

Metchosin Muse

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

Metchosin Remembers



The Pipe Band was a welcome addition to the Remembrance Day Parade.

Brian Domney photo

A Moment's Reflection

JOHNNY CARLINE

The sound of pipers announced the coming of the parade. Armed forces, first responders, the Mayor and members of Council, cubs, scouts, veterans and other folk walked behind and gathered around the Memorial Cenotaph. Words were spoken, anthems sung, wreaths laid and, at the centre of it all, a minute's silence. It used to be two minutes, but no matter. I still wonder what people are thinking during that silence.

I think of my late parents and their very different attitudes towards Remembrance Day. Dad served in World War II. A near-fatal bout of dysentery saved him from the hell of the Burma campaign; but he recovered well enough to endure the Normandy beaches and the slog across Northern Europe to Germany.

Clambering down the swinging rope nets from troop carrier to landing craft left him with a distaste for both heights and water – he couldn't swim; nights under canvas in dank marshes left him with a permanent aversion to frogs. Otherwise he escaped unharmed. Nonetheless, he hated to talk about it and rarely did.

He made an exception one time when I was exhibiting my childhood terror of injections and my embarrassment at fears. He told me about Dixie Dean, a man who served in his company and was the English pre-war soccer equivalent to Canada's Gordie Howe. He still holds the goal scoring record for English soccer. He had a neck like a bull's, my dad told me, and was one of the strongest and bravest men he ever met. Yet when the company lined up for their pre-invasion shots, he was the one man who fainted clean away. I don't know that the story really helped me; but I knew it was intended to and I loved my dad all the more for it.

My mother told me that he had won medals but she didn't know whether they were for campaigns or gallantry. He had chucked them into the sea on the way back from France. The war had been a necessary evil to allow us to enjoy a normal life and, in his view, we should do just that and put the war behind us. So he told no stories and did not attend Remembrance Day services.

Mom, in contrast, was full of stories of her war time spent in our little village. She told us how her family would gather

round the crystal radio set to listen to broadcasts about the war, including those of William Joyce, the British traitor known as Lord Haw Haw. That was until he scornfully announced that our nearest town, which he called "dirty little Stockport," would be bombed to oblivion that night. My enraged grandmother brought her walking stick crashing down on the offending crystal set and Nazi propaganda was silenced in our house for the rest of the war, along with everything else!

She also told us of young Jack in the village, who came home on leave and broke down. Tearfully he begged his parents not to force him to return. They explained to him the consequences and tried to reassure him. So he returned. He was killed shortly afterwards and his parents' lives were forever shattered.

My mom always watched the BBC Remembrance Day broadcast which, in those days, consisted of a grand military tattoo ending with the two-minute silence. Hundreds of uniformed men and women stood rigidly to attention while thousands of poppies were released from nets above them, slowly accumulating on their heads and shoulders, each poppy representing a dead allied soldier. Mom always cried, knowing one was for young Jack. Dad sat quietly in a corner, doubtless wishing he dared read the football reports.

So, like Mom, I go to Remembrance Day, and afterwards try to go to a soccer game or hockey game or movie. My ability to do that was what my dad and others fought for, and that's worth remembering.

This year I also thought it passing strange that the leaders of the country Dad fought against, Germany, are now setting the example for courage and compassion in helping those in need from other nations and races. Meanwhile the allies he fought for, Britain and even more so, the USA, have lurched towards an altogether different path.

I feel lucky and grateful to live in Metchosin and hope it keeps its essential qualities. Yet similar rural villages in the USA voted overwhelmingly for Donald Trump, looking inwards, closing their minds and hearts to "outsiders," embracing values which my dad certainly did not fight for. Maybe there's a lesson in there that's worth remembering too.

METCHOSIN VOLUNTEERS

JIM MACPHERSON

Metchosin honours our fallen military every Remembrance Day. And in Metchosin it is a particularly special occasion. It is experiential and intimate, and much more informal than many traditional services. And because it involves Metchosin residents who volunteer their thoughts and remembrances, it is a little different every year.

This interactivity brings together veterans along with school groups, cadets, Boy Scouts and community organizations in a final Metchosin

community event before the winter sets in.

Metchosin's Remembrance Day memorial started some 20 years ago as a special event organized by Scouts. Since then it has grown, a little every year, welcoming songs, or giving a place to a woman who wrote her own poem of remembrance.

Part of the Remembrance Day celebration is similar to other services held across Canada. The singing of "O Canada" and "God Save the Queen," a minister giving the prayer, the laying of wreaths at the cenotaph. But the participation of our own residents make Metchosin's Remembrance Day celebration unique.

Wreaths were laid at the cenotaph by Mayor Ranns, a representative for MLA John Horgan, Metchosin Search and Rescue and by community and youth groups. The youth groups make their own wreaths from the lush greenery of our countryside to lay at the cenotaph.

Work begins on planning the celebration about September 1 when the search for specific people (such as a bugler) begins and the word goes out for participants. The Fire Department is contacted to arrange for traffic control. The District Office arranges for an RCMP presence.

This year, five pipers and a drummer, not associated with a band, came together to lead the parade. This was a special feature of this year's parade and maybe overcame the absence this year of a bugler. Two RCMP officers in dress red serge also marched in the parade. About 200 people took part in the parade while over 100 waited patiently for the procession to march down the street.

The District and MACCA provide financial contributions to help cover costs such as the rental of sound equipment. Scouts arrange for and take care of the refreshments and a bottle drive helps defray some of those costs. An honorarium is paid to the pipers and drummer.

I would like to take this time to express, on behalf of us all, thanks to Shelly Donaldson, Tom Henry and Dan O'Connell for organizing our Remembrance Day celebration and for pulling together all the bits and pieces. And a special thanks to all the volunteers who make Metchosin's Remembrance Day celebration something special.

Editor's note: Please see p. 6 for a personal story about Remembrance Day by Allison Marshall.



"In Flanders Fields" has rarely been read so beautifully. Brian Domney photo



"The Last Post."

Brian Domney photo

Metchosin Muse

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

AD DEADLINE

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

ABOUT THE MUSE

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

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

CURRENT CIRCULATION: 2800 (July/August: 3000)

Season's Greetings from the Muse!

It is almost that time of year again when, in most of Canada, the land sparkles with the glint of snow or frost and, here in BC, the land sparkles with the sun bouncing off the morning dew (or something like that) and, all over Canada, eyes are sparkling with the anticipation of the festive season.

Whatever one's faith, even if none, this is the season of good will and good cheer. Despite the pollution of crass commercialism, we can still enjoy the fresh air of fellowships and express our joy in

our families, neighbours, and friends by exchanging greetings, hospitality, and gifts. It is a good feeling and giving is well more than half the fun.

Finding "just the right thing" for someone you care about can be a frustrating challenge or an enjoyable labour of love. To help make sure it is more the latter than the former, the *Muse*, with help from the MCA, has put together a pull-out guide to local sources of interesting gifts (see pages 7 to 10). We hope that all our readers will

find this a useful source of information and that it will also help reward those businesses that have gone the extra mile to support this community.

The *Muse* team wishes you all the opportunity to spend this holiday season relaxing in front of a warm fire, consuming your favourite food and beverage, reading the *Muse* from cover to cover, and sharing the wonder and joy of it all with your loved ones.

Merry Christmas to one and all!

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.

Bequest from Bess Page a Wonderful Surprise

As the principal of Hans Helgesen Elementary, I have been very fortunate to work in the community of Metchosin over the last few years. I want to tell you about something that I've never experienced in all my time as a principal.

Recently, Hans Helgesen Elementary School was the recipient of a generous donation from the estate of Elizabeth (Bess) Page. What an amazing surprise that was for us! Bess had been a teacher at Hans Helgesen before her retirement in 1977 and she obviously still felt a connection to this community's school.

At her family's request, this financial contribution will be used towards books and supplies for our library, which is a wonderful support to the students at our school. We were fortunate to have our librarian removing books more than 20 years old in our library last year and this will go a long way to replacing some treasured classics and adding some new and popular titles as well. This gift will be enjoyed for many years in our school.

What a wonderful and thoughtful gesture from a community-minded Metchosin citizen! On behalf of the staff and students at Hans Helgesen, I want to express our deepest gratitude for the generosity of Bess Page and her family.

*Debra Stoutley, Principal,
Hans Helgesen Elementary*

On the web at www.metchosinmuse.ca

Visit our website! www.metchosinmuse.ca

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

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

Muse Subscriptions

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

Joan Bradley
10 Bradene Road
Victoria BC V9C 4B1
Tel: 250-478-3451

Or you can email us at metmuse@shaw.ca



Metchosin Neighbours Are Safer in Pods

CHARLA HUBER, METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PROGRAM

Looking after your neighbours is what people in rural communities are known for across Canada. The Metchosin Emergency Program is helping residents take the extra step to make sure they are safer, through the Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (known as Pods in Metchosin). In the case of an emergency, disaster or storm, neighbours can check on each other to ensure everyone is okay.

"Each Pod is like a smaller community within the larger community," said Kathleen Sutherland, the program's director. One part of her role is to help Metchosin residents establish or enhance Pods within their neighbourhoods.

"It's all about getting to know your neighbour," said Sutherland. "If there were to be a big event such as a powerful storm, or worse, people could check on their neighbour to their left and right. If everybody did that, everyone would have been checked."

In Metchosin there are some very active Pods, some

Pods that know their neighbours well enough to say hello and some areas that haven't been established yet. Sutherland is working hard to get more Pod leaders and Metchosin residents interested in joining the program.

"There are a number of ways to start; you may have a meet and greet potluck or tea or you and your neighbours might be interested in getting a Block Watch programme started," Sutherland explained, adding people can get added benefits from not only getting to know who their neighbours are but with the Block Watch certificate, many insurance companies may give a reduced rate for house insurance.

Sutherland, also a Pod leader in her own neighbourhood, said it does not need to be a time-consuming role. She estimates she spends less than ten hours a year in her role and her neighbours appreciate getting the "heads up" on a recent break in, cougar alerts or the occasional lost or found pet.

If you would like more information on the Pod program, to see if there is a Pod established in your neighbourhood, or if you would like to create a Pod or set up a Block Watch meeting, please call Kathleen Sutherland at 250-474-3966.

METCHOSIN MUSE AD RATES

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Bus. Card (H) - 3.925"w x 2.5"h	\$47.00	\$42.00	\$38.00
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1/6 page (H) - 5.95"w x 3.3"h	\$95.00	\$87.00	\$75.00
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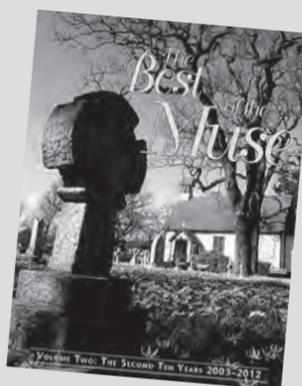
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Where Was It?

Nobody was able to provide a location for the last "Where Is It?", which was featured in the November issue. The photo was a closeup of a gravestone, at Old St. Mary's Church, which can be seen on the cover of *Best of the Muse*, volume 2.



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Phyllis A. Woolard

August 10, 1921–September 28, 2016

PETER AND DEIRDRE
CHETTLEBURGH

Driving along William Head Road, past the café, and down the hill towards Taylor Road, you may have noticed a sign to your left reading “Benacre” and perhaps for a minute or two, wondered about the property. This is the story of Phyllis Anne Woolard whose home this was for 80 years.

Phyllis was born in Crawford Bay, BC, on August 10, 1921. Her mother, Ursula, was the daughter of an English sea captain who moved to the Kootenays from England when he retired, because he thought it was the most beautiful country he had ever seen.

Phyllis’s father, Arthur Houghton, was an outdoorsman who had travelled from England to New Zealand and then to the Kootenays, where he too fell in love with its beauty. So it was that Arthur and Ursula met, married, and had four children – Basil, Kathleen, Daphne and Phyllis.

Not long after Phyllis was born the Houghton family moved to the north of Wales. It was here that Ursula died in

1931, when Phyllis was only ten. Their father brought the children back to Crawford Bay.

Several times each year the young Houghtons travelled via steamship and the old Kettle Valley train from Crawford Bay to Vancouver and Victoria to attend school. When their father died in 1936 all four became the wards of their aunt – Nancy Gooch, Ursula’s sister.

Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Gooch (widow of Jack Gooch, a retired major) came to Vancouver Island to search for a property that would be close to Victoria. She looked in East Sooke and Metchosin and decided upon 60 acres on William Head Road, a property that had been part of Sir James Douglas’s hunting lodge before it was owned by the Fishers of Metchosin. A house was built and Mrs. Gooch and Phyllis moved here in 1938. The property was named Benacre after the Gooch family home in England.

During World War II, Phyllis worked at the Esquimalt Dockyard while living with her aunt at Benacre.

When the war ended and Phyllis was about 24, she used an inheritance to build a spacious barn that still stands on an adjacent property. She purchased four registered mares and a registered stallion – Hindu Prince, great grandson of the famous Man O’ War, one of the greatest thoroughbreds of all time.

Phyllis’ good friend Diana Jenkins, daughter of Dr. Jenkins who worked at the quarantine station at William Head, also loved horses and was a working partner. For several years Phyllis raised, boarded, and raced horses, and farmed the property. When Nancy Gooch died in 1950, Benacre was left to Phyllis and her two sisters. In time sections of the property were sold including the barn, at which time Phyllis sold her horses. She was able to hold on to the centre section of Benacre by leaving Metchosin to work in hotels in Banff, California and Nevada. She returned to Metchosin as often as she could.

In 1962 Phyllis married Edgar Woolard, a mathematical astronomer with the US



Phyllis Anne Woolard with two of her horses.

government. They lived in Washington DC until Edgar retired and they moved to Arizona. The winters were spent exploring the Arizona desert, but every summer they returned to Benacre.

After Edgar died in 1979, Phyllis returned to live in her Metchosin home full time. She was strong and active, thinking nothing of taking the mower up the bluff to cut down dense thickets of gorse. The next 30 years of her life were filled with the things she loved most, her family, her dogs, and Benacre.

She was generous, kind, and appreciative. And though quick to put her young family in place with a stern look,

there was always a twinkle in her beautiful blue eyes.

It was Phyllis’ wish to remain in her home as long as she could. Proximity of family made this possible as did a wonderful, live-in caregiver who was with her for the last two years of her life. Phyllis never complained and when her family would fuss over her because of some ailment or other she had, she would brush it off saying, “It’s a long way from the heart.”

Phyllis died peacefully in her sleep in her home on Benacre on September 28, 2016.

Devonian Regional Park



First attempts in 2002.

Moralea Milne photo

MORALEA MILNE

Devonian Park has always been a favourite of mine. I suppose it started when I lived within easy walking distance and found this small gem of a park that encompasses a diversity of habitat. From Douglas-fir dominated forest to open moss balds studded with gnarled Garry oaks, from Sherwood Creek with its blue-listed sea-run cutthroat trout to Sherwood Pond and the raucous spring calls of the breeding red-winged blackbirds, to the perpetual motion machine that is the ocean pounding or lapping onto the cobble shoreline, Devonian provides a place of bountiful nature to this sometimes weary resident.

Since 2002 a small, dedicated group has been removing broom and other invasive species from Devonian Park. As you can probably see from the two photos, taken a decade apart, the almost 4,000

of November, through to the end of February, we meet every Sunday at 10:00 am. Some people go to church, we attend to our Devonian devotions, taking pleasure in restoring the natural landscape while enjoying the company of like-minded folks. There have been more than a few Sunday mornings when I’ve cocked open one bleary eye and thought seriously of re-engaging with my duvet, but once at the park I have never regretted the two hours of toil made swift by the company of excellent friends. Last week (Nov. 6) there was a plethora of emerald green and camouflage brown Pacific treefrogs hopping through the grass and shrubs while we tugged and pulled at the broom. Often there is an eagle or three overseeing our efforts and of course there is always an occasion or two when we meet and greet with the human and dog visitors to the park!

hours we have spent there have made a difference. You might also notice how much my photography has improved since then! It is hard to remember how badly overrun and disfigured the park was with broom.

From the start of the rainy season, usually the beginning



Progress!

Moralea Milne photo

However, at 66, I believe I am the youngest of our crew (although far from the most fit and agile), and we would love to see some new recruits, of any age, who would join us in this stewardship initiative. The large “old-growth” broom is long gone, and removing the small seedlings that reappear with annoying regularity is not hard work. The daphne population has mostly been eradicated as well as the hollies, however the introduced Himalayan blackberries seem determined

to undermine our most fulsome efforts. Vigilance is required!

If you would like to join us once, twice, or especially on a regular basis, please contact me, moraleamilne@gmail.com, and I will add you to our list. We meet at 10:00 am under most weather conditions, except severe wind, buckets of rain, or frozen, snow-covered ground. I was going to remark that it has been quite amazing that we rarely experience bad weather, but I wouldn’t want to jinx us!

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Any Interest in a Community Pottery and Craft Studio?

DIANA SMITH

Is anyone interested in sharing studio space for clay work and possibly other arts and crafts compatible with ceramics? The studio would be in Metchosin at the old school, if and when space became available. It would be a clean, well-organized large space for doing individual work, sharing firings in an electric kiln with the possibility of holding workshops, demonstrations, artist talks and classes given by local and visiting artists.

The cost would be shared and dependent on the number of people involved. There could be full-time and part-time options. This space might interest those who don't have enough space or want a work space separate from their home, or those who work from a home studio but want to work part-time around others for inspiration, to share a kiln and other large equipment, such as a slab roller, pug mill or extruder that might be obtained in the future. It would also be

possible to take advantage of bulk buying of materials. The studio would have, to start, an electric wheel and small electric kiln and ceramics accessories. Any donations of ceramic equipment and supplies would be gratefully accepted. Activities compatible with clay could be encaustic painting and other mixed media, carving, or sculpture. For more information or if you are interested in discussing this plan, please contact Diana at dsmith2006@shaw.ca. Hope to hear from you.

COUNCIL NEWS DECEMBER 2016



REFERENDUM ON PROPOSED BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

On Saturday, January 14, 2017 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Community Hall, qualified electors of the District of Metchosin will be voting on the proposed boundary adjustment. Advance Voting Opportunities are January 4 and January 11, 2017.

WINTER ROADS

Please remember that ice control and snow plough service is provided on priority route basis with Happy Valley, Metchosin, William Head, Rocky Point and Kangaroo Roads being top priority. Next are school bus and BC Transit routes, followed by all other roads.

HELP US AND BE PREPARED

Equip your vehicles with good winter tires and carry chains. All-season tires lose their pliability and traction at 7° Celsius.

Avoid parking vehicles on the road or paved shoulders at all times during the winter. Clear snow from your driveway to allow for parking. Roads with vehicles parked on them may not be ploughed.

Clear snow to the left side of your driveway (facing in) where it meets the road to minimize the amount of snow pushed back into your driveway when the ploughs pass.

If you have an urgent medical appointment or are a medical professional needing to get to work, call the Emergency Program Coordinator at the Metchosin Fire Hall at 250-478-1307; or after hours, Langford dispatch at 250-478-9555 and ask for the Metchosin duty officer to be paged.

MUNICIPAL HALL HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The municipal offices will be closed at noon Friday, December 23, 2016 and will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2017 at 8:00 am.

OUTSTANDING PROPERTY TAXES TO ACCRUE INTEREST BEGINNING IN JANUARY

If you have unpaid 2016 property taxes, please make payment arrangements in order to avoid interest charges beginning in January 2017. Metchosin offers a property tax monthly payment program to assist in pre-paying next year's taxes.

CRD DOG LICENCES – NEW PROCEDURE

Please note that CRD Animal Care Services has changed their dog licence procedure. The District will continue to sell dog licences to new residents/dogs or as replacement tags only. The District can no longer accept payment for a CRD Dog Licence Renewal. Renewals from CRD Animal Care Services will be in the mail to dog owners December 1. These will be on a new white form and it will be clearly indicated on the renewal form, filler insert and on the CRD website that payments can only be accepted online (using online banking), by phone, email, or mail, or in person at the CRD Animal Care office.

Neutered or Spayed: Intact Males \$25, Females \$45. Spayed or Neutered within the last 12 months prior to licencing: FREE (receipt of spay or neuter must be presented at time of purchase).

CRD will be sending out dog licence renewals on December 1, 2016. Purchase your dog licence before December 31 and save \$5 per licence.

DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN MEETING SCHEDULE – DECEMBER 2016

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

Council Meeting	Dec 5, 7:00 pm	Parks Committee	Dec 5, 7:00 pm
Finance and Environment Committee	Dec 5, 7:00 pm	Highways and Public Works Committees	Dec 5, 7:00 pm
Planning Committee	Dec 5, 7:00 pm		

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

SIRC: SENIORS' INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTRE

Winter Hours for SIRC

Effective December 1st, SIRC will be open 11:00 am–3:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday and closed Saturday through Monday.

SIRC is located at 4495 Happy Valley Road on the ground floor of the former Metchosin Elementary School Building, opposite the Broken Paddle Café. Email: msirc@shaw.ca, Tel: 250-478-5150.

Gourmet Dinner Raffle Winner

The winning ticket for the gourmet dinner for eight was drawn at the AGM of the Metchosin Seniors' Association held on November 15. Wendy Turner is the lucky winner!



Geeks and Geezers

Drop in to our open learning computer lab any time, or book an appointment 1:00–3:00 pm Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday.

Volunteers

If you have an hour or two a week (or a month) and are interested in giving us a hand, please call 250-478-5150. We would love to hear from you.

2016 Metchosin Day Youth Award



Alysha Becker and Markus Meyer, recipients of the 2016 Metchosin Day Youth Award. Joannie Challenger photo

JOANNIE CHALLENGER

This award was presented by Mayor John Ranns in late October.

Alysha Becker has been part of the Metchosin Scouting community since the age of 5. Even from the early years, Alysha has been a very enthusiastic member and has since grown into an amazing representative for the group.

From enthusiastically joining in with a broom pull, to lovingly mentoring the younger youth, Alysha has always been a positive, shining example of what Scouting represents.

In the summer of 2014 and again this past summer, she took part in a unique journey where she and 11 fellow Scouts from throughout the Greater Victoria area travelled to Europe for a World Jamboree in Blair Athol, Scotland. The trip involved almost two years of fundraising and planning and, in true Alysha

fashion, she was not only an eager participant but was also up front and centre in offering to spearhead activities to make any fundraising event a success.

Alysha has a positive work attitude and an amazing work ethic. Coupled with a radiant personality, she has been an asset to Scouting and Metchosin, and has a bright future in front of her.

Markus Meyer has been part of the Scouting community in Metchosin since moving here in 2006, and is currently a third-year Venturer with the group. Voted President of the Venturer Company the past two years, he has been a key player in coordinating many events, including a very successful tree chip last Christmas.

This past year Markus also took on the responsibility of becoming a Leader in Training for the Beaver section. In June of this year he was awarded the Gord Reimer

youth Award. This is an award voted on by his peers within the Scouting group and reflects his ability to be a team player and a positive role model.

He is a very respected student at Belmont Secondary School and last year received the Outstanding Service Award for volunteering within the school. He is part of the Belmont Ambassadors Program where he works with the international students.

He is part of the Westshore Youth Housing Task Force which focuses on the issue of youth homelessness on the Westshore. Markus was the liaison for his Vital Youth Group through the Victoria foundation where, as a group, the youth received \$2,500 in grants to donate to local non-profit organizations of their choice.

Markus is currently in the process of applying to Pearson College where his focus will be on international relations.

Making Metchosin a Flu-Free Zone



DEIRDRE CHETTLEBURGH

Health authorities caution that this year's strains of flu are likely to be especially nasty, and seniors are particularly vulnerable. With this in mind, SIRC (the Seniors' Information and Resource Centre) has been collaborating with the Latoria Pharmacy IDA and the Fire Department to offer immunizations.

The Emergency Operations Centre became a flu clinic early in November when 230 flu vaccinations were administered by pharmacist Mohamed Zeid and Donna Gramigna, a Metchosin resident and nurse with VIHA.

"We are trying to cover different areas of health care through vaccination," said Zeid. "These include the flu and pneumonia, as well as tetanus and shingles which can cause serious

neurological damage." Thirty vaccinations for pneumonia and thirty for shingles were administered in September and October.

This campaign of prevention will continue into the new year, and will include lectures to seniors at the Community House and one-on-one meetings to review medications in an innovative "Portable Pharmacy Project." In partnership with SIRC, a pharmacist will conduct volunteer visits to seniors in their homes to review their medications.

Metchosin has already been recognized by the BC Government as one of this province's most age-friendly communities. A project like this will ensure that we continue to lead the way as a healthy, age-friendly community. For more details, please watch the *Muse* and check our website: www.metchosinseniors.ca



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SINCE 1988



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

A WWI Remembrance of Archibald W.G. Marshall

ALLISON MARSHALL

My grandfather was killed at the Second Battle of Ypres, on June 2, 1916. My father was 11 years old and his sister was 13. It has had a profound effect on our family. At 11 years of age, my father's life changed drastically. He became the "man" of the family, making himself responsible for its well-being. The trauma of such insecurity never left him throughout his life. He had adored his quiet-spoken father who was an engineer, loved to play chess, and was renowned in Saskatoon for fixing clocks and watches. The story goes that there was one grandfather clock that he looked after, which stopped on the day that he was killed. It could not be restarted despite repeated attempts by others. As children of my father, the subject of his father was definitely not to be mentioned, being too painful.

My grandfather signed up in Sewell, Manitoba on June 4, 1915 stating that his age was 37 years, six months, although actually he was 44, which was too old to enlist. As this was his parents' home, he probably thought that no one would suspect the age discrepancy. When he returned home to Saskatoon, my grandmother was in the kitchen, and he told her by saluting her. He took the oath of allegiance on July 1, and after a medical exam was accepted.

He arrived in England on December 3 and made

and signed a will on January 26, 1916. He was assigned to the 9th CMRs (Canadian Mounted Rifles), B Squadron from Western Canada. On January 28 he left Bramshott, England and landed in France the next day where he was re-assigned to the Quebec Regiment, the 5th CMRs, and transferred to the 8th Infantry Brigade, which was in the field. He taught others how to make ammunition during this time. On March 9, he left the Canadian Base Details for the field and joined the unit on March 10, after reporting. On June 2, he was reported "Missing" almost a year to the day after he had signed up.

His uncle in England had given him a stove and some fuel to heat his bully beef and tea. He had left it behind and went back to retrieve it, and was blown up by a mine. His body was never found. His friend, who was also from Saskatoon, said how fortunate Archie had been to have missed the first gas attack, which was sent over that day. This friend suffered the rest of his life and tried to commit suicide over 20 times before he succeeded.

My grandfather's personal affects never arrived home, as the ship which they were on was attacked and sunk, so that the family didn't even receive that consolation. My grandmother took in boarders and my father and aunt went to work to survive financially. They eventually moved to Vancouver to be near family

members of my grandmother. Even as an old lady, my aunt would become tearful saying, "Daddy shouldn't have gone, he was too old." Her husband had signed up at age 15. A year later he was in a charge in which he became the leader, after all of his senior officers were killed. He survived the war but died of a heart attack at a young age.

My father became a successful business man with the help of my mother. In 1976 we made a trip to Britain and Belgium. We discovered an Anglican church in Ypres, "The Friends of St. George's Memorial Church," funded by families who have lost loved ones in the two world wars there. There is a pilgrimage from Britain every May to Flanders and in May 1978 we joined those in Britain to go. We laid a memorial plaque in the church in Ypres, a fulfillment of a life-long wish for my father.

My grandfather's name is on the "Menin Gate" in Ypres. It is a memorial to those 55,000 soldiers of the Empire who fell in Flanders during the Great War and have no known graves. Here, every evening at 8:00 pm, the traffic on the highway is stopped and the Last Post is played and wreaths are laid. When we were there, we were told that the only time that this did not happen was during WWII. It was interesting talking to the veterans. One old British soldier told me, when we were at Vimy, how



Collected memories of a Grandfather lost in WWI. Allison Marshall photo

he survived the gas attack. He said, "We crawled into a bunker and piled the dead bodies at the opening to block the gas."

My mother had a brother fighting in WWI and he was in Passchendaele. He wouldn't talk about it much, but did say that the mud was another danger. At that time my mother was a little

girl and used to write to him often. She found out later how much he had enjoyed her letters as she would tell him things that a child would enjoy: there are six new puppies, or a new colt, or "so-and-so" had kittens.

I wish to thank you for this opportunity to tell my story, and my family's story.

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Give the Gift of Food!

ANDY MACKINNON

The holiday season can be a stressful time! There are many demands on your time, and these can take you away from a focus on friends and relatives, and enjoying the winter season in beautiful Metchosin.

Fortunately, Metchosin has some fine food purveyors. So why not ease your burden and let someone else cook for you? These establishments also offer gift certificates ... easy local shopping for a gift that's bound to please the recipient.

My-Chosen Café (fresh, from-scratch home cooking), The Sugar Shack (Old Fashioned Bakery and Ice Cream) and My-Chosen Pizza (Artisan Pizza), are run by Mike and Shannon Madill. They're all housed in the same building at 4492 Happy Valley Road (corner of Happy Valley and Metchosin/William Head). Sugar Shack is open 9:00 am–9:00 pm; My-Chosen

Pizza 11:00 am–9:00 pm (with delivery after 4:00 pm); and My-Chosen Cafe 10:00 am–9:00 pm Monday to Friday, and 8:00 am–9:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. The Sugar Shack also features a fun selection of hand-crafted items from local artists for sale, with new items and artists added regularly. (It's also a good place to pick up Jesse Roper CDs!)

Call them at 250-474-2333 (Café), 250-474-5566 (Pizza), or 250-474-2380 (Sugar Shack), or check out their website: www.mychosencafe.com

Shannon Meeker's Broken Paddle Coffee House opened 11 years ago in the village (4480 Happy Valley Road). It's an eclectic gathering place, with free-trade organic specialty coffees, local apple cider, homemade chai tea lattes, light lunches and fresh small batch baking made in-house. They're open Monday to Friday 8:00 am–3:00 pm, and Sundays and holidays

9:00 am–3:00 pm. Call the Broken Paddle Coffee House at 250-474-2999, or check out their website: www.brokenpaddle.ca

Glenrosa Farm Restaurant is located on Metchosin's historic Glenrosa Farm, at 5447 Rocky Point Road. Much of the food served here is local – grown on the farm, or supplied by Metchosin partners such as Still Meadow Farm and Parry Bay Sheep Farm. Thursday–Monday they serve lunch 11:00 am–3:00 pm, brunch Sundays 9:00 am–3:00 pm, and Country Tea 2:00–4:00 pm. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights supper is served from 5:00–8:00 pm. They're closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Contact Glenrosa Farm Restaurant at 250-478-6186, or visit their website: www.glenrosafarmrestaurant.com

Snow Goose Makes Migration Stop-Over at Wild ARC

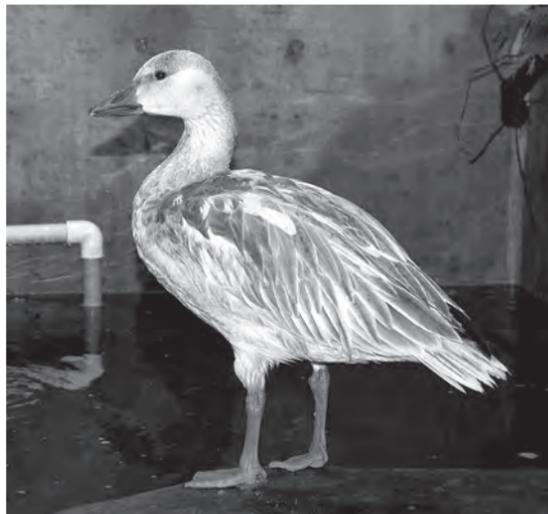
HEATHER SCHMITT

As the cold and rainy season starts to arrive, many of us dream about heading south in search of sun and sand. For many migratory bird species, of course, this dream is a reality – but it takes a lot of hard work and long-distance flying to safely arrive at their warm wintering grounds.

While some birds start their voyage south from coastal BC, for others this is a relatively warm and fertile stopping point on a longer migratory journey. Snow geese, for example, spend their summers far to the north in Alaska and along the Arctic coast. They then make their way down to Oregon, California, Arizona, and Mexico for the winter months, with a small population remaining to brave the winter weather in protected estuaries in southern BC.

One young snow goose arrived this season from the far north in poor condition, likely having used up the bulk of his resources on his flight south. Found lingering for several days on Magic Lake on Pender Island, his flock had continued on their journey and he seemed unable to keep up. The snow goose was rescued by Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre – based on nearby Salt Spring Island – and transferred to BC SPCA Wild ARC for treatment.

He arrived alert but quite thin, and with a high parasite load that suggested he was having a tough time on his journey down the coast. His digestive system was quite upset as a result of this combination of parasites and poor diet, so he required special care from Wild ARC's rehabilitation team to stabilize his system. "One of the main considerations when migrating species arrive at our centre," explains senior wildlife rehabilitator Christina Carrières, "is developing a treatment plan that can address their issues and help them return to their normal migration pattern as quickly as possible."



Snow goose on the mend. Christina Carrières photo

Snow geese tend to depart from the Arctic region near the end of August, arriving in southern BC between the middle and end of October. They prefer freshwater and brackish marshes along the coast, with the Fraser River delta being an habitual stopping point for large flocks. They bulk up on the leaves, stems, and roots of marsh plants – with the occasional foray into turned-over farmers' fields to root through the remainders of the summer season – to help give them enough energy for the rest of their journey. They migrate in large flocks of up to 1,000 birds, and fly during both day and night to reach their next stopping point.

This young snow goose is now well on the mend. He has been spending time in one of Wild ARC's outdoor pool pen enclosures now that he has been treated for some of his parasites and provided with nutritious food so he can bulk up to a healthy weight. The centre has been tracking where groups of snow geese are landing in the area, and when this goose is ready to continue his journey, he will be released into a new flock.



Presents
**the 10th Annual
Breakfast with Santa**
Saturday, December 24, 2016
Three Seatings: 9:00 am, 10:30 am or 12:00 noon

Children \$10, Adults \$15
100% of monies collected will benefit
Westshore Foodbank. All staff are volunteering
their time for this great event!

SOLD OUT



Featuring our homemade fluffy pancakes topped with strawberries and whipped cream, bacon, and a beverage.

We will be closed
for business Dec. 24, 25 & 26.
Happy Holidays!

Tickets go on sale starting at
10:00 am, Monday, November 21.
Purchase in person only at the
My-Chosen Café (no phone sales).

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www.chosinpottery.ca



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Sunday December 4th 10 am - 4:30 pm

Photos are by donation with proceeds to animals in need. Use your own camera/cell phone or we can take a photo and email it to you.

Gift items and goodies also for sale!

598 Parry RD 🐾 250 508 1777
Visit me at www.thegratefulpooch.ca and Facebook

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

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

Shop Locally this Christmas!

Christmas is coming and the wallets are getting thin. But there are still many opportunities to find lovely and, in some cases, off-beat gifts from local services. So the *Muse* and the Metchosin Community Association joined forces to produce a list of some of the local businesses and individuals whom you might want to check out. The great majority of these are actually from Metchosin. Others are from outside Metchosin but have supported this community in one way or another. Some (indicated by *) donated goods and services to the 2016 MCA Services Auction or other MCA events. By doing so, they provided real support to the MCA and, through that, to the community. Others (indicated by +) have advertised in the *Muse*, which helps them but also supports the *Muse* and the community too. Still others are local artisans and entrepreneurs providing local goods and services and thereby, along with all the others, helping enrich our community. We think they all deserve some consideration as a source of Christmas gifts.

Take a peek below for some neat and occasionally pretty different ideas.

Arts, Crafts and Entertainment Gifts

Metchosin is blessed with many artists and artisans of diverse interests and talents. They are a great source for beautiful Christmas gifts at different price levels. There are lots of possibilities to consider here!

***Amanda Wilmshurst** – creative birdhouses – always available at the Sugar Shack at My-Chosen Café.

Blue Haze Farm – local fresh picked holly for your decorations at \$4.00/pound; call ahead 250-474-5043; 3817 Duke Road

***Blue Heron Studio** – learn how to rug hook; includes design and rug hook. Contact sheila@blueheronstudio.ca

Chameleon Designs – handmade gifts using rustic and reclaimed materials, practical household items and jewellery with a vintage feel. Horse and dog themes for the animal lover too! 208-508-1777; 598 Parry Road; www.thegratefulpooch.ca

***Claire Lowery** – sewing repairs – elowery@shaw.ca

Glow Arts – 4495 Happy Valley Road

***Jesse Roper** – cool CDs available at the Sugar Shack

Just Me Natural Products – hand-made natural soaps, call Gail Danby, 250-479-7260

+**le Soleil Jewellers** – custom design our speciality. 250-388-5162; lesoleiljewellers.com; 1070 Brookview Drive

+***Metchosin Soap Works**

– Gift certificates for soap making lessons and wonderful products: soaps, deodorants, bath salts and more. 250-857-4677

N Valentine Studio – small-scale glass and metalwork; jewellery and keepsake pieces make wonderful holiday gifts. nvalentinestudio@gmail.com; www.nvalentinestudio.com

SewFairyCute – Bow ties from fun to formal available for affordable gift giving. Novelty clips or prettied-up adjustable styles in many fabrics. Why be ORDINARY? Contact Charmaine at 250-478-7461.

+**Sooke Philharmonic Chamber Players and Sooke Philharmonic Chorus** – making harmony... naturally. 250-419-3569; info@sookephil.ca

+**Stinking Fish Artists**

Marlene Bowman – pottery. 250-642-7620; mjbseagirt@shaw.ca

Bonnie Coulter – painting. 250-642-7650; coulterb@telus.net

Detlef Grundmann – woodworking. 250-474-1957; pebble@shaw.ca

Chiarina Loggia – printmaking. 250-474-1957; chiarina@shaw.ca

Frank Mitchell – painting. 250-478-1671; fhm@shaw.ca

Wendy Mitchell – fibre art. 250-884-7639; wendyncmitchell@shaw.ca

Bev Petow – metal work. 250-642-6920; petowdesign@shaw.ca; www.bevpetowdesign.com

Chosin Pottery: Judi Dyelle and Morgan Saddington – pottery and jewellery. 250-474-2676; chosin@pottery.ca; www.chosinpottery.ca

Ann Semple – pottery. 250-880-0113; annsemple@shaw.ca

Rick Lawler – mixed media assemblages. 250-642-1309; ricklawlor007@gmail.com

***Sybille Wilson Piano Studio** – the gift of music. 250-474-4140

+**The Encores** – live music for private functions. 250-478-2791

Windrush Gallery – painters, potters, glass artisans, jewellers, their work is all here. 250-580-5673; 4357 Metchosin Road; www.windrushgallery.ca

+**Wintercreek Farm** – U-cut fir and pine Christmas trees, holly and cedar wreaths and swags – the whole family will enjoy the outing (bring boots) and you can hang your Christmas creations on the tree – 4629 William Head Road, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, daily until December 23. 250-478-5470

Health and Fitness Gifts

They say health and fitness go along with happiness. It is certainly a way to enhance your enjoyment of Metchosin. Gifts from the following may be just what a friend or loved one would enjoy.

***Atman Massage Clinic** – gift certificates for Thai or cranial massage or therapeutic yoga available; email swadeyoga@gmail.com.

+***Bella Yoga** – gift certificates for yoga at georgia@bellayoga.ca; 250-391-0497; www.Bellayoga.ca

***Emiko Ihara Massage Therapy** – certificates available by calling 778-679-3761 or email eihara.rmt@gmail.com

+**Frontrunners** – local soles for you. #123-755 Goldstream Ave.

Green Acres Golf Course – 250-474-2123

+***Jazzercise** – a fun way to get and stay in shape. 250-474-6884; jazzercise@shaw.ca

+**Latoria Pharmacy** – get gift certificates. 115-611 Brookside Road, by the Red Barn Market.

Metchosin Golf and Country Club – 250-478-3266

***Metchosin Physiotherapy** – physiotherapy assessments and treatments including individualized exercise programs. The cost for a 45 minute session is \$65.00. 250-519-6969

+***Metchosin Yoga** – get a gift of wellness with a gift certificate from Metchosin Yoga. Contact Suzanne at metchosinyogastudio@gmail.com

***Olympic View Golf Course** – give gift certificates for lessons or rounds. 250-474-3673

... continued on next page



*Sooke Philharmonic Chamber Players
& Sooke Philharmonic Chorus*
Conducted by Nicholas Fairbank

Festive Harmony



Friday December 2, 2016 | 7:30 PM
Sooke Community Hall
2037 Shields Road, Sooke

Sunday December 4, 2016 | 2:30 PM
Quarterdeck Ballroom
Royal Roads University
2005 Sooke Road, Victoria

Magnificat, BWV 243
J.S. Bach

Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248 (excerpts)
J.S. Bach

Tickets: Sooke & Metchosin outlets
250-419-3569 | info@sookephil.ca



Making Harmony... Naturally

Metchosin's 2016 Christmas Market

ANDY MACKINNON

Metchosin's Second Annual Christmas Market takes place Sunday, December 4, 11:00 am–2:00 pm, at the usual location (behind the Fire Hall). This event is sponsored by members of the Metchosin Producers' Association. What a terrific opportunity to stock up your holiday pantry and to acquire some distinctive gift items! The event is free and fun, there will be live entertainment, and donations will be accepted for the Goldstream Food Bank.

There will be 20 or more vendors at the market, including at least eight from Metchosin. Sea Bluff Farm, run by Robin Tunncliffe, will feature more than 30 varieties of delicious winter vegetables; Sunrise Cottage Farm, managed by the Hughes-Sharpe Family will bring attractive Swags and Wreaths to add to your holiday festivities. Gumboot Bakery, operated by Kathy Griffiths, will have assorted cookies, pies, DIY gingerbread folk and similar goodies. Gail Danby's Just Me Natural Products will feature a selection of Gail's hand-made natural soaps. Cookie Taylor of Cookies Critter Care will be selling unique pet toys and to-die-for dog cookies. Stillmeadow Farm and Parry Bay Sheep Farm will be selling frozen cuts of delicious Metchosin-grown pork, lamb and chicken. Two other Metchosin vendors at the Market are Victorian Patchworks and RavenHill Homestead. Contact information for many of these vendors can be found on pages 8 and 9 of this issue.

Other vendors include Bits and Bobs, Earthly Delights, Stone Art, Tree Of Life, Mia's Metals, Salty Woodworks, Dottie Pots, Woodwork, Ty Dye, Rocky Creek Winery, and Littler Farm Creations. Food vendor The Crispy Fish will also be there.

+*Stillpoint Therapies – to relieve the stress of the holiday season place Stillpoint Therapies on your Christmas list. 250-744-7927; helen-peacock@shaw.ca

***Structure Health** – gift certificates available for massage therapy and health services at Structure Health and Wellness – 50% off first appointment if you mention *Metchosin Muse* at the time of booking. Colin Tenove M.TCM, R.Ac. Registered Acupuncturist and Manual Therapist – Foundation Training Instructor. www.structure-health.com

Eating In, Eating Out

Enjoying food and drink is a central tradition of Christmas. Goodies, gift certificates or a treated night out at one of the following would make a wonderful Christmas gift. But make plans to get home safe!

Broken Paddle – organic specialty coffees, teas, in-house baking, light lunches all in a warm gathering place atmosphere; call 250-474-2999; www.brokenpaddle.ca

Eisenhower Organic Produce – organic supplies delivered over the winter; could include a \$20 gift certificate. 250-474-7161; eisenhowerorganic.ca

+Galloping Goose Sausage Company – local and delicious. wkate80@shaw.ca

+*Glenrosa Farm Restaurant – gift certificates for a meal or for family or office holiday party gatherings. glenrosafarm@gmail.com

+*L.A. Limousine and Transport – it's how you get there, safely, and in style! 250-391-9000; www.lalimo.ca

+Metchosin Country Store – local produce and lots more. 250-478-2405

+*My-Chosen Café – gift certificates available at My Chosen Café, Sugar Shack, 4492 Happy Valley Rd. 250-474-2333

+*My-Chosen Pizza 250-474-5576

***Royal Bay Bakery** – wonderful baked goods. 250-478-3717; www.royalbaybakery.ca

***Sea Bluff Farm** – for gift certificates or information on our winter abundance box call 250-479-8273; seabluffbusi@gmail.com

Parry Bay Sheep Farm and Stillmeadow Farm – all natural lamb, pork and chicken. parrybaysheepfarm.com; stillmeadowfarm.ca

Sunrise Cottage Farm – swags and wreaths, 250-514-4367; 4652 William Head Road

The Fudge Fairy – Homemade hand chocolate dipped fudge available in gift tins by custom order. Fresh fudge available at the fudge stand at 4736 William Head Road. Call Charmaine at 250-478-7461

***The Winemaker** – Give the gift of wine this Christmas! Custom labelled bottle with gift certificate suspended inside for the wine lover on your list to open and enjoy!! Contact Penny, 250-704-1000

Personal Services

We all need a little pampering from time to time. Here are some opportunities to give your friends a little boost.

***Bonnie T. Rennie** – cuts and colours professional hair stylist, your place or mine by appointment 250-858-2231, 4459 Morland Rd. Metchosin.

***Calm Cool and Uncluttered** – give the gift of an organized home. maggie@calmcooluncluttered.ca

***Debbie's Family Hair Studio** – cut and colour hair design. 250-391-4096

About Pets

Pets are precious. Treat your own and those of your friends well at Christmas. Here are some possibilities.

+*Cookies Critter Care – top choice for excellent pet care. 250-415-9335; metchosincookie@gmail.com; www.cookies@gmail.com

+*Juan de Fuca Veterinary 250-478-0422, 117-2244 Sooke Road, www.juandefucavetclinic.com

+The Grateful Pooch – Photos with Santa. 250-508-1777

Landscaping and Garden Supplies and Services

Do you have a friend with a garden or landscaping project in their mind or under way? In Metchosin? Of course you do! Gift certificates from any of the following might be the perfect gift.

***Adams Tree Service** – for your winter tree needs put Adams Tree Service on your Christmas list. 250-516-8315.

+By the Wave – yard maintenance. 250-217-6128

+Dean Straith – Landscape Design – excavation, materials, water features, deer-proof nurseries. 250-589-6599; same@straiths.com

***Garden City** – organic mulch, three blends, fish mulch, fine blend mulch and coarse mulch made locally with local product call 250-385-4858 to learn more.

***High Meadow Landscape** – expert excavating and landscaping services – call Mark at 250-474-0492

Metchosin Farm stand – consider the gift of a perennial food plant; winter is the best time to plant them and a wide selection is available at the farm stand at 542 Wootton Road. Look for the new website in mid-December.

+Numa Farms Nursery – the foundation of your landscape. 250-474-6005

+Richard's Landscaping and excavating services. 250-478-2980

+*Sugar Shack – good selection of Metchosin-grown seeds which make great stocking stuffers.

Automobile Services

Giving someone a car for Christmas may be a little over the top. But if you know someone who loves their vehicle and it could use a little TLC, consider a gift certificate from one of the following. And a ride in a limo does make a nice change.

***Kivari Auto Repair** – cars don't take holidays – consider a gift certificate for your repair needs. 250-474-7403

+*L.A. Limousine and Transport – it's how you get there, safely, and in style! 250-391-9000; www.lalimo.ca

+Millar's Automotive – Volkswagen Specialist. 250-391-0588

+Race Rocks Automotive – repairs to all makes and models. 250-478-1920

***The Finer Details** – for gift certificates call 250-361-9119

+West Coast Tire and Wheel 250-889-6161

Other Residential Services

So maybe these aren't the sort of things people think about first when making up their Christmas lists. But what could be more practical and welcome for someone with a big job to do on their home than a gift certificate from one of the following? And it probably would win the prize for most unexpected gift!

***Coast Environmental** – prepare for the winter weather with Coast Environmental. 250-380-1166

***Jeff Craig Painting** – give the gift of painting; call 250-727-7110

***Timber Hawk Home Builders** – thinking of building this Christmas. 250-888-9645; timberhawk@gmail.com

+Windsor Plywood – floors, doors and more. 250-474-6111; www.windsorplywood.com

Glenrosa Farm



Restaurant

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A Blue Moon Christmas



Songs
&
Stories

Food
&
Drink

Featuring: *A Yorkshire Lad's Christmas*

Thurs Dec 15 7pm

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE

Please bring a cash or food donation for the food bank

THE 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET

PRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
Metchosin Producers Association



Find Gifts, Toys, Decorations, Yummy Baked Goods, Seasonal Produce and lots of Festive Glee!

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

11:00-2:00

Behind the Fire Hall

Please join us for a joyful time!!

Donations gratefully accepted to the
Goldstream Food Bank.

Let's celebrate Christmas and another wonderful market year!

Find The Metchosin Farmers' Market on Facebook
Email the Metchosin Producers' Association at metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com

PEARSON COLLEGE'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT



From 160 students from 80 countries, we offer a jolly show with dances and songs! Come find your Christmas spirit and join us at the Community Hall on Sunday, December 4th at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there!



See the Muse online!

<http://www.metchosinmuse.ca>

Fifteen Dollars Well Spent

JOHNNY CARLINE

I haven't bugged readers recently about taking out or renewing membership in the Metchosin Community Association (MCA). Now, as we approach Christmas, I have some bad news and some good news.

The bad news is that membership is down to about a half of what it was this time last year. Annual membership is just ten dollars and helps support all the programs open to our community at the Community House, almost all rent free! These include the Parents and Tots program, the Guest Speakers program, the Film night, the Music night, Art on the Wall, and all our great participatory programs like the Rough Voice Choir, the Knitting program, Toastmasters, the Rug-hookers, the Arts Group and so on. It costs money to maintain and staff the house to allow these programs to occur, and taking out a membership is one way of demonstrating that you support the existence of the House and helping the MCA pay the bills.

For just ten dollars you can take out or renew a membership until July 2017. But the good news is that the

MCA is once again offering its amazing Christmas special which allows you, for just five dollars more, to take out or renew a membership all the way to July 2018. That is not just a great opportunity for you, it would also make a lovely little stocking-stuffer gift for someone you know.

But just in case this does not appeal to you, in the spirit of Christmas, let me offer some different ideas on how you might spend fifteen dollars this Christmas.

You could take a taxi from Metchosin to one of the fast food joints in Langford or Colwood. The neat thing is that fifteen dollars won't actually get you there, so you'll have to walk some of the way there and all the way back. It's cheaper than joining a fitness club.

You could buy a small box of chocolates from a grocery store. Unlike the MCA membership, they won't last eighteen months. Though, come to think of it, some of the ones I have bought look like they have already lasted almost that long.

You could rent one of those animated fantasy movies for the visiting grandchildren to view, and to scream at, holler at and laugh out very loud at. Hopefully they

will love watching it. In another room!

You could hire a gardener for a few minutes to start weeding your garden. Fifteen dollars' worth won't transform your garden but, if you are like me, watching might help guide you to do the rest of it without pulling up and disposing of your wife's most treasured plant thinking it was invasive ragwort.

You could treat yourself to a yoga-based exercise class and give muscles you never knew you had a bit of a stretch and a work-out. Or you could try my version of that, which is to buy a pair of compression stockings and try putting them on and taking them off for fifteen minutes. It's tougher than you think, especially if your feet aren't quite dry after a shower.

After that, fifteen dollars' worth of physio might be just what you need.

And there must be many other similar, equally wonderful ways to blow fifteen bucks at Christmas. You had better phone Heather at the House (250-478-5155) to take out or renew an MCA membership; and do it quickly. These other, competing temptations are hard to resist!

Pearson College Christmas Concert Returns December 4!

BARBARA METHVIN

Sunday, December 4, 7:00 pm
Metchosin Community Hall
4401 William Head Road

If you went last year, we know you'll be going this year. If you missed it last year, this year you won't want to miss this choir of unusually talented international students who will bring us music from around the world. There will be solo performances as well as dance performances and, most of all, we look forward to the infectious spirit of youth, friendship and fun that has given us all the most uplifting start to the Christmas season in previous years.

In addition, you can enjoy refreshments with apple tea and the fun of a dessert raffle, all made by Metchosin bakers. "The Christmas Concert in Metchosin is the highlight of our performance schedule," said one performer. "We look forward to it and prepare all year."

Admission is by donation of either foodstuffs for the Food Bank or cash donations, the proceeds from which will be shared by the Food Bank and the Pearson student travel fund for family emergencies. The sponsoring organization, the Metchosin Community Association, will receive the proceeds from the refreshments and dessert raffle.



Wintercreek Christmas Tree Farm

U-Cut Trees Available December 1-23
10 am-3 pm daily
Children Welcome

Marie 250-478-5470



OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

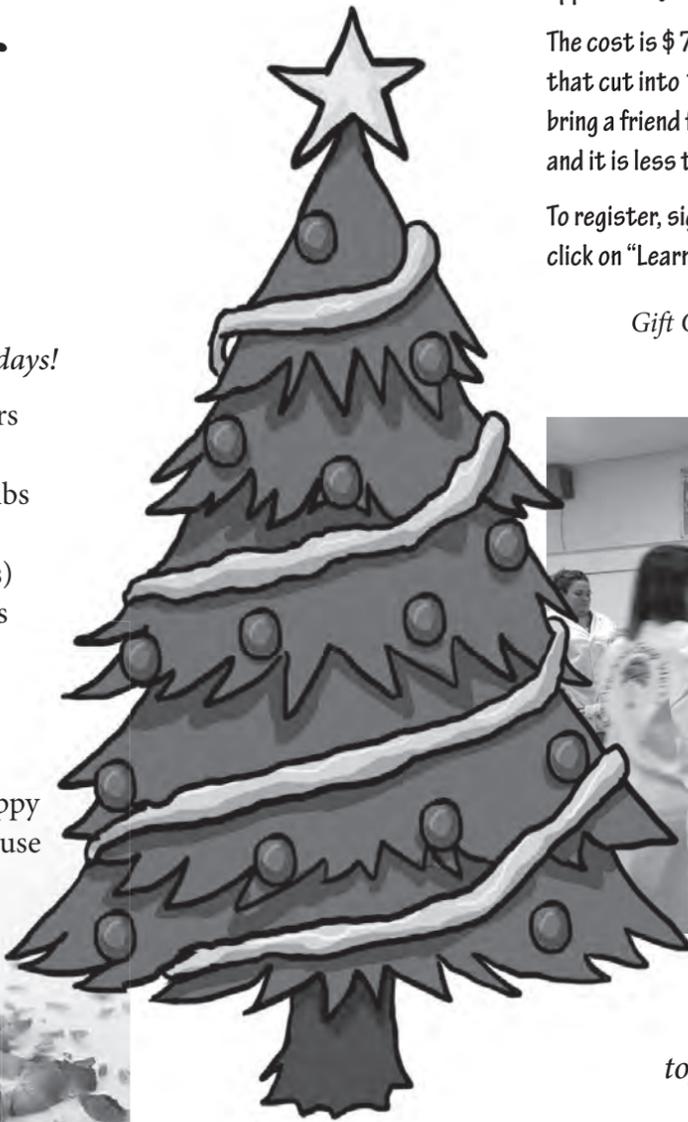
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- Vintage Metal Signs (Ideal for Man Caves)
- Gift Certificates for Soap Making Lessons
- Lots of Stocking Stuffers

We will be open every day from December 3 to 24, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Metchosin Soap Works is located at 4495 Happy Valley Road in the Old Metchosin School House (MACCA), across from My-Chosen Café.

www.MetchosinSoapWorks.com



Learn 2 Make Soap!

Every Wednesday and Thursday night we offer lessons on how to make soap from start to finish. You then have the opportunity to design and create your own handcrafted soap.

The cost is \$ 75 plus GST. You will take home 4 lbs of soap that cut into 18 one-inch bars. We offer a 2-for-1 special: bring a friend for FREE and share the soap – split the cost and it is less than \$ 39 each!

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Gift Certificates for Soap Making Lessons available for purchase.



Thank you for shopping local; together we can keep our Planet clean!

Rough Voice Singers and A Call from Chetwynd, BC

BARB SAWATSKY

You know you're on the right track when you receive a phone call from Chetwynd asking for tips on starting a community sing-along group.

Introducing herself as Cheryl, the caller explained that her parents live in Metchosin and when she visits them she reads the *Muse*. Rough Voice articles have caught her eye more than once and started her thinking about organizing a group in her town during the long,

cold winter months. We've now been in touch by email and wish her all the best of luck in getting her idea off the ground. It's a great way to ward off the wintertime blues and to congregate with new and old friends.

I thought this was newsworthy enough but at the November 14 sing-along we were approached independently by two women, one from Prince George and the other from Hornby Island, both of whom were visiting friends in Metchosin and

wanted to talk to us about starting sing-along groups in their respective communities. Such a coincidence that all of these contacts happened in one month, but good things do come in threes.

December 12 marks our final session for 2016. Please join us for an evening of popular Christmas carols, hot apple cider and treats. We're back after the New Year on January 11, moving into our fourth successful year as a community sing-along group and proud of it.

A Delightful Evening

JOHNNY CARLINE

Metchosin residents were treated to an evening of utterly charming, simple poetry accompanied by sublimely sophisticated music, as the work of A.A. Milne (of *Winnie the Pooh* fame) was set to music and performed by (from

left to right) Karel Roessingh (piano), Joey Smith (bass), Damian Graham (percussion), singers Shannon Carman and Garnett Betts, and composer/narrator Milton Carman. Larry Bomford, who wrote some of the songs, was also present to enjoy this lovely little concert.



HOUSE HAPPENINGS

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

Ongoing Programs

Mondays

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

Buddies – 2:45–4:30 pm. Buddies offers Reading and Math tutoring as well as help with homework for Metchosin students grades K–6. Students receive a half hour, one-to-one tutoring session with an adult or teen volunteer. Registration forms are available at Hans Helgesen School or call MCH at 250-478-5155 or the coordinator, Nancy Evans at 250-642-4613. Last session for the year is December 5, returning January 9.

Pearson College Students Outreach – 3:00–4:30 pm. Helping seniors and youth in our community. Invite Pearson College students to visit or help with a project. Particularly aimed at Metchosin seniors, but call 250-474-0634 and leave a message to see if you might be eligible. The program is finished for the year but will return January 9.

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

Singalong – Metchosin Rough Voice Singers – The Rough Voice Singers meet at the Community House on the second and fourth Monday each month from 7:00–9:00 pm. All are welcome to join us at this fun, drop-in sing-along group where a good singing voice is not a requirement. \$2/person. Contact Barb Sawatsky (250-478-0553). No Rough Voice December 26.

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. Last session for the year December 13, returning January 3.

Knitting Café. On the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly, the Knitting Café has afternoon sessions from 1:00–3:00 pm. See the Monday listing for contact information. Last session for the afternoon group is December 13, returning January 10.

Wednesdays

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

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

Thursdays

Creative Rug Hooking – First and third Thursdays, 10:30 am–1:30 pm, led by Sheila Stewart, certified instructor of Traditional Rug Hooking. Beginners are welcome, but should contact Sheila (email blueheronstudio@telus.net, or call 250-595-6406) to discuss needed supplies. Experienced rug hookers are invited to bring their own projects. Bring a bag lunch; tea and coffee available. No fees but donation jar available to cover refreshment costs.

Community Potluck Lunch – Last Thursday of each month, 12:00–1:30 pm. All welcome. No potluck on December 29.

Fridays

Parent and Tot Program – 9:30–11:30 am. Calling all Metchosin tots! The Parent and Tot Drop-In Program invites moms, dads, caregivers and their young children to join us Friday mornings for our community program. Children will enjoy our new toys, books and craft opportunities. Parents will enjoy our relaxed, supportive environment, parent resource library and opportunities to connect with other parents and kids. We look forward to seeing you and your little ones. The last session for the year is December 16. The program will return on January 20, 2017.

Pearson Student Teatime Drop-In – 2:45–4:30 pm. Enjoy a cup of tea and conversation with international students from Pearson College. Program finishes for the season on December 2, returning the week of January 9.

Music Night – 7:00–9:00 pm, second Friday of each month. Program will restart January 13, 2017. Watch for details.

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

Film Night – 7:00–9:00 pm. No film night in December; returning January 27.

Events

Pearson College Christmas Concert – Sunday, December 4, 7:00 pm, Metchosin Community Hall, 4401 William Head Road. The choir of international students promises to delight its audience with songs of the season.

A delicious dessert raffle and refreshments will be served with the proceeds going to the Metchosin Community Association. Admission is by donation, the proceeds from which will be shared between the food bank and the Pearson College student emergency travel fund. There will also be a food bank donation box for non-perishable foodstuffs.

Blue Moon Christmas – Thursday, December 15, 7:00–9:00 pm. Dave and Lesley Preston host their annual Blue Moon Christmas, featuring a Yorkshire Lad's Christmas with festive songs and stories performed by local artists. Refreshments available. Admission by donation of cash or non-perishable goods for local food banks.

Art on the Walls – Linda Hemus and Jan Poulin. Viewing times are Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm. The Art on the Walls program offers the House as a wonderful venue for artists to show and display their works. For more information, please call the MCH at 250-478-5155.

Metchosin Community House – Office closure dates for Christmas and New Year: The MCHouse will be operating as usual with regard to the rentals that have been booked (see www.metchosincommunityhouse.com for online calendar), however the MCH Office will be closed December 26, 2016 to January 3, 2017.

Metchosin Foundation in 2017

CAROL CARMAN

Inclusive, collaborative and intergenerational planning are the hallmarks of Metchosin Foundation planning for 2017.

The 20th anniversary for our long-term partner, the Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT), was held at Glenrosa Farm Restaurant on November 8 and was a great launch to a two-year working partnership between our two organizations.

Each year, HAT has focused its outreach services on a different region of Greater Victoria. Beginning in 2017, and for two years after that, the focus of HAT's Good Neighbour Project will be Metchosin. Together, our two organizations will be seeking landowners who want to protect and steward lands along the riparian corridors and ocean shorelines. They may seek advice and help to meet their own land use needs while protecting some of Canada's rarest habitats. Each property is different, and stewardship staff can help interested residents to adopt responsible environmental strategies. These kinds of initiatives have already been called for in the Metchosin

Green and Blue Spaces Strategy and in the 2013 Shoreline Report.

Among the first visible collaborations between HAT and our Foundation is to erect a Habitat Steward sign on the forested area at West-Mont Montessori School. This recognizes the work of students who have been caring diligently for this small strip of land by ensuring invasive plant species do not get established. In doing this work, they can learn first-hand about the local ecology.

Today's students will include the next generation of Metchosin residents. They will have important environmental decisions to make. In past years, conservation and awareness activities supported by the Foundation have tended to target adults more than children. With this in mind, we have begun to look at ways to expand our work in environmental education to younger Metchosinites. Currently we are in conversation with Hans Helgesen and West-Mont staff about assisting classroom teachers with the tools and information they may need to enhance specific parts of their environmental curricula. We are delighted

with the ideas and enthusiasm coming forward. Several projects are being explored; more on this in upcoming reports.

Our Bio-Blitz and Myco-Blitz events continue to grow in popularity and in scientific value, as you will see by Kem Luther's summary in this edition of the *Muse* (p. 13).

As the year 2016 comes to a close, we thank all of our supporters who assist the Metchosin Foundation to preserve, protect and restore our local flora, fauna, rivers, lakes, wetlands, groundwater and marine areas. As we enter this Christmas and holiday season, many of us find we have no need of, indeed actively discourage, accumulating more stuff. Please consider a gift of stewardship to your loved ones by donating in their names to the Metchosin Foundation. As building and construction densities increase around all of our borders, this work becomes even more important.

For further information, check out our website at www.metchosinfoundation.ca. Charity BN Registration # 81576 1556 RR0001.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.



We look forward to continuing to help constituents with federal government departments, programs and services.

Randall Garrison, MP ESQUIMALT-SAANICH-SOOKE
 Critic for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, National Defence, LGBTQ Issues

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Halloween Scenes

Many young costumed adventurers roamed Metchosin to pose their annual question about trickery and treats and share their stories around the giant bonfire at the fire-hall. The *Muse's* camera was there to record the scene and the following four photos may have captured one of those short stories. Photos by Brian Domney.



That fire is so huge ...



And that firefighter is cute but ...



I just don't know ...



I think I'll be safe with this pumpkin!

MycoBlitz Surprises



The deadly Death Cap Mushroom

Britt Bunyard photo

KEM LUTHER

Mushrooms are October surprises. They surprise local hikers by the diversity of their sizes, shapes, and colours. They even shock mushroom professionals, mostly by showing up in places where they have never been seen before. This was the case at the Fourth Metchosin MycoBlitz, which took place on Friday and Saturday, November 4/5. The MycoBlitz capped off the Metchosin Biodiversity Project's 2016 inventory work by finding 20 mushrooms that had not been recorded at previous Metchosin BioBlitzes and MycoBlitzes.

Britt Bunyard, editor of *Fungi Magazine*, served as the MycoBlitz invited expert and speaker again this year. On Friday, the night before the MycoBlitz foray, Britt gave a talk to a packed audience in the Metchosin Council Chambers on "Mushroom stoned to stoned apes: the origins of the fungi," an overview of fungi

and what we know and don't know about their origins.

The next morning, Saturday, a group of about 30 local people showed up to help nine experts hunt for Metchosin mushrooms. Teams were sent on morning forays to Pearson College, Blinkhorn Park, and Camp Thunderbird. At noon the teams brought their fungal discoveries back to the headquarters at the Metchosin Council Chambers and laid them out on tables. While experts labeled the mushrooms, most of the helpers crossed to Metchosin Community House to watch the 1963 Japanese horror classic, *Attack of the Mushroom People*.

From 2:00 to 4:00 pm, the MycoBlitz headquarters at the Council Chambers was open to members of the public. Laid out and labeled on the table were 115 different species of mushroom. The 20 species that were entirely new to Metchosin MycoBlitz/BioBlitz records raised the count of

Metchosin organisms to 2319 species.

The mushroom community was saddened this year to hear about the first BC fatality caused by consumption of Death Cap mushrooms, a European introduction that has been making its way into urban centres in North America. Members of the search team found them on a pre-MycoBlitz foray into Victoria on Friday, but so far the mushroom has not been spotted in Metchosin. It will eventually make its way to our community; members of the public are advised to learn to recognize and avoid this deadly species.

More pictures from the MycoBlitz can be found on the Metchosin Biodiversity Project website at <http://metchosinbiodiversity.com>. The project acknowledges the generous support of the Metchosin Foundation and the many volunteers who make the Metchosin species counts possible.

Metchosin Soap Works Joins Forces with Soap for Hope

DEBBIE COOPER

Metchosin Soap Works is very happy to join forces with Soap for Hope, a wonderful not-for-profit organization that is located in Esquimalt.

Soap for Hope is an amazing organization completely run by volunteers. Through the hard work of these volunteers, this organization collects soap, shampoo, conditioner and other toiletries from local hotels and compiles them into wonderful kits that are distributed to homeless people in Victoria. They also take donated soap and repurpose the soap into new soap bars that they add to these kits.

The first step to ending homelessness is finding a way to stay clean and the volunteers at Soap for Hope are doing an incredible service to people in our city who are having a tough time getting back on their feet.

The other wonderful thing that Soap for Hope does is that they take left over shampoo, liquid soap and conditioner and transfer them into one-gallon containers that they then ship off to Third World countries such as Haiti. In some countries, just getting their hands on some soap is a luxury.

The volunteers at Soap for Hope are doing really amazing work and Metchosin Soap Works is thrilled to be able to

provide their program with assistance by donating soap and coming on board as a local drop-off centre for the Soap for Hope organization. Just outside our studio at Metchosin Soap Works, 4495 Happy Valley Road in the Old Metchosin School House (MACCA), we have a "Soap for Hope" donation bin for anyone wishing to donate. If you have any left over shampoo, liquid soap, conditioner, or soap bars that you wish to recycle and donate, please come by our studio and place them in our Soap for Hope bin. Our studio is open on Saturday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. You too can make a difference in someone's life by donating soap.



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A Scout's Story

JACOB GALLANT

My name is Jacob Gallant and I am a 14th Juan de Fuca Rover in Metchosin. Although I've been in scouting most of my life, I only joined this group recently and I want to share with you what that has meant to me.

Four years ago I was with another group and was about to head to a large camp when I was told that I couldn't go because I wasn't part of a group. I could not understand this as I had filled in all the forms. But then I found out that the group I was with had "forgotten" to tell me I wasn't part of their group anymore. This was shocking to me, and at this point I was desperate.

I asked one of the local leaders of 14th JDF, and he said I could join their group. Within the next couple of days, I became a Venturer with the group. Although, at first, I was nervous and didn't know what to expect, the company brought me in with open arms. For the first time, in a long time in Scouting, I finally felt like I had a reason to be here. People seemed to like having me around for events and fundraisers like the annual tree chip or bottle drives. They also liked having me around

for the camps like Fall/Spring Challenge and the Social Camps like "Rovent" or "Skeeter."

As time went on I got older and more mature, taking on roles like the Treasurer and even running for the Vice President at one point.

But even as these events were happening I was fighting with mental illness, and it made some of these events difficult. Like at the time of being kicked out of the group I was with originally I was going through a very weird phase where I was a bit delusional. People were avoiding me; I was losing people all over my life.

So, in my opinion, the 14th JDF was part of what saved me. But even when I was part of this group I grew into a deep depression and started losing track of keeping things up to date, like the treasurer's reports, and keeping in touch with the folks I was growing close to now. But even though I was trying to avoid them, these people just wouldn't let me, and that helped a lot with my depression. Because of that I would like to personally thank each one of them.

Where am I now? Well, I am a Cub Scout Leader with 14th JDF and a Rover with them too, and I plan to stay well into the future.

The Beavers Are Busy Again

KYLE JAMIESON

The Beaver Pond is active again for a second consecutive year in Metchosin! We have a great group of kids with two returning Beavers from last year and five new Beavers joining this year.

We also have three new Scouters, Jason Rivard, Laura Ward and Kyle Jamieson, who have adopted the roles as Scouters from Curtis Becker and Sandra Meyer who got the Beavers program back up and running in Metchosin last year.

The Beavers are always eager to learn in our weekly meetings, and we try to get an outdoor adventure in monthly. We meet Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm and



14th JDF Beaver Colony and their leaders.

are always looking for new Beavers (ages 5-7) to join the Pond. If you are interested or

would like more information about our program, please contact Kyle at 250-896-8887.

Metchosin Scouts Brave Weather for Trail Clearing



14th JDF Scouts heading out to clear the Hillman Trail. Joan Kew photo

JOAN KEW

Eight intrepid Scouts from 14th Juan de Fuca braved the weather on October 29 to clear

up debris on the Hillman Trail that runs from Hillman Road to Pears Road. Armed with rakes and shovels, they spent an hour in the pouring rain

and returned in good spirits, ready for dry clothes, and probably lunch.

This group spent the previous weekend at a zombie-themed Fall Challenge Camp – also in the rain, and yet they came back for more! They know that while much of it is just plain fun, they like the other rewards Scouting offers: it helps them to achieve their personal best, to contribute to the community, to respect themselves and others, to learn by doing, and more, with a focus on the outdoors as a learning resource.

There are Scouts Canada programs for youth from age 5 right up to 26 years old. If your child is interested in joining 14th Juan de Fuca Scouts, please send an email to 14thjuandefuca@victoria.scouts.ca.



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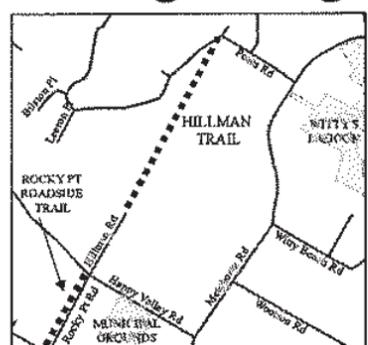
Marlene Lewis, MA, RSLP
Registered Speech-Language Pathologist
www.end-dyslexia.com

250-474-6368 or info@end-dyslexia.com

Take a Hike!

This trail map is from the Metchosin Parks and Trails brochure on the District of Metchosin website. To find more trails, please visit: <http://district.metchosin.bc.ca/content/parks-and-trails>

Hillman Road Trail & Mac Page Bridge



Trail corridor connecting Hillman & Pears Roads. Crosses Bilston Creek over Mac Page Bridge. Suitable for all uses year round.

Did You Miss Your Muse?

If you don't receive your *Metchosin Muse* on the last Thursday of the month (or the first Thursday of the month if the first day is on a Wednesday or Thursday) – and there's not a postal strike – please let us know! Email the editor at metmuse@shaw.ca, or call 250-474-3966, and we'll try to make sure it doesn't happen again.

In the meantime, see page 2 under "*Metchosin Muse*" for a list of locations where you can pick up a copy.

RCMP Call-Outs OCTOBER 2016

CONSTABLE ALEX BÉRUBÉ, WEST SHORE RCMP | GRC DE WEST SHORE

- | | |
|--|---|
| Oct 1 Lindholm Road – single vehicle MVI, No injuries, vehicle went off road. | Oct 17 Branson Road – Firearms surrendered during Gun Amnesty month. |
| Oct 2 Metchosin Road – Responded to two vehicle MVI. No injuries. | Oct 18 Sooke Road – Tree reported to be across the road. Police did not attend as it was removed. |
| Oct 3 Sooke Road – Complaint of speeding vehicle. Vehicle not located. | Oct 19 Kangaroo Road – Responded to a bear attacking pigs on a farm. Police wrangled the pigs home. |
| Oct 4 Neff Road – Police investigated an individual who breached his court-imposed conditions. | Oct 20 Happy Valley Road – Complaint of car alarm going off for 45 minutes. |
| Oct 5 Tiswilde Road – Received a report of bear sighting. Patrols were negative. | Oct 21 Happy Valley Road – Single vehicle MVI. Driver issued violation ticket for inadequate tires. |
| Oct 6 Witty's Lagoon – Received a report of a suspicious male. Male not located. | Oct 22 Bridlewood Court – Police arrested an individual for a breach of court imposed conditions. |
| Oct 7 Happy Valley Road – Responded to single vehicle MVI. Wet roads. Driver and passenger taken to hospital. | Oct 23 Matheson Lake Park – Report of theft from vehicle. No serial numbers provided. No suspects. |
| Oct 8 Happy Valley Road – Vehicle hydroplaned on wet road and ended up in the ditch. No injuries. | Oct 24 Matheson Lake Park – Report of theft from vehicle. Purse left in car was stolen. |
| Oct 9 Sooke Road – Assist Sooke RCMP with follow up on investigation. | Oct 25 Sooke Road – Single vehicle MVI. Unconscious driver rescued. |
| Oct 10 Taylor Road – Complaint of fireworks on the beach. | Oct 26 Dutnall Road – Report of a suspicious person with flashlight in backyard. Suspect located. |
| Oct 11 Happy Valley Road – Traffic stop led to arrest for possession of stolen property. | Oct 28 Metchosin Road – Traffic complaint in a school zone. |
| Oct 12 Metchosin Road – Report of two vehicle MVI. No injuries. | Oct 29 Rocky Point Road – Driving complaint received about an erratic driver. |
| Oct 13 Wedgewood Place – Report of an injured deer. Police put deer down. | Oct 30 Barrow Road – Complaint of squatters in the area. Suspects located. |
| Oct 14 Deer Park – Report of suspicious people at community mailboxes. Reported after the fact. | Oct 31 Sooke Road – Single vehicle MVI. Vehicle went off road and flipped on its side. Driver not injured. |
| Oct 15 Sooke Road – Report of electrical transformer caught on fire. Call forwarded to Fire Dept. | |
| Oct 16 Lindholm Road – Report of single vehicle MVI. No injuries. | |

MVI: Motor Vehicle Incident

Fire Department Call-Outs OCTOBER 2016

FIRE CHIEF STEPHANIE DUNLOP

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| Oct 01 Lindholm Road – MVI | Oct 19 Metchosin Road – Assistance Public Works |
| Oct 02 Metchosin Road – Assistance – Public Works | Pears Road – Assistance Public Works |
| Chapel Heights Drive – Medical | Oct 20 Rocky Point Road – Assistance general public |
| Oct 06 Rocky Point Road – Medical | Oct 22 Badger Place – Medical |
| Wooton Road – Open Burn | Oct 23 Metchosin Road – Medical |
| Lomax Road – MVI | Metchosin Road – Alarm bells – commercial |
| Oct 07 Rocky Point Road – Hydro lines down | Oct 24 Libra Place – Alarm bells – residential |
| Kangaroo Road – Assistance Public Works | Oct 25 Sooke Road – MVI |
| Kangaroo Road – MVI | Sooke Road – Assistance RCMP |
| Happy Valley Road – MVI | Oct 26 Sooke Road – Medical |
| Oct 08 Sooke Road – Hydro lines down | Metchosin Road – Alarm bells – commercial |
| Liberty Drive – Brush/grass – smoke, smell, sight | Oct 28 Beach fire |
| Pears Road – Medical | Oct 29 William Head Road – MVI |
| Oct 09 Kangaroo Road – Alarm bells – residential | Malloch Road – Assistance misc. complaint |
| Oct 10 Sooke Road – Medical | Oct 31 Sooke Road – MVI |
| Metchosin Road – Assistance Public Works | Happy Valley Road – MVI |
| Assistance misc. complaint | |
| Oct 14 Duke Road – Assistance Public Work | |
| Oct 15 Alarm bells – commercial | |
| Sooke Road – Medical | |
| Sooke Road – Hydro lines down | |
| Happy Valley Road – Hydro – tree on the lines | |
| Metchosin Road – Hydro – tree on the lines | |
| Oct 16 Metchosin Road – Hydro – tree on the lines | |
| Parry Cross Road – Rescue – rope, high, confined | |
| Oct 17 Pedder Bay Drive – Medical | |

MVI: Motor Vehicle Incident

Visit the Muse website!

<http://www.metchosinmuse.ca>



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Email: sandyhiggins@telus.net

www.sandyhiggins.ca



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www.lalimo.ca info@lalimo.ca
250-391-9000

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

HOUSE FOR SALE Out of province small family looking to buy a house preferably in Metchosin or close by. Contact by phone 1-306-373-4192 and/or email at: rddc2004@yahoo.ca and leave message. Thank you.

LESSONS

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

Important Dates and Events

- Dec. 4 **Metchosin Producers' Association Second Annual Christmas Market** p. 8, 9
Pearson College Christmas Concert p. 10
- Dec. 9 **Sooke Community Choir Brings A Celtic Christmas to Colwood** on Friday, December 9 at 7:30 pm in the Church of the Advent, 510 Mt View Avenue, Colwood. Tickets are available at the door and are \$20 general admission, \$15 for seniors and students, and free for under 18. For more information go to www.sookecommunitychoir.com.
- Dec. 10 **Pancake Breakfast**, 9:00 am–12:00 pm at St. Mary's Anglican Church. Presented by Metchosin Pre-school. Bake sale, kids' activities, Christmas carols by the children, Christmas tree pickup, and photos with Santa. Breakfast admission by donation.
- Glow Arts Annual Christmas Open House**, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. See art demos, enjoy a drink, and visit with the artists. 4495 Happy Valley Road.
- Dec. 11 **4th Annual Metchosin Light Parade**
 See www.metchosinfire.ca/our-community/annual-events/#lights for more information.
- Dec. 15 **Blue Moon Christmas** p. 8
- Dec. 16 **Metchosin Bandwagon Music Night**
 Friday, December 16 should be another great night of dancing and dining as Metchosin Bandwagon welcomes back Chickwagon, a great mix of light rock and western. They will be performing from 7:00 to 9:15 pm at the Metchosin Golf Course. Bar and kitchen open at 5:30 pm. \$5 donation goes to the musicians.
- Dec. 18 **Breakfast with Santa at the Fire Hall**
 See www.metchosinfire.ca/event/santa-run/ for more information.

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

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

Clip and save this listing!



Got feedback?

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

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Richard Blanshard

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Uke Jamming in 2017

MARGARETHA BURNET

Tell all your Ukulele playing friends and relatives! Spread the word! Open to community members of all ages and levels of talent! Our guest leader in December is Anthea.

Where: Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Rd, Metchosin.

When: 5:00–6:30pm. In 2017 our Jams move to the FIRST Friday of every month until May: Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7, and May 5.

Bring: a ukulele, capo, tuner, music stand and light, and, if you wish, a few songs you are willing to share/lead/teach others with appropriate song sheets for

others, if not from suggested songbook, *Jumpin' Jim's Daily Ukulele* (sold by music stores and Amazon).

Cost: free, but buying a membership to the Community House is appreciated (\$10 for individual membership)

Any questions, contact Margaretha at memetopia@shaw.ca or 250-391-9667.

Directory of Organizations

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

AIR CADETS

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

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC

250-382-2052,
www.alzheimerbc.org

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL METCHOSIN (APRM)

250-478-1197, www.aprm.ca

BADMINTON

Women's 250-478-9648

BILSTON WATERSHED HABITAT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

250-478-2387,
ikmcken@islandnet.com,
www.bilstoncreek.org

'CHOSIN CHATTERS TOASTMASTERS

info@chosinchatters.org,
www.chosinchatters.org

CRD PARKS

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

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)

tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca,
 250-478-5484

LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA

250-727-4384

METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE ASSOCIATION (MACCA)

info@metchosinartcentre.ca
www.metchosinartcentre.ca

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE

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

METCHOSIN COUNCIL

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

METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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

METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY

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

METCHOSIN FOUNDATION

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

METCHOSIN 4-H CLUB

metchosin4h@gmail.com,
www.metchosin4h.com

METCHOSIN GARDEN CLUB

250-298-7877

METCHOSIN HALL SOCIETY

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

METCHOSIN HIKING CLUB

250-478-4778

METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY

Pioneer Museum, 250-382-1989,
 School Museum, 250-478-5447

METCHOSIN PONY CLUB

250-727-3595

METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL

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

METCHOSIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com
 Facebook: Metchosin Farmers' Market

METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE

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

METCHOSIN SENIORS' INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)

250-478-5150, msirc@shaw.ca
www.metchosinseniors.ca

METCHOSIN SENIORS' ASSOCIATION (MSA)

250-478-5150, msirc@shaw.ca
www.metchosinseniors.ca

MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

250-642-0238

PACIFIC CENTRE FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

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

POD LEADERS

Kathleen Sutherland
 250-474-3966

ROUGH VOICE SINGERS

September to April
 250-478-0553

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

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

SCOUTS CANADA

14thjuanedefuca@victoriascouts.ca

SEA CADETS

250-478-7813

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

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

SWANWICK CENTRE

A centre for spiritual inquiry
 250-744-3354
programs@swanwickcentre.ca
www.swanwickcentre.ca

WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL

250-478-2286,
info@westshorearts.org,
www.westshorearts.org

WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND

250-474-3999

WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION

250-478-8384,
www.westshorererecreation.ca

CHURCHES

BAHA'I FAITH

250-514-1757

GORDON UNITED CHURCH

250-478-6632
www.gordonunitedchurch.ca

HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH

250-727-3722

OPEN GATE CHURCH

250-590-6736
www.theopengate.ca

ST MARYS' METCHOSIN

Anglican Church of Canada
 250-474-4119
stmarysmetchosin.ca

WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH

www.westsidefamily.org
 250-478-8066

WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY

250-474-5967
www.westsong.ca

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