less expensive to do it on demand rather than all now. I do one special complete pesto container marked December 25 for that elusive taste of summer. The bonus – in extended summer years, I have seemingly endless basil to freeze, dehydrate and get bored of pesto! In 2013, frosts did not arrive

until late October ... so get plucking your last basil.

Next – seed collecting before the rains really set in with molds and mildews. This is where Garden Math 102 begins as does your abundance to share, swap and plant for next year's garden.

I find little brown paper lunch bags useful, labeling with a felt tip pen as I collect. Many of my flower plants have run out of energy early and have gone to seed, allowing even more varieties to collect this year! I set the little bags on a dry table in my greenhouse, open ended, shaking them from time to time to help air circulation and the drying process. Do try to pick your seed heads on a dry day. If you must collect in the rain, pre-dry on a tray or in an open shallow container in your house before bagging. On a miserable November day I happily sift, sort and place in finished labeled small paper or cello envelopes.

Label your dahlias, especially by colour, leaving them until a "killing frost" before cutting back, lifting, drying and dividing. Here frost is your friend, signalling your dahlias to stop and hibernate! I do not have the luxury of leaving my dahlia tubers in the ground for winter as my water table rises and they will rot. Instead I tuck them in old potting soil in five gallon plastic pots, labelled, under my greenhouse middle benches where they keep frost free.

The last chance to trim your lavenders to keep them short, fat and tidy, as well as sturdy for any heavy wet winter snows is here. This care really does extend their life. If you were faithful in harvesting or trimming your lavender bushes in August, look for healthy new three or four

inch shoots and try your hand at propagating new lavender plants! Take a clean cutting or a "heel" cutting if there are side shoots; place in a shallow tray or plug style insert filled with a mix of sandy based soil or fresh Sunshine Mix. Keep out of strong sunlight and do not over water. No fertilizer – you want a diet of just "bread and water" to force new rootlets. You will be able to tell if they have taken by new growth at the crown. Let them thicken up before transplanting into the next size or separate containers. This job can even wait until next February as they will not truly get a growth spurt as temperatures consistently decline. Do not take them into your house. They are tougher than you think and can happily remain in a coldframe or cold greenhouse through the worst of winter and out of too much wet.

Now the big jobs – shuffling plants, shrubs, or small trees. "Warn" larger shrubbery by cutting in the root zone about a foot or two away from the main stems or trunk now, then lift when the rains come. Water well if your garden is deeply dry before moving any sized plant AND pre-water the planting hole where you plan it to go to reduce transplant shock. And yes, do it now before freezing weather, mud and rain... or the procrastination list! I procrastinated about dividing the rhubarb last fall and it is now on a priority list because the morning glory that just was tips last fall ... is now a rampant jungle. *Grrrrrrr.*

Most of all keep Mr. Grasshopper close, to keep all of this summer's pleasures in your heart and head as Mr. Squirrel runs around getting ready for winter!



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You Want Me to Do What?

DAWNE KIRWAN AND STEPHANIE DUNLOP

Evacuate.

In the event of imminent or actual threat to your safety and life, and the safety and life of your family, you may be asked to leave your home.

Evacuation is the removal of people from an area of imminent or actual threat of emergency or disaster. Depending on the nature and scope of the event, an evacuation may be limited to a single roadway or home or it may affect an entire neighbourhood.

The following events are some of the potential hazards, which could present a risk and lead to an emergency or disaster in the District of Metchosin:

- severe windstorm
- earthquake / tsunami
- hazardous materials spill
- snow / ice storm with power outage
- heavy rain, flooding
- rupture of vessel or piping containing propane, natural gas or other volatile materials under pressure
- forest fire / wildfires

In the case that one of the above events becomes a reality for Metchosin, a notice of evacuation will likely occur in two stages, if time permits.

Stage one – an Evacuation Alert is initiated when the situation may necessitate the need to evacuate within a certain perimeter until the initial situation is contained. It allows for the affected population to begin an orderly preparation to leave the affected area while being informed of the hazard.

Stage two – an Evacuation Order is issued when you must leave the area now – you have been ordered to leave the area. There is no discretion on the part of the population. An order like this usually involves an area on a large scale and possibly for a long period of time.

If an Evacuation Order is issued, a State of Local Emergency has been declared by the Mayor or Designate. If your home receives an Evacuation Order, you should:

- Stay calm.
- Gather your family; take a neighbour or someone who needs help;
- Take critical items (medications, purses, wallets, eyeglasses, keys etc);
- Turn off lights, heaters, gas and stove;
- Close all doors, windows and vents;
- Close gates and latches, but do not lock;
- Do not use more vehicles than absolutely necessary;
- Do not use the telephone unless emergency services are required;
- Go immediately to the Reception Centre listed on the Order;
- If you require transportation, call the Emergency Operations Centre at 250-474-3167.
- Do not drive to your child's school. Pick up your child from the authorities at the evacuation location that will be identified.

Even though an evacuation is mandatory, there may be those who will refuse to evacuate. In fact, there are a number of variables

that determine one's needs or desire to evacuate as ordered. It can be assumed that:

- spontaneous evacuation will occur when there is sufficient warning of the threat. Between five and twenty per cent of the people at risk will self-evacuate before being directed to do so;
- some people will refuse to evacuate, regardless of the threat;
- some individuals will require transportation support to evacuate;
- some owners of animals will refuse to evacuate unless arrangements have been made to care for their animals;
- many evacuees will seek shelter with relatives, friends or motels;
- designated evacuation routes may be required to safely evacuate people;
- day of week and time of day may determine if families will be home or at work/school; and
- many hazards provide a warning period, which allows for a planned evacuation and re-entry.

Evacuation Orders will be in written and verbal (radio) formats.

SAMPLE SAMPLE SAMPLE

EVACUATION ORDER ISSUED Date

An **Evacuation Order** has been issued by the District Of Metchosin due to immediate danger to **life safety** due to (event description).

Members of the Metchosin Emergency Program will be expediting this action.

The **Evacuation Order** is in effect for the following areas:

(Roads / Neighbourhoods listed)

(Include map of evacuation area and evacuation route)

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

YOU MUST LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY!

Follow the travel route provided and register at

Reception Centre: (location name)

- If you need transportation assistance from the area please advise the individual providing this notice or call as directed;
- close all windows and doors;
- shut off all gas and electrical appliances, other than refrigerators and freezers;
- close gates (latch) but do not lock; and
- gather your family and take a neighbour or someone who needs help.

Would You Have Been Ready?

BRIAN DOMNEY

There were a lot of people living in the smoky downwind side of the Blinkhorn fire who spent a nervous couple of days wondering how the effort to contain and then extinguish the fire on the mountain was going. Some prepared for the possibility of an Evacuation Order.

The reality is, if the wind had been stronger, and if the fire had crowned into the trees, it would not have been a couple of days to worry and prepare – it could have been minutes. So why not use the event as a reminder

– if you had, let's say for this purpose – thirty minutes (and for people on the western end of Lindholm, mid-Kangaroo Road and lower Barrow, that might be generous), what would you be able to accomplish in that time?

What if there was a knock on your door as you read this, and a member of the Metchosin Emergency Program, most likely a member of the Search and Rescue group, were standing there telling you an Evacuation Order has been issued for your neighbourhood, and

you have thirty minutes to evacuate? What would be important to you? Could you walk away from your home with a credit card and a toothbrush, or would you need to do more? Pack a bag with clothes and personal things? Toiletries, and medications? Would you want to make arrangements to move your pets? Ensure important documents and heirlooms are packed and ready to go with you? It's probably worth thinking about in advance.

Just saying ...

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Richard Blanshard

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continued from page 1

and low winds prevented a disaster.”

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was activated at approximately 5:00 pm on Friday, and fully staffed by volunteers. The EOC functioned to support the emergency responders with tasks such as securing trail access to Blinkhorn for public safety, manning the EOC to answer public inquiries through the night, feeding responder crews and ensure the public evacuation alerts were hand delivered to the affected residences.

Chief Dunlop has expressed appreciation for the assistance received from the community. “On behalf of the Metchosin Fire Department firefighters – we would like to thank all the residents for your show of support – the cookies and treats were spectacular and truly appreciated.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the volunteers who supported us by making meals – there was not a moment went by that we didn’t have enough food.”

If winds had been stronger and the fire had crowned, this could have been disastrous. As Chief Dunlop explains “The dangers of a wildfire fire are two-fold – the first is the obvious threat of direct fire growing into interface and residential areas. Typically fire breaks, retardant drops along with direct water application will assist in controlling this hazard. The second, and more difficult threat to control, is the danger of flying embers landing on rooftops and tree canopies thereby starting multiple spot fires. Metchosin was very fortunate this fire was a crawling ground fire and did not give off a large amount of these embers.”

Stephanie hopes this close call will serve to motivate residents to be prepared in the future. “Take action now to prepare your family, home and property for any future fire events – learn how to FireSmart your home, and make sure you have a ‘Grab & Go’ kit in the event you are evacuated. Know the resources within our community and where to go for information. Sign up for our Emergency Notification email and phone contact list, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Additional Emergency Preparedness links and resources can be found on our website: metchosinemergencyprogram.ca or by calling the Emergency Program at 250-478-1307.”

Metchosin is grateful for the hard work of its volunteer firefighters, supported by neighbouring crews and the BC Forest Service.



A helicopter dumps water on Mount Blinkhorn; Race Rocks is visible at top left. Photo by Jacob Mellish.



The Firehouse Cooks – Avril Joaquim, Moralea Milne, Wendy Mitchell, and Barb Sawatsky – pause for a photo during the Mount Blinkhorn fire.



Helicopter refilling its bucket from the pond at Parry Bay Sheep Farm. The sheep, unimpressed, hightailed it to the far end of the field. Lorraine Buchanan photo.



More fire crew arriving to work from the ground. Lorraine Buchanan photo.



The view was good, but for many, the fire was a little too close to home. Lorraine Buchanan photo.

The *Muse* received many very good photographs of the Blinkhorn Fire event, and regrets not being able to carry them all. Please continue to send us articles and photos of things of interest to Metchosinites – we’ll run them if we can!

METCHOSIN DAY AWARDS



Mayor John Ranns with Citizen of the Year Jason Humphries.

Metchosin Day 2014

Metchosin Day is the day people come together to celebrate what this place is, to see old friends, to recognize excellence, whether the ability to grow a perfect head of garlic, to bake an excellent pie, to capture a special image with a camera, or to give extraordinary service to our community, and to just have fun.

This year's Metchosin Day was, of course no exception to that tradition, but there seems to be another element establishing itself a bit more – the participation and attendance by people from outside Metchosin. West Shore folks are always here, Greater Victoria seems to be discovering our day more, but this year there seemed to be more people from much farther afield. Vancouver, the Okanagan and even Washington State were represented in the crowds. Alberta license plates were seen in the parking area.

Perhaps the delay in the start-up of the school year contributed to this, but it

would be nice to think that maybe more people are coming to realize that there is much to be envied in our quiet, pastoral, green existence that is becoming more and more difficult to find, particularly if you live near a large urban centre.

They've done it again! Thanks to Mary Gidney and the Metchosin Day Committee for another great Metchosin Day.

2014 Citizen of the Year

PRESENTED BY MAYOR JOHN RANNS

Captain Jason Humphries has been a member of Metchosin Volunteer Fire Department for eleven years. Jason has distinguished himself, not only for ranking first in the number of calls responded to, but as a mentor to new recruits. He is an equipment specialist in the department, as well as a member of the Rope Rescue Team and the Auto Extraction Team. He has been



Councillor Gramigna presents the "Geeks" with Youth Group of the Year Award.

recognized as Firefighter of the Year twice.

His commitment to his team and to his community is exemplary and it is an honour to recognize Jason Humphries as Metchosin's 2014 Citizen of the Year.

Youth Group of the Year

PRESENTED BY MORALEA MILNE

The Geeks and Geezers program came about as a result of the awarding of a New Horizons federal government grant to SIRC. The program began in July of 2013. The Seniors Information and Resource Centre was most fortunate to have connected with six "geeks" who have shared their knowledge with many members of the community.

They have faithfully been available the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month and the first and third Wednesday of every month from July 2013 to June 2014.

These young "teachers" have patiently navigated any who attend the sessions, on an individual basis, as they worked their way through becoming more familiar with technology. The "toys" they work with are computers,

both PC and Mac, iPads, smart phones, digital cameras, and tablets, among other things.

Their communication and connectedness to our seniors has been extraordinary.

Mariah Kivari, Abbey Christ-Rowling, Liam Donaldson, Daylin Cooper and Dawson Tindale – you make we seniors confident that we are in good hands, now and in the future.

Metchosin Search and Rescue – Volunteer Group of the Year

PRESENTED BY COUNCILLOR LARRY TREMBLAY

Metchosin Search and Rescue was formed in 1989 by a group of local volunteers and Pearson College. For

twenty-five years, the volunteer members of this organization have been on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and in all kinds of weather.

Initially responsible only for Metchosin, now its areas of responsibility include the West Shore, View Royal, Victoria, Oak Bay and Esquimalt. In addition, Metchosin Search and Rescue is called out on mutual aid searches to help other SAR groups throughout the Island and even, from time to time, on the mainland.

Metchosin Search and Rescue gets called out to look for lost hikers, elderly people at risk, despondent people, lost children, and people in need of medical evacuation. In addition it plays a key role in supporting the Metchosin Emergency Program in local emergencies such as evacuations and notifications and assists police investigations by undertaking evidence searches.

In recent years, the group has averaged about twenty callouts per year. Currently the group comprises around



Jack Buchanan accepting the Volunteer Group of the Year Award on behalf of Metchosin Search and Rescue.



Bev Hall, Metchosin's Friend of the Earth, 2014. Photo supplied.



Chris Pratt accepting Bev Hall's award on her behalf.

Photos in this section by Brian Domney unless otherwise noted.

METCHOSIN DAY AWARDS



Best Farm Basket, by Sea Bluff Farm.

twenty-five members, almost all of whom reside in Metchosin.

Members are certified by the Province after completing a seventy-hour training program. As well, they are committed to about five hours of training per month on top of the time volunteered for searches. It is estimated that, as a group, Metchosin Search and Rescue gives 1325 person hours to training and more than 1000 person hours to actual searches each year.

Bev Hall – Metchosin’s Friend of the Earth

MORALEA MILNE

The District of Metchosin, lying within one of the most rare and arguably beautiful ecosystems within Canada, has for many years honoured a Metchosin resident with the Friend of the Earth Award, for their contributions to environmental protection, stewardship, sustainability and commitment.

This year, Metchosin honours Bev Hall for her years of contribution to the Metchosin Environmental Advisory Select Committee (MEASC).

As a member of MEASC, Bev has been intimately involved with the preparation of the District’s Sustainability Report, the Ecological Values of Potential Parklands in Metchosin Report and, more recently, the Shoreline Report and brochure. In each of these she has spent innumerable hours and days that stretched to months in researching, editing, photographing, laying out and all the other tasks that go into preparing major research reports. Bev has been the foundation and workhorse of the teams that created these important documents.

Bev has expressed her love of Metchosin’s rural character in many ways. She is a superb photographer who has been extremely generous in donating her photos of Metchosin, which have found their way into many documents – the Metchosin Biodiversity Project, the District website, and the Metchosin Green Map.

Whether it’s taking notes for meetings, photographing Metchosin and spreading the beauty of Metchosin around the world, or exercising her joy of paragliding, Bev has shown and practiced her commitment to protecting Metchosin’s environment.

Recently Bev helped Chris Pratt create a book of his recent journey on the Great Silk Road and Chris graciously



Metchosin Day visitors admiring the bumper crop of local produce in this year’s contest.

volunteered to accept the award on Bev’s behalf, in her absence.

Produce Contest

With close to thirty categories and six eight-foot tables groaning with produce, it was a sterling year for the Veggie Contest. The squash entries were outstanding this year, with a nod to Mother Nature for providing such excellent “squash weather.” Judges Cheryl Ranns, Mayor John Ranns and Derek Wulff ensured that entries got intense scrutiny, and though First place ribbons were depleted by the time the judges reached the squash table, another ribbon bundle was quickly found. Apples were rolling off their paper plates. Next year a three-apple entry rule will apply. Five Gravensteins kept wandering away, though it might have been due to their desirability! Hope that you had a chance to see the Russian Mammoth Sunflower and consider growing one. A visitor from Washington State just had to get the perfect photo. He and his wife hope to make it

again next year. So keep those veggies coming; Metchosin Day Veggie Contest is a great Canadian flag-bearer!

Best Farm Basket: Sea Bluff Farm – Kristen Nammour (watch for a winter Sea Bluff Farm stand). Basket contents: Delicata squash, hops, apples, pears, garlic, potato, eggplant, radish, sunflower, lettuce mix, fennel, raspberries, hazelnuts, leeks, artichoke, plums, radicchio, nasturtium, pumpkin

Best Junior Basket: Allie Hourigan (7 yrs. old)

Flower Arrangement: Junior 1st – Malia Francis

Jams (appearance only) – Adult: 1st – Metchosin Farm (blackberry with lavender and lemon). **Junior:** 1st – Ruthie Quealey – Raspberry; 2nd – Tom Quealey – Blueberry; 3rd – Maya Quealey – Strawberry

Weirdest Vegetable – Junior: 1st – Malia Francis (carrot); 2nd – Arwyn Ferguson (cucumber); 3rd – Kara Ingalls (bean); Honourable mention Kara Ingalls (squash)

Adult: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm (carrot); 2nd – Metchosin Farm (Asian bitter melon – lumpy / green); 3rd – Jan Poulin (“Giant snail squash”)

Largest Potato: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm. **Potato: Junior:** 1st – Dawson Card; 2nd – Rowan Kew

Largest Sunflower – Adult: 1st – Eugene Poulin – Russian mammoth. **Junior:** 1st – Malia Francis

Longest Carrot – Junior: 1st – Malia Francis

Corn: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm – sweet corn

Cherry tomatoes – Adult: 1st – Metchosin Farm



The Mixed Fruit Pie table. Unless you were a judge, you had to stay for the famous Lamb and Salmon BBQ in order to get a piece of one of these delicious pies.



A sampling of the late-summer fruits in the produce contest. The apples are only just beginning to escape.

METCHOSIN DAY AWARDS



Browsing through the photo entry exhibit at the Community House.

(Principe Borghese). **Junior:** 1st – Kara Ingalls; 2nd – Kara Ingalls; 3rd – Abby Card

Tomatoes – Adult: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm (giant heirloom); 2nd – Jennifer Burgis (Ultra Boy); 3rd – Sea Bluff Farm (orange). **Junior:** 1st Dawson Card; 2nd Kara Ingalls

Apples 1st – Brad – Pear apples; 2nd – Brad – Gravenstein; Honourable Mention – Andrew Card. **Junior:** 1st – Kara Ingalls – Summer Red; 2nd – Rowan Kew – Crispin (Mutsu)

Strawberries: 1st – Card Family

Plums: 1st – Jason Morris – Golden Gage

Blackberries – Adult 1st – Sue Dakers; 2nd – Metchosin Farm (cultivar type)

Junior: Abby Card

Grapes: Honourable Mention – Brad – Alfredo's Portugese

Peppers – Adult: 1st – Andy Card. **Junior:** 1st – Kara Ingalls – Portugese; 2nd – Kara Ingalls – Mexican; 3rd – Kara Ingalls – Super chili

Radish: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm

Garlic – Adult: 1st – Erin van de Water; 2nd – Mark and Yvette Brierley – Red Russian

Heirloom; 3rd – Sea Bluff Farm; Honourable Mention Ric Perron; Honourable Mention Metchosin Farm

Longest Bean – Junior: 1st – Kara Ingalls; 2nd – Carolyn Ferris. **Adult:** 1st – Mark and Yvette Brierley – Fortex Pole Bean

Beans – Adult: 1st – Mark and Yvette Brierley; 2nd – Sea Bluff Farm; 3rd – Eugene Poulin. **Junior:** 1st – Abby Card – Lima Bean; 2nd – Kara Ingalls – pole bean; 3rd – Kara Ingalls – bush bean

Beets – Adult: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm – Gigantic AND delicious; 2nd – Erin van de Water. 3rd – Mark and Yvette Brierley – Touchstone Gold; Honourable Mention Erin van de Water. **Junior:** 1st – Kara Ingalls; 2nd – Abby Card

Peas – Junior: 1st – Kara Ingalls

Cucumber: 1st – Lidia Van de Water; 2nd – The Card family

Carrots – Adult: 1st – Sea Bluff Farm; 2nd – Mark and Yvette Brierley – Neptune carrots Imperator. **Junior:** 1st – Kara Ingalls; 2nd – Kara Ingalls; 3rd – Dawson Card

Squash: Best Garden Produce in Show – Jan Poulin

– Giant Hubbard Squash. **Adult:** 1st – Erin Van de Water – Scallopini squash; 2nd – Lynda Dowling – Heritage winter squash (potimarron); 3rd – Jan Poulin – Buttercup Squash. **Junior:** Kara Ingalls; Honourable Mention. Kara Ingalls

Pumpkin: Reserve Best Garden Produce in Show – Jan Poulin – “Cinderella”; 2nd – Lynda Dowling – Howden Winter Pumpkin. **Junior:** Honourable Mention – Malia Francis

Longest Zucchini – Adult: 1st – Margaret Mawle – “tromboncino” – Italian; 2nd – Justin Francis; 3rd – Sea Bluff Farm. **Junior:** Tied for First as zucchinis measured “too close to call” by the judges! – Tiannia Brenton and Malia Francis. **Overall Best Junior:** Kara Ingalls. **Reserve Best Junior:** Malia Francis.

Baking Contests

CAKES:

BEST OF SHOW Cake:

Erin Holmwood

Reserve BEST OF SHOW

CAKE: Payton Carmichael

BEST DECORATED CAKE: Zoe Morrison and Kara Richards

Category winners:

Butter Cake: Alyssa Whitterton

Specialty Cake: Payton Carmichael

Chocolate Cake: Erin Holmwood

Age Categories for Cake Contest winners:

Best Cake Baker under age 11: Heidi Whitterton

Reserve Best Cake Baker

under Age 11: Elsy Petrie

Best Cake Baker Ages 12

to 16: Alyssa Whitterton

Reserve Best Cake Baker

Ages 12 to 16: Zoe Morrison

and Kara Richards

PIES

BEST OF SHOW PIE: Jude Temple

Reserve BEST OF SHOW

PIE: Justin Frances

PRETTIEST PIE:

Cassandra Boggs

Category Winners:

Apple Pie: Kiana

Pomponio

Berry Pie: Jude Temple.

Mixed Fruit Pie: Jennifer Burgis

Exotic Pie: Justin Frances

Age Categories Winners

for Pie Contest:

Best Pie Baker under

age 12: Rowan Kew

Reserve Best Pie Baker

under Age 12: Sophia

Kathryn-Gilchrist

work on display, one of the finest ever for both diversity and creativity in all matter of subjects! This year's photo competition was judged by Tony Austin and Peter Lewis. We thank them for their time and expertise in determining the winners in the various categories. We would also like to acknowledge the support of Betty Hildreth at the Metchosin Community House, Erin Van De Water and Monique for their assistance in hanging the photos, Jo Mitchell for the information and contacts and our sponsor this year, Old Style Repair, for providing the awards.

The contest results are as follows:

Scenery (local and Vancouver Island): 1st – Super Moon – Alison Child; 2nd – Mount Baker and Victoria – Doug Clement; 3rd – Out to Pasture – Douglas Sawatsky

Travel abroad: 1st – Shanghai Train Station – Melinda Seyler; 2nd – Spring in Japan – Douglas Clement; 3rd – Kilave Flow – Megan Tannock

Travel Abroad Under 16: La Vieux, Quebec – Claire Martin

Travel Abroad Under 10: Ancient Arch – Ben Ruth

People: 1st – Mother Hen – Barb Sawatsky; 2nd – Flamenco Form – Alison Child; 3rd – Sky Swing – TJ Watt

Animals: 1st – Metchosin Neighbours – Diana Clare; 2nd – Buff Minorca Hen – Melinda Seyler; 3rd – Sheep Day in Metchosin – Anna Lewis

Under 10: Golden Eyes – Ben Ruth

Abstract: 1st – Serenity – Melinda Seyler; 1st – Rocky Mountain Reflections – TJ Watt

Photography Competition

ART BRENDON MACCA

We would like to thank all of those who submitted their photos for the exhibition and competition at this year's event. The judges were most impressed with the quality of



And they're off on the Metchosin 5K!



5K winner Jericho O'Connell (right) with runner-up Sean Nelson.

METCHOSIN DAY AWARDS

Under 16: A Wild Wand – Eve Ruth
Under 10: A Light at the End – Ben Ruth
Black and White: Night in the Park – Doug Clement
Under 16: Mystical Mystic Beach – Claire Martin
Best in Show: Camus Moonrise – TJ Watt
Reserve Best in Show: La Vieux, Quebec – Claire Martin
Best in Show 11 to 16: Horned Owl – Rachel Hanson
Reserve Best in Show 11 to 16: Caught in Mid Air – Claire Martin
Best in Show Under 10: Light at the End – Ben Ruth
Reserve Best in Show Under 10: Ancient Arch – Ben Ruth

Metchosin Day 5K Run/Walk

ANDY MACKINNON

Metchosin Day 2014 kicked off with the 21st annual Metchosin Day 5K Run/Walk. We had 155 participants who completed the gently rolling 5 km course in nearly perfect conditions – windless under bluebird skies. Fastest women were Claire Morgan (18:30), Cassidy Steen and Noa Bridson. Fastest men were Jericho O’Connell (16:20), Shawn Nelson and Lehlohonolo Khetheng. Once again all race awards (except for under 13) were fresh Metchosin produce. A complete list of finishers and times can be found at raceday-timing.ca/results.html under “2014 Metchosin Day 5K.”

The event generated a profit of approximately \$250, which will be donated to the Metchosin Foundation.

Our thanks to our many sponsors: to Race Day Timing Services for timing/results; to Frontrunners Westshore and to Metchosin Country Store for accepting registrations; to Derek Wulff, Karen and Don’s Blueberry Patch, LA Limo, Sea Bluff Farm, Clare Lowery, Wind Whipped Farm and Metchosin Farm, for produce and other excellent Metchosin prizes; to Oak Bay Cycle, for a good deal on the bike; to Martha Haylor and Sally Walker for their delicious cinnamon buns; and to the Metchosin Hall Society, for letting us use the Community Hall for race day registration. And thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped with everything from registration and traffic control to water stops and finish line.

See you all next September for the 22nd annual Metchosin Day 5K!



Chief Judge Violaine Mitchell, one of the pets in the foreground.



Metchosin 4H Poultry members with their pet show entries.



Best in Show: Bianca the Call Duck with owner Julia Lozupone.

Pet Show: Quack, Quack, Quack, Quack

VIO MITCHELL

It was another brilliant Metchosin Day Pet Show – an amazing range of pets including Maggie, a talking blue-fronted Amazon parrot, squeaky guinea pigs, many chickens (all kinds, all types), cats, and dogs, large small, medium and many in-between. Judges Violaine Mitchell (Chief Judge), Diane

Johnson, TJ Johnson, Cory Siefert, Deirdre Chettleburgh, and Leslie Zinger had a tough time handing out those magnificent prizes and ribbons. Announcer Frank Mitchell kept the pets and judges moving and had to shout extra loudly to be heard over Bianca the Call Duck who quacked throughout the show to the winner’s circle.

The final results:
Best in Show: Bianca the Call Duck with Julia Lozupone
Reserve Best in Show: Burley the Bull Dog with Ashley Lewis



Reserve Most Unusual Pets Sashy and Tayla with owner Cassidy Steen.

Most Rural: Beast, an Australorp Rooster with Austen Brown
Reserve Best Rural: Australorp chicken that goes for walks with AnnaLise Steadman
Best Costume: Lola the Rabbit asleep in her pyjamas with Ali Snowden in her pyjamas
Reserve Best Costume: Sven the cat in his bee costume with Thiss Petit

Most Unusual: Peeps the Australian Spotted Duck with Jovanna Lozupone
Reserve Most Unusual: Sashy and Tayla – Dogs in bike basket with Cassidy Steen
 Thanks to Sarah Bryan for handing out dog biscuits and candies, and to Graham Bradley for the many wonderful photos that could not all be printed here.

Shop Locally

And tell them you saw it in the *Muse!*

METCHOSIN DAY REWARDS!



Linda Hemus, left, relaxes with some of the MCA crew, after a long day of serving strawberry cream teas. Photo by Johnnie Carlin.

The Strawberry Cream Tea

JOHNNY CARLINE

It is Metchosin Day and everything is in full swing. You got there early and have now done two full circuits of the field. There is such energy everywhere and the tents are full of delights. You have gazed on the crafts with wonder, salivated at the produce, contemplated the carcasses hanging and roasting for your later gastronomic satisfaction, peered under the hoods of classic vehicles and tried to look knowledgeable. You have wondered who eats corn on the cob in the morning and wondered still more who then washes it down with beer (but they do, oh my, they do!). And you have wondered where all the talent comes from in this little village to keep everyone so entertained for so long.

And you have got hot. And weary.

You sit and watch the stage for a while. But you just get hotter. You find the Metchosin Community Association "rest and membership tent," which at least has some shade. So you sit there a spell, feeling a bit guilty because you meant to renew your membership but haven't got round to it yet.

Then you catch sight of a young woman walking around the field holding a sign above her head. The breeze catches it every so often and it lurches left or right, vaguely threatening the health of passers-by. You look at the sign more closely. It says something about a strawberry cream tea.

Isn't that what they serve at Wimbledon? What is it doing here? And where is it? You haven't seen it at any of the tents on the field. Ah! The sign says it is at the Metchosin Community House. Well, at least it might be cooler in

there. You'll give it a try. It really is too early for corn and beer.

You find The House. You are not sure that you are looking forward to eating a strawberry dessert in a cardboard dish with a plastic spoon, and still less do you relish the prospect of hot tea in a cardboard cup that is almost impossible to hold in your bare hands for more than a few seconds. But at least the air will be cooler and the weight will be off your feet.

So you go inside and take a look. The sight that confronts you stops you in your tracks. Every table has an elegant little floral centrepiece and the people sitting at them are eating off china plates for goodness sake! And with real silverware. And cups and saucers! Real china cups and saucers! Wimbledon doesn't have that. Everything is plastic there. This is nice. This has class.

You find a table and sit down. It is cooler. Good. Two Girl Guides arrive with your strawberry cream tea and scones. You find yourself eating in very small mouthfuls and sipping the tea with an almost irresistible urge to extend your pinkie finger. It really is very good. You savour it as the acoustic guitar music wafts in from the garden. Nice touch that. Very relaxing.

You decide right there that you will head back to the membership tent and renew your membership. And if you're too late for that, then you will phone the MCA office at 250-478-5155 and renew that way. But you will renew your membership.

You will, won't you? Of course you will.

Childrens' International Summer Villages (CISV)

ABBEY CHRIST ROWLING, AGE 13

Imagine leaving reality, going across the world and the thing that matters is the people you meet who become your family. That whole different world, that's what CISV is to me.

What is CISV? CISV is an international youth organization that helps build global friendships through many different programs. It was created in 1951 after World War II by a woman named Doris Allen. Doris believed that peace starts with children. Through that idea, CISV was created.

Since 1951 CISV has taught youth many important values and concepts. The four main pillars that CISV focuses on are conflict resolution, human rights, sustainability and diversity. It has made youth realize that even though we speak different languages and we live in different countries, we are not so different.

For the second summer in a row I've had the pleasure of attending two different programs. Last year I was fortunate enough to get the opportunity to attend an International Youth Meeting in the Netherlands. A leader and six delegates, including me, traveled to the Netherlands; we were the Canadian delegation. When we got there we were welcomed with open arms into a home-stay before the camp/program started. There were four



Westbound and Eastbound groups spend a few days together in "Camp Yoho," New Brunswick. Photo by Camylle Borza.

different countries attending the youth meeting, Canada, Spain, Colombia, the Netherlands, as well as the Faroe Islands, a self-governing archipelago associated with Denmark. Becoming so close with those forty people was one of the best three weeks of my life.

Experiencing what CISV has to offer, I was overjoyed to go on another program called Peace Bus this summer. Peace Bus is a five-and-a-half-week long trip where you travel across Canada in a van with two leaders and twelve delegates. There is an eastbound trip that goes from Victoria to Halifax, for ages thirteen-and-a-half to sixteen and there is a westbound trip that goes from Halifax to

Victoria for ages fifteen-and-a-half to eighteen.

Peace Bus is one of the most unique programs because it incorporates volunteering while on the way to the other end of the country. Some of the exciting volunteer projects that we got to participate in were sorting clothes at a homeless shelter, serving food, decorating cages at an animal sanctuary, building harm reduction kits for substance users, pulling out non-native plants in Banff National Park and more.

Along the way we had the opportunity to meet all the participants' families as they so kindly let us stay in their homes; we would also camp or stay with families that are involved with CISV. As a group, we learn how to cook, clean up, sit beside each other for hours on end in the van and all around live and work with each other.

Through CISV I have met some of the most amazing friends and bonded with people from everywhere. I would love for other youth to experience what I did. Anyone from the age of 11+ is welcome as a delegate or as a part of the Victoria Junior Branch. You do not have to travel to be a part of CISV; there are many local opportunities. If you or your child is interested visit the website at <http://www.cisvvictoria.ca/> or contact communications@CISVvictoria.ca



Volunteering at a community garden in Waterloo, Ontario. Photo by Ally Splett.

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MCA Guest Speaker Series



Vio Mitchell at work in Nigeria.

"My work with the Gates Foundation: From Metchosin to Kano"

with Violaine Mitchell, Deputy Director, Vaccine Delivery, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Thursday, October 16, 7 pm at the Community House

On Metchosin Day, Vio's volunteer job called for organizational skills, tact, a knowledge of animal husbandry, and diplomacy – she was the chief judge of the Pet Show and has been for some ten years!

These abilities and more are all needed in Vio's work with the Gates Foundation, which takes her away from Stillmeadow Farm which she operates with her husband, Tom Henry, to Northern Nigeria where she works on both polio eradication and improving children's access to life saving vaccines (measles, tetanus, hepatitis B, and infant meningitis).

Vio has a BA in Development Studies from Brown University and an MSc in Tropical Health from the Harvard School of Public Health and she has worked with a variety of international agencies in many parts of the world.

Here in Metchosin she is co-founder with her husband of the award-winning magazine, *Small Farm Canada*.

Vio will not only discuss her international development work on polio and immunization but also how she copes with the demands of frequent travelling, periods away from home and operating in an entirely different culture. When asked to be guest speaker, it was suggested she talk about how she "balances her life" and the prompt response was, "I don't!"

Future Speakers

This season the MCA Guest Speaker program plans to feature other Metchosin residents who work or volunteer overseas and on Thursday, November 20 our next speaker will be Derek Wulff.

Derek's life, like Vio's, now involves considerable international travel. He arrived in Metchosin in 2002 and started a small business teaching homeschoolers. He learned from his students and has gone from making medieval siege engine models in his studio and selling to one store, to an award-winning global educational science kit business, with products manufactured overseas, which now can be found in major museums, science centres and toy stores around the world.

Derek and his family have embraced Metchosin's rural lifestyle and he is a beekeeper, a constant gardener and apple advocate. He will tell you how this happened, the pitfalls and triumphs and the difference this has made to his life.

Please put both Thursday, October 16 and November 20, on your calendars. These will be very interesting evenings. All welcome to these free community events, with the opportunity to ask questions and to enjoy light refreshments and socialize.

If you have suggestions for other speakers in this series please email me at laura.farquharson@shaw.ca or call 250-478-1197.

Laura Farquharson
Coordinator, MCA Guest Speaker Program

MCA Music Program presents Iskra Violin and Guitar Duo

NASEEM JANMOHAMED

After a summer hiatus, the Metchosin Community Association's Music Program resumes with a concert of chamber music by the Iskra Violin and Guitar Duo, on Sunday, October 19 at 2:30 pm at the Metchosin Community House. The duo consists of violinist Tatiana Kostour and guitarist Douglas Hensley.

Douglas Hensley is well known to Metchosin audiences, having performed here with various groups, most recently the Continuum Consort. He and violinist Tatiana have formed a chamber ensemble and worked up a really lovely repertoire consisting of some famous pieces and some completely unknown but wonderful works of art. They will offer us a program that will include works by Rebay, Satie, Paganini, Ukrainian composers Ishchenko and Khutoriansky and one of Doug's own compositions which he will play on an oud, accompanied by Tatiana.

Doug received Bachelor's and Master's degrees in guitar performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He was active in various ensembles in California and also made guest appearances in the symphony orchestras of San Francisco, Berkley and Marin. Since moving to British Columbia, he has become equally active in the performance of early music on period instruments (lute, gittern, theorbo, vihuela, etc.). He regularly appears with Ensemble Laude, and has performed with Anima, Les Violes de Ste Colombe, the Victoria Symphony, Pacific Opera Victoria, Capriccio, the Victoria Children's Choir, Vancouver Voices, and was guitar soloist in Joaquin Rodrigo's



Violinist Tatiana Kostour and guitarist Douglas Hensley.

Concierto de Aranjuez with the Civic Orchestra of Victoria. Doug is on the faculty of the Victoria Conservatory of Music, where he teaches guitar and lute. He performs with Daryâ, a classical Persian music ensemble, and teaches tar, setar, oud and santur, which he studied with Iranian masters in California and Paris.

Currently on the string faculty of the Victoria Conservatory of Music, Tatiana Kostour is a well known and highly respected musician and teacher from Ukraine where she graduated from the Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Kiev. In 1996, Tatiana received a Wilfrid Laurier University Music Faculty Scholarship to study with the Penderecki String Quartet, earning a Diploma in Performance. While in Ontario, Tatiana performed with the Brantford Symphony Orchestra, the Windsor Symphony, London Symphony and Thunder Bay Symphony. She has also performed with the Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra in Kiev, Ukraine. She was concertmaster of the Grand River Chorus Orchestra in

Brantford, the K-W Chamber Orchestra in Waterloo and the K-W Philharmonic Choir. Besides performing, she loves teaching. Her students have received Silver and Gold Medals from the Royal Conservatory of Music as well as scholarships from provincial festivals. She has recorded Royal Sequence, a series of CDs used by violin students throughout Canada and the USA. Tatiana's passion, dynamic energy and natural playing style allow her to express her ideas with a flair that truly communicates music to people's hearts.

We look forward to seeing you on October 19 for an afternoon of lovely music. Tickets, \$15 for adults and \$5 for students and children over 12, are available in advance from the Metchosin Community Association (4430 Happy Valley Road, 250-478-5155) and also at the door. Advance purchase of tickets is strongly encouraged as it helps us plan for the concert and refreshments. As usual, freshly baked goodies will be available for purchase during intermission.

Best of the Muse

Volume 2

is on sale now at the Metchosin Country Store.

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Anne Richmond
for
Metchosin Councillor

November 15, 2014

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AUTHORIZED BY JENNIFER BURGIS, FINANCIAL AGENT FOR A. RICHMOND, 250-881-8280.



Please consider voting for

ANDY MACKINNON

as Metchosin Councillor in November's municipal elections.

Andy is a long-time Metchosin resident with plenty of volunteer experience in the community. He looks forward to aging gracefully in a lean, green Metchosin.



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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 Program – 2:30–5:00 pm. Buddies offers Reading and Math support as well as help with homework for Metchosin kids. Kids receive a half to one hour, one-to-one tutoring session with an adult or teen volunteer. Registration forms and contact information are provided to Hans Helgesen School. For more information call MCH at 250-478-5155.

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

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.

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

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

Creative Rug Hooking – A New Drop-in Program. 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 (250-595-6406, or email: blueheronstudio@telus.net) to discuss needed supplies. Experienced rug hookers are invited to bring their own projects. Bring a bag lunch; tea and coffee available. No fees but donation jar available to cover refreshment costs.

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 Parent and Tot program. Children will enjoy our new toys, books and craft opportunities. Parents will enjoy our relaxed, supportive environment, parent resource library and opportunities to connect with other parents and kids.

We look forward to seeing you and your little ones! For more information please call Nina at 250-590-2540 or email dalenina@shaw.ca.

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

Events

CRD Septic Savvy Workshop – Thursday, October 2, 7:00 pm. How to care for your septic system. Learn how to protect the local environment and your health while saving money, at this free workshop at the Metchosin Community House 4430 Happy Valley Road on Thursday, October 2 from 7:00–9:30 pm. One lucky attendee will win \$75 off the cost of their next pump out! Pre-registration is required. Please phone 250-360-3030 or email hotline@crd.bc.ca to register. Testimonial from past attendee: "Thank you again, so much, for a wonderfully interesting and informative workshop. Really grateful to have access to such a great resource, and for free! Wow!" Visit www.crd.bc.ca/septic for information on septic system care.

Apple-Bee Festival – Sunday, October 5, 11:00 am–3:00 pm. This year, along with the great apple activities such as making your own apple pie, candy apples and apple cider, we have added the excitement of those striped rascals – honey bees (and that elixir of life, honey!). There will be many interesting activities such as extracting honey, a demonstration hive, and information on beekeeping. There are hands-on activities such as making your own honey-based facial scrub, beeswax-based body bar, and a mead-making demonstration! Sponsored by the Metchosin Foundation and the Metchosin Pomological Association – and your local Metchosin Bee Rodeo group.

Singalong – Metchosin Rough Voice Choir. Second and fourth Monday of each month, 7:00–9:00 pm. A random group of Metchosinites gathers for an informal evening of singing at the Community House. All are welcome (a good singing voice is NOT a requirement) and families with children and grandparents are encouraged to come. If you have questions prior to this date, please contact Barb Sawatsky at 250-478-0553.

Knitting Café. Regular meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month, 7:00–9:00 pm, and the second and fourth Tuesday, 1:00–3:00 pm, monthly. Looking forward to seeing everyone again and newcomers, whether experienced or beginning knitters, are always welcome. For more information call Laura, 250-478-1197, or email laura.farquharson@shaw.ca.

Concert – Sunday, October 19, 2:30 pm. MCA Music Program presents Iskra Violin and Guitar Duo. After a summer hiatus, the Metchosin Community Association's Music Program resumes with a concert of chamber music by the Iskra Violin and Guitar Duo, on Sunday, October 19 at 2:30 pm at the Metchosin Community House. The duo consists of violinist Tatiana Kostour and guitarist Douglas Hensley. Tickets available at the House or call 250-478-5155.

Community Potluck Lunch – October 30, 12:00–1:30 pm. Everyone welcome!

Foot Care Program – The last Monday of each month, a foot care nurse will be offering foot care services. Appointments are half an hour and cost \$40. Appointments are between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm. Please call 250-478-5155 to book.

Art On The Walls – October: Museum Historical Photos. Doug Gilbert, in collaboration with the Metchosin School Museum Society, has compiled and organized a show of eighteen historic photographs of Metchosin dating back to the early 1900s. They are hanging on the Community House walls for all to enjoy, on display for the month of October. 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 478-5155.

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Who Is It?

In Metchosin, it's not unusual to come across something a little different. With its history and diverse population, this is a great place to find uniqueness, whether person, place, or thing.

The *Muse* hopes to pull some of these treasures out of Metchosin's closet for your enjoyment. **If you can identify the person in the photo below, send an email to the editor at metmuse@shaw.ca.** The sender of the first email received that correctly identifies the person, place or thing will receive a free regular coffee, compliments of the Broken Paddle Coffee House. We'll let them know to expect you!



Congratulations to Deb Thiessen for being the first to identify September's image as Jan Poulin's "Root Cellar" on Witty Beach Road.

sponsored by **The Broken Paddle Coffee House**
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14TH JUAN DE FUCA (METCHOSIN) SCOUTS CANADA

The Blair Atholl Jamboreette

ALYSHA BECKER

The Blair Atholl Jamboreette is Scotland's Scouting premier international event. It brings together over 1,000 Explorer Scouts and Leaders from eighteen countries around the world for a ten-day camp in a picturesque corner of highland Perthshire. Every two years since 1946 the tranquil grounds of Blair Castle have been transformed with participants from all over the world coming together to camp and share in fun, friendship, and a massive range of adventurous activities and challenges.

This summer, the 2014 camp had around 1350 Scouts and adults that took part, including the twelve youth and three leaders from the Victoria-based Pacific Explorers. Scottish Scouts representing every district and region in the country were paired with counterparts from as far as Japan, Canada, South Africa, Hong Kong and the USA. We overseas visitors to the camp were treated as the guests of the Scottish Scouts and all we needed to bring with us was our own personal kit; everything else was supplied for us. The Scottish Scouts and their overseas guests camped in joint patrols in sub-camps and lived and worked together under the watchful eye of the sub-camp teams.

The Jamboreette is the only of its kind in the world and is an outstanding opportunity for young people from different countries to meet, befriend and learn from others as they camp and participate



Dylan Church, Tristan Becker, Taylor Church, Alysha Becker, Kyle Becker and Eliza Church with Leader Curtis Becker.

together in a range of adventurous and culturally diverse activities. Activities at the Blair Atholl camp this year included twenty-four-hour hikes, mountain and white water river rescue training, bush craft, and celtic craft-work, with over 140 activities to choose from. Scouts from every one of Scotland's fifty-three districts attended, giving them the opportunity to meet a wide range of scouts from all over the globe. Our Canadian troop came in first at the country fair, cooking pancakes with real Maple syrup. We cooked up over 1500 mini pancakes and we trumped Japan who had a few years run at winning.

After the camp, the Blair Atholl experience continued with a period of up to five days' home hospitality with the friends made at the camp. As a participant of the Pacific

Explorers, the opportunity to travel overseas and to be part of this event was an incredible experience. After the Jamboreette and homestay, we also travelled to Brownsea Island, the birth place of scouting that hosted the first boy scout camp with Baden Powell. We experienced the culture of the UK and even had the privilege of going up to the front door of the most famous address in England, #10 Downing Street. The Prime Minister wasn't home but the experience was memorable.

We had a fantastic trip and want to thank our home Scouting group, 14th JDF here in Metchosin for all its support, along with all the community for the support they gave us in fundraising for this amazing trip. Thank you from all the youth! It was an incredible experience that will stay with us for a life time.

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Thank you Metchosin!

14th Juan de Fuca Scouting Group would like to thank the community of Metchosin and surrounding areas for helping to make another fun-filled Metchosin Day. The weather was outstanding and the turnout was amazing.

"Metchosin Day" is the largest fundraiser for the 14th Juan de Fuca Scouting Group, supporting programming for all scouting youth throughout the year. Scouting families and friends operate the concession with help from many people in the community. The Dunk Tank was run this year by the Venturer youth. The Chicken Poo Bingo booth was operated by the Victoria Area Medical Venturers this year and helps them to raise funds for their program as well.

We would like to recognise and thank these folks that helped to support our fundraising efforts at Metchosin Day:

The Knights of Columbus. This wonderful group of gentlemen come out every year and do the cooking in the concession. From the pancake

breakfast to the hot dogs and hamburgers, their fun and efficient manner make them a joy to work with.

Steve Rensing "On the Moove" Dairy Delivery: Without Steve and the loan of his refrigerated truck for this event, it could not run!

Level Ground Trading and Broken Paddle Coffee House: Level Ground donates the cups and thermal units for this event and Shannon (who also arranges the thermal units and donates the coffee) at the Broken Paddle allows us to go in and start brewing at 5:00 am. Thank you both.

My-Chosen Pizza, Glenwood Meats and Island Bakery who all provide their wonderful product at a reduced rate to help with our fundraising efforts.

Jo Mitchell and Tom Henry, for lending us the hay and fences for the Chicken Poo Bingo booth.

And, of course, to Mary Gidney and the Metchosin Day Committee that puts the entire event together we say a big thank you.



Many people, unfortunately, helped to make this possible and were not mentioned here. Please know that you are appreciated. We are already looking forward to next year!

Finally, the 14th Juan de Fuca Scouts and Venturers are in the midst of fundraising for the upcoming Pacific Jamboree which is being held next summer at our very own beautiful Camp Barnard!

There are currently two ongoing fundraisers – a bottle collection bin at the Community Hall, and a metal collection bin at 1293 Liberty Drive. Your support to help our youth raise money for this amazing event would be greatly appreciated!

Metchosin Residents Fall for Local Wildlife

HEATHER SCHMITT

In the midst of BC SPCA Wild ARC's busy summer season, a handsome Barred Owl was admitted from the Metchosin area. The owl was hit by a truck as it flew from the bushes near the roadside – it was likely in search of the small rodents that make up the majority of its diet. A local resident rushed the owl immediately to Wild ARC, and upon full examination rehabilitators found that the owl had a broken wing.

X-rays showed that the fracture was in the middle of the bone between the owl's elbow and wrist, a promising place for full recovery. The fracture was severe, however, and would require surgery to repair. Wild ARC contacted the fantastic team at Island Veterinary Hospital in Nanaimo, where veterinarian Dr. Langelier specializes in orthopedic surgeries and generously donates his expertise to help wildlife. A volunteer transporter drove the owl up island and back for its day surgery, making sure it received treatment as quickly as possible.

The surgery was a success. With careful monitoring, physiotherapy to retain flexibility as the bone continued to heal, and time in Wild ARC's large outdoor flight pen to rebuild its fitness, at the end of the summer this beautiful owl was released back to its Metchosin home. Very pleased with this patient's recovery, Wild ARC senior rehabilitator Christina Carrières explains, "It takes an incredible team effort of rehabilitators, volunteers, and community supporters to help our patients return to the wild – every successful case is a reflection of this network of support for our local wildlife."

This Barred Owl is just one of the nearly 2,500 wild patients that Wild ARC will admit this year. Coming on November 1 is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to support Wild ARC's



A Barred Owl that was brought to Wild Arc with serious injuries, now healed and released.

rehabilitation work at their annual Fall for Wildlife Dinner Auction. Centre manager Kari Marks eagerly anticipates the evening, saying, "This event is a chance for the community to experience the journey of some of Wild ARC's patients, bid on some truly unique items, and enjoy a lively night on the town." Tickets are available now at www.spc.bc.ca/wildarc-auction – reserve yours today.



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Sunday, October 19th
12:00pm
RSVP: 250-891-8300

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CHIROPRACTIC - Monday, Oct 27th

NUTRITION COACHING - Daily / Ongoing



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zenholisticnutrition.ca

Letters to the Editor continued from page 2

David Hawley says goodbye to Pearson College

Dear Members of the Pearson College Community,

For me, coming to Pearson College was a dream come true. There are few organizations in the world where the mission is so important, the level of engagement so high, the idealism so unrestrained and the potential to make the world a better place so real.

Recently, another one of those few organizations reached out to me with an irresistible opportunity. I am writing to tell you I have accepted it.

Starting January, 2015, I will become the Chief Academic Officer of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization and Manager of the IB Global Centre in The Hague, Netherlands. My brief will be to provide strategic direction for the educational philosophy and curricular leadership and renewal for all IB academic programmes, which now serve over one million students worldwide.

I will continue to serve as Head of Pearson College through December 2014.

While I will be leaving the College, I will remain very much connected through my work with the IB, whose history and mission are closely connected to the United World Colleges (UWC) movement. Here are excerpts from the IB mission: "... to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect ... to encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right." And, perhaps most compelling to me, is the commitment of the IB in its strategic plan to "Develop a more diverse, inclusive IB community by enabling access to an IB education regardless of personal circumstances."

I will remain indebted to Pearson College in so many ways. Leisa and I have developed relationships that will last a lifetime. We have learned so much from, and taken such delight in, the diverse and exceptionally talented people we have had the privilege to live, learn, play and work with for the past eight years. We are inspired to continue to keep Pearson and the UWC movement alive and well supported.

From my first day at the College I have strived to do four things: improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in the community, create more sustainable practices in everything we do, make the curriculum outside the classroom more purposeful, coherent and explicit and, finally, to improve our financial foundation. We have made progress in all four areas. We have a great team with solid systems to support our students and each other – from healthy food to house-buddies; we have reduced our use of energy and our production of waste and are well on our way to comprehensive monitoring and control of our resources and environmental impact; we are giving birth to a College-wide effort to develop 21st-century skills through our Theory of Knowledge + UWC skills course; and, with a needs-based approach to funding scholarships coupled with our investment in fundraising capacity and our dramatically increased support from alumni, we are healthier financially.

These are not projects with completion dates. Whoever has the privilege of succeeding me as head of Pearson

College will have the thrilling challenge to continue all of these good initiatives and more.

What a joy it has been to be here. I will miss you all.

David Hawley, Head of College

Pipelines: Let BC Vote

Dear People of Metchosin,

We are incredibly fortunate to live in one of the few remaining natural areas on Southern Vancouver Island with one of the most magnificent shorelines anywhere.

If we allow oil tankers carrying bitumen (toxic crude) to multiply in our waters, we risk it all.

Stephen Harper (late one Friday afternoon) approved Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline through the treacherous Douglas Channel. The approval comes with 209 conditions, one of which is consultation with First Nations. The Haida Nation has already rejected the decision.

A little under the radar, but a lot closer to home, is the proposed expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline through Burnaby. TransMountain, the corporate interest behind this expansion, recently felled thirteen trees in a conservation area on Burnaby Mountain simply to survey the pipeline route. Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan is the David standing up to this massive Goliath, and he is backed by a growing number of people who believe local residents should have control over decisions which affect the air, land, and water upon which local communities depend.

Metchosin has forty-three kilometres of magnificent shoreline to protect. An oil spill will devastate all that we so highly value; marine habitat, wildlife, scenery. Jobs will be lost. Our economy will suffer. Our lifestyles will be adversely affected for years to come. And our property values will plummet.

On September 15, a group of concerned citizens urged Metchosin Council to pass a motion opposing increased tanker traffic in BC waters. They spoke with passion, purpose, and clarity, about the risks of a spill to human and animal health, as well as the lost opportunities for developing renewable energy as governments continue to subsidize resource depletion (oil, gas, coal).

Our Council passed the motion, four to one. If you agree, let them know you appreciate their direction. And, the next time you visit Albert Head, Tower Point, Witty's Lagoon, Taylor Beach, or Weir's Beach, think about the effects of bitumen washing up on those shores. If Kinder Morgan is approved, instead of one tanker a week, nearly one a day will travel out into the Strait of Juan de Fuca, right past Race Rocks.

A Town Hall Meeting on the proposed expansion of the Kinder Morgan Pipeline will be held in October. Watch for details! Meanwhile, let your voice be heard. If you approve their strong stance opposing increased tanker traffic off our coastline tell Mayor Ranns and the Metchosin Councillors that. Tell them you support local decision making. Tell them (as Councillor Moralea Milne noted), Canada's federal and provincial governments are here to serve citizens and municipalities, not the other way around.

Your voice counts. It's time to speak up.

*Karyn Woodland
on behalf of LetBCVote.ca*

Fire Dept. Call-Outs

AUGUST 16–SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

FIRE CHIEF STEPHANIE DUNLOP

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

- Aug 17 EAST SOOKE ROAD – Medical – Collapse
EAST SOOKE ROAD – Assistance – General Public
TAYLOR BEACH – Beach Fire
PEARSON COLLEGE DRIVE – Medical – Fall
- Aug 22 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD – Assistance – RCMP
WINTER ROAD – Medical – Chest Pain
- Aug 23 WITTY BEACH ROAD – Medical – Collapse
- Aug 24 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD – MVI
- Aug 25 BRIDLEWOOD COURT – Medical – Chest Pain
- Aug 26 PEDDER BAY – Medical – Chest Pain
TAURUS DRIVE – Brush/Grass Fire
METCHOSIN ROAD – Medical – Trauma
- Aug 28 TAYLOR BEACH – Beach Fire
SANDGATE ROAD – Assistance – General Public
- Aug 30 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD – Assistance – General Public
- Sep 01 MUTUAL AID – Rescue – Rope/High/Confined
- Sep 02 LIBERTY DRIVE – Open Burn – General
- Sep 03 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD – Medical – Collapse
PARK DRIVE – Open Burn – General
- Sep 05 SOOKE ROAD – Medical – Fall
PARRY CROSS ROAD – Hydro – Tree on Lines
SWEET CHESTNUT ROAD – Medical – Chest Pain
- Sep 10 BENNETT ROAD – Hydro – Fire
- Sep 11 MUTUAL AID – Structure Fire
- Sep 12 NEFF ROAD – Medical – Cardiac
GLINZ LAKE ROAD – Medical – Fall
LINDHOLM ROAD – Brush/Grass – Fire
- Sep 13 WOOTTON ROAD – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell/Sighting
- Sep 14 LOMBARD DRIVE – Medical – Chest Pain

NEWS FROM WEST-MONT SCHOOL



BY SAMPSON MCNEIL AND ASHLEY LEWIS – GRADE 3

It has been an amazing start to the 2014–15 year at West-Mont School. We have 170 students in attendance.

Our early primary students (ages 3–6 years) have been busy getting to know each other. Learning to care for class pets (a hamster, bunny and fish) has been a rewarding experience.

In our Grade 1–3 program, students have been busy with botany studies, cooking projects, journal writing, math work, and French and art classes. Nature hikes through the forest have been interesting and fun.

Our Grade 4–6 students have been enjoying their huge new classroom and their exciting new Montessori materials. Connecting with old friends and making new ones has been a highlight. Students have been hard at work training for our Terry Fox Run and a cross-country meet at Beaver Lake Park.

The new middle school program (Grades 7 and 8) has been bustling with activity every day. Students are especially excited about making a class lunch together every Thursday. Friday afternoons will be spent doing different community service activities. Spending time at the Luxton Fair with special needs folks from the community was a great experience for everyone.

RCMP Call-Outs AUGUST 12-SEPTEMBER 07, 2014

BY CPL. BRIAN KERR, CENTRAL SAANICH POLICE

- Aug 12 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of speeding motorcycles.
Happy Valley Road area – Complaint of harassment, landlord/tenant dispute, one person warned.
Albert Head Lagoon – Complaint of military flare being found on beach, turned over to the Military Police.
Rocky Point Road – Complaint of theft from vehicle, several items stolen, still under investigation.
Rocky Point Road – Complaint of deer being hit by vehicle.
Sooke Road – Complaint of abandoned vehicle, gone on arrival.
Bradene Road – Complaint of person observing flare over water, reported to Search and Rescue.
- Aug 18 **Bennett Road** – Complaint of cougar being observed on Goose Trail, reported to Conservation.
- Aug 19 **Neild Road** – Complaint of possible disturbance, no problems found.
Neild Road – Complaint of deer being found dead with arrow in it. Reported to Conservation.
Kangaroo Road – Complaint of possible impaired driver, patrols failed to locate.
- Aug 20 **Olympic View Drive** – Complaint of lost property.
Winter Road – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, vehicle located with no insurance, persons in vehicle found to be prowling in the area during early morning hours, asked to leave.
- Aug 21 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of possible threats, two people given verbal warning.
Lombard Drive – Complaint to check welfare of person, not located.
Glen Forest Road area – Complaint of possible disturbance, one person spoken to and given warning.
Glen Forest Road – Single vehicle accident on bridge, vehicle found to have no insurance, driver charged and vehicle towed.
Sooke Road – Complaint of erratic driver, road rage, one driver given verbal warning.
Liberty Drive area – Complaint of landlord-tenant dispute, one person spoken to.
- Aug 22 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of fishing line being put along road causing hazard.
- Aug 24 **Happy Valley Road** – Two vehicle accident, one person taken to hospital, severe damage to one vehicle.
Eales Road – Complaint of disturbance, one person spoken to.
Rocky Point Road area – Complaint of possible disturbance, one person taken to hospital.
- Aug 25 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of erratic driver, one person given warning.
Happy Valley Road area – Complaint of possible disturbance.
Leefield Road – Complaint of lost property.
William Head Road – Assistance provided to Coroner's office.
- Aug 26 **Duke Road** – Complaint of people setting off fireworks, no one located.
- Aug 27 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of person possible breaching court conditions, still under investigation.
Glen Forest Way area – Complaint of possible disturbance, one person spoken to.
- Aug 28 **Kangaroo Road area** – Complaint of person making threats to another person.
- Aug 29 **Happy Valley Road area** – Complaint of sexual exploitation, still under investigation.
- Aug 30 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of possible disturbance, no problems found.
- Aug 31 **Rocky Point Road** – Complaint of disorientated elderly male on road, patrols failed to locate person.
Happy Valley Road area – Assistance provided to Saanich Police regarding a hit and run.
Sooke Road – Vehicle stopped for excessive speeding, vehicle impounded, driver charged.
- Sep 01 **Happy Valley Road** – Vehicle stopped after it was driving erratically, driver found to be impaired by drug, vehicle impounded.
- Sep 02 **William Head Road area** – Complaint to check wellbeing of a person, found to be all right.
- Sep 04 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of truck with an insecure load.
Happy Valley Road – Complaint of residential break, enter and theft, several items taken, investigation continuing.
- Sep 05 **Pedder Bay Drive** – Complaint of stolen boat trailer.
Glen Forest Way area – Complaint of domestic dispute/assault, charges pending, investigation continuing.
- Sep 06 **Sooke Road** – Complaint of speeding motorcycle, found to have no insurance, driver charged.
Happy Valley Road area – Complaint of assault, one person arrested, investigation continuing.
Metchosin Road – Complaint of deer being hit by vehicle.
- Sep 07 **Happy Valley Road** – Complaint of dog being left in vehicle in the sunshine, owner removed dog.
William Head Road – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, driver located and no problems noted.

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CLASSIFIEDS

\$10 per 25 words to go in this monthly paper which is mailed to every Metchosin household. Envelopes for submissions and payments are provided at Metchosin Country Store.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month and can be dropped off at Metchosin Country Store.

WANTED

ACCOMMODATION Looking for a cottage with wood electric combined heat in rural private natural setting, garden space on land with sustainable values. Mature professional herbalist and writer. Local references, 250-381-6171.

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

HORSE LEASE Mature rider seeks part time horse lease in Metchosin. For riding lessons and trail rides, English or Western. Call Suzanne at 250-217-7329.

FOR SALE

PORK, LAMB & CHICKEN Enjoy delicious, healthy pork, lamb and chicken, raised in Metchosin. Buy direct from the farm: Saturdays only, 12-3 pm, 4198 Stillmeadow Rd. www.parrybaysheepfarm.com, www.stillmeadowfarm.ca

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Free Information Sessions: Home Security and Scams

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How to Target Harden Your Home and Vehicle
October 8, 7:00 pm

SCAMS – What to Watch for and How to Protect Yourself
October 15, 7:00 pm

Everyone welcome.
Refreshments will be served.



Directory of Organizations

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

- AIR CADETS**
250-590-3690
- ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC**
250-382-2052,
www.alzheimerbc.org
- ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL METCHOSIN (APRM)**
250-478-1197, www.aprm.ca
- BADMINTON**
Sunday night cancelled.
Women's 250-478-9648
- BILSTON WATERSHED HABITAT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**
250-478-2387,
ikmcken@islandnet.com,
www.bilstoncreek.org
- 'CHOSIN CHATTERS TOASTMASTERS**
info@chosinchatters.org,
www.chosinchatters.org
- CRD PARKS**
250-478-3344,
crdparks@crd.bc.ca,
www.crd.bc.ca/parks
- GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)**
tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca,
250-478-5484
- LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA**
250-727-4384
- METCHOSIN 4H, POULTRY, HORSE AND CLOVERBUDS**
250-478-4677
Metchosin4H@gmail.com,
www.metchosin4h.com
- METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE**
250-478-5155,
mcahouse@telus.net,
www.metchosincommunityhouse.com
- METCHOSIN COUNCIL**
250-474-3167,
mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca,
www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings

- METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**
250-478-1307, ham operators call in on 146.550. POD members can call FRS (Family Radio Service) radios: Channel 1 with "0" privacy tone
- METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY**
250-391-7511,
exchanging@shaw.ca,
www.mesmetchosin.org
- METCHOSIN FOUNDATION**
metchosinfoundation@gmail.com,
<http://metchosinfoundation.ca>
- METCHOSIN GARDEN CLUB**
250-298-7877
- METCHOSIN HALL SOCIETY**
250-478-6424,
<http://metchosinhall.com/>
- METCHOSIN HIKING CLUB**
250-478-4778
- METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY**
Pioneer Museum, 250-382-1989,
School Museum, 250-478-5447
- METCHOSIN PONY CLUB**
250-727-3595
- METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL**
250-478-9241,
metchosinpreschool@gmail.com,
www.metchosinpreschool.wordpress.com
- METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE**
250-478-2210
- MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY**
250-642-0238
- POD LEADERS**
250-474-6145,
mgidney@shaw.ca
- ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 91, Station Rd, Langford**
Ladies Auxiliary
250-478-5484
- SCOUTS CANADA**
14thjuandefuca@victoriascouts.ca

- SEA CADETS**
250-478-7813
- SENIORS' INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)**
250-478-5150, msirc@shaw.ca
- TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly**
Brian 250-474-1665
Marni 250-999-6757
- WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL**
250-478-2286,
info@westshorearts.org,
www.westshorearts.org
- WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND**
250-474-3999
- WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION**
250-478-8384,
www.westshorerecreation.ca

CHURCHES

- BAHA'I FAITH**
250-514-1757
- GORDON UNITED CHURCH**
250-478-6632
www.gordonunitedchurch.ca
- HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
250-727-3722
- OPEN GATE CHURCH**
250-590-6736
www.theopengate.ca
- ST. MARY OF THE INCARNATION—ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**
250-474-4119,
www.stmarysmetchosin.weebly.com
- WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH**
www.westsidefamily.org
250-478-8066
- WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY**
250-474-5967
www.westsong.ca

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