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HARBOUR SPIEL

AUGUST 2011
ISSUE 248



BC Bike Race, July 6 (photos and story p. 30)

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Editor

Brian Lee

Contributors

This month we thank: Mary Cain, Florence Dubois, Joe Harrison, Eric Graham, Theresa Kishkan, Shane McCune, Alan Stewart, David Twentyman, and Jan Watson.

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~ NEXT ISSUE MAILED SEPT. 1 ~

EDITORIAL

Casualties of a wet July

By Brian Lee



By the time you read this I'm guessing it's the BC Day long weekend and — with any luck — the weather has improved.

Hopefully, by now, folks' biggest concern is how they will keep their yard looking green while abiding local sprinkling restrictions.

I say "hopefully" because as I write this, the rain hasn't stopped for more than five minutes in days.

It's approaching the end of July yet the lakes are still chilly and the waterfall coming off the Caren Range looks downright Niagran.

(When you can make it out through the low-lying cloud, that is.)

Maybe more than most places, we hold an expectation that weather will co-operate after June.

We expect to go to bed without concern about whether the barbecue is covered or if the car windows are rolled up.

It may come from enduring life in a rainforest for 10 months of the year but when our BC summer gets washed out, we feel cheated.

Even angry.

It's as if a contract has been violated.

But summer weather like the July we've just had causes more than mere discomfort.

Consider this story from Kleindale last month:

Tim (not his real name) says he and his wife have lived here for about five years.

The fishing has been pretty good this spring and Tim has made a habit of heading out every Saturday morning to drag a lure.

His wife gets seasick so he goes alone and every Saturday for the past three months he got up at 5 a.m., made his lunch and drove to his boat.

He usually zips down to Thor-manby or over to Texada and more often than not, he's returned with his limit.

Last Saturday morning it was pretty ugly out but he still got up and made his weekly trek down to the boat.

But even before he'd untied, the little bilge pump in his Boston Whaler was barely keeping pace with the flood of rainwater.

As he ran through the Harbour, the rain started coming down in torrential sheets but it wasn't until he saw the 4-foot chop outside that he lost interest for the first time this year.

Ten minutes later, he was back in his truck listening to the weather report predicting more of the same.

There would be no fishing today.

So, Jim drove home, quietly undressed and slipped back into bed.

He says by this time he'd hatched a new plan for his Saturday morning activity and as he cuddled up to his wife's back, he whispered, "The weather out there is terrible."

To which she sleepily replied, "Can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that sh*t?"



It ain't real if it's not in the Spiel.

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SPIEL PICKS

GARDEN BAY SHOW AND SHINE - AUG. 14

The eighth running of the annual car lovers feast for the eyes is back on the grounds surrounding the Garden Bay Pub. Joe Stanton's entertaining the crowd in the pub while vendors and food greet the visitors outside. As always, there are plenty of classic cars and motorcycles to admire.

GARLIC FESTIVAL - AUG. 20-21

A staggering success in its first year, the second annual Pender Harbour Garlic Festival promises to be even bigger. It's just as much about the music as it is about the food so come for both on the August 20 weekend at the Pender Harbour Lions Park. Saturday's music schedule starts at 10 a.m. and runs (at least) for a full 12 hours. Sunday again starts at 10 a.m. but winds up just after dinner. Throughout you'll find garlicky foods and a variety of other crafts and products all celebrating the savoury vegetable. Bring the kids — there's also a "Fred Penner-like" children's entertainer in the playground both days.

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL - AUG. 19-21

The idyllic setting of the school of music in Madeira Park will once again resound with the sublime strains of chamber music as the Pender Harbour Chamber Music Festival begins its seventh season Aug. 19 to 21. It all begins on Friday afternoon with the free afternoon concert, Chamber Music Doesn't Bite. Tickets can be purchased at Harbour Insurance in Madeira Park, Sechelt Visitor Centre and at Gaia's Fair Trade in Gibsons or online at www.penderharbourmusic.ca.

PHOTOJOURNAL



Douglas Foster photo

The 190-foot sailboat *The Ethereal* anchored in Pender Harbour for the night on June 28. It carries a 12-person crew and can be chartered for \$325,000 per week. The main photo is taken at its arrival off Francis Peninsula while the inset is taken from the *Harbour Spiel*'s head office as it cruised by the Skardon Islands.

Harbour Spiel

NEWS

Former Madeira Park church sold

The building formerly known as St. Andrew's Anglican Church has been sold.

Realtor Bill Hunsche held the listing for the property which was offered for sale at \$309,000.

"A chap from Calgary bought it and he's going to turn it into a residence," said Hunsche.

The church was built in 1979 and in 2004 it became the focus of a bitter dispute between some parishioners and the Anglican Church of Canada.

More than half of the members left in a well-publicized split over the Anglican Church of Canada's decision to endorse same-sex marriage.

Those parishioners went on to form the Christ the Redeemer Church.

Those who remained were too few in number to support a priest and the last service was held in the building on Nov. 23, 2008.



St. Andrew's Anglican Church in 2008.

Madeira elementary school vandals facing charges

For the second time since March, vandals have caused extensive damage to the Madeira Park Elementary School.

Two males were arrested at the scene in the early hours of June 29 after several members of the Sunshine Coast RCMP responded to an alarm at the school.

According to Cpl. Steve Chubey, the school sustained significant damage to windows and the interior had also been vandalized.

One male youth and one adult male were located on the property and arrested. Both are being investigated for break and enter and mischief over \$5,000.

The name of the adult has not yet been released.

The break-in occurred on the last day of classes on a day the Grade 6

class looked forward to a ceremony marking their exit from elementary school.

The doors to the decorated gymnasium were locked so it remained intact but extensive damage to the rest of the building forced the day to be

cancelled.

The ceremony was moved to the gymnasium at the Pender Harbour High School which was still decorated for the Grade 12 commencement ceremony of the previous night.

Proud sponsors of Abbeyfield House Dinners for Donors campaign: 142 bricks sold to date!



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Volunteers build new viewing platform in John Daly Park

Volunteers gathered on July 23 to build a salmon-viewing platform to replace the rotten bridge spanning Anderson Creek in the John Daly Park Park.

The project was sponsored by the Pender Harbour Rotary Club with the help of a number of non-Rotary volunteers who helped pour concrete footings days before returning to build the structure.

Much of the material for the project was donated or provided at low cost by local businesses.

John Daly Park is 2.6 acre regional park that borders Anderson Creek nature trails and a grassed picnic area.

It's located by turning left on Roosen Road, one kilometre along Garden Bay Road from the Sunshine Coast Highway.



Volunteers enjoy a beverage after building the salmon viewing platform at John Daly Park July 23. l-r: Rick Smalley, Reg Stowell, Harky Grahn, Leonard Lee and Gerry Dokimenko. Missing are Jon Paine (photographer) and Sue Paine who cooked lunch for the crew afterwards.

Man injured in boating accident may face charges

A 59-year-old Madeira Park man airlifted to hospital in Vancouver last month following a boating accident is expected to recover from his injuries but may still be in hot water.

The June 28 accident occurred in Pender Harbour and involved a rigid hull inflatable boat and a Boston Whaler.

Cpl. Steven Chubey of the Sunshine Coast RCMP says the accident is still under investigation and the driver of the RHIB may face criminal charges for the dangerous operation of a motor vehicle.

According to Chubey, RCMP were seeking the identity of the driver of the Boston Whaler but that person has come forward and wasn't found to



The BC Ambulance Service airlifted a 59-year-old man to Vancouver General Hospital after the boat he was driving collided with a Boston Whaler in Pender Harbour.

be at fault. "According to witnesses it was the manner of which the other boat was being driven that caused the collision," says Chubey. Chubey said there was no indication that the man was impaired by drugs or alcohol.

Sunshine Coast RCMP come out against doughnuts

The Sunshine Coast RCMP are asking for assistance from the public in identifying drivers responsible for marking up the highways in the Garden Bay, Madeira Park and Pender Harbour communities.

"Residents and visitors of the Coast are disgusted with the condition of the roadways left by drivers doing burnouts and stunting on the highways in Madeira Park," says Cpl. Steven Chubey.

"Not only does it leave a bad impression to those passing through, but it's illegal. All we need is a date, time, licence plate and witnesses willing to go to court, and we will charge them.

"We don't need to know who's driving because we can charge the registered owner, even if it's mom or dad's car."

Chubey says those caught driving in such a manner (referred to as "stunting" in the Motor Vehicle Act) will face MVA charges carrying a \$368 fine and an automatic seven-day August 2011

vehicle impoundment or Criminal Code charges of dangerous driving.

The Sunshine Coast RCMP will be making additional patrols targeting these driving offences.

Anyone with information on

about these crimes is asked to contact the Sunshine Coast RCMP at (604) 885-2266 or Crimestoppers at 1 (800) 222-TIPS(8477).

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Harbour Spiel

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Aerial acrobats aboard *La Loupiote* wow crowds at the GBP

Aerial acrobats Franck Rabilier and Delphine Lechiffart wowed crowds for two shows at the Garden Bay Pub on July 17.

Crowds cheered from shore as the two showed off their comedic and aerial talents while suspended from the mast of their sailboat *La Loupiote*.

The two are travelling around the world with their daughter and will perform at Granville Island early this month before heading south through Washington.

A Saturday show was cancelled due to poor weather.



photo submitted

By shaving bald, local residents Tyler Ellison and Carole Rubin raised \$1,000 in just under 40 minutes on July 9 for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation for children with cancer and blood disorders. Tyler is fighting cancer and inspired Carole to create the local event. Their shave took place in front of sponsor Marketplace IGA Madeira Park and their hair was shaved by Silje of Hair I Am. Donations can still be made online by going to www.baldingfordollars.com, clicking 'donate now' and entering their team name, 'Jazzgirl's Shave for the Brave.' Carole asks that donations be made 'in support of Tyler Ellison.'

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**Egmont,
Pender Harbour
& Halfmoon Bay
Accommodation
Guide**

SPORTS

Challenging conditions mark the 22nd Malaspina Regatta

By David Twentyman

Twenty-one boats showed for the start of the 22nd Annual Malaspina Regatta on July 2.

The 10-nautical-mile race is hosted by the Garden Bay Sailing Club and begins between Martin and Pearson Islands at the entrance to Pender Harbour.

This year saw conditions that seemed perfect, with a five-knot breeze from the northwest under a sunny sky.

However, the start proved to be among the more trickier ones that skippers have faced for some years.

The tidal flow produced very confused seas, which resulted in a few boats going over the line early, and many being caught between tide and wind until well after the gun was fired.

The initial leg took the boats out to Hospital Reef, about halfway across Malaspina Strait.

The first to round the mark was the trimaran *Drifter* skippered by Ron Badley, followed by Tom Barker's *BC Navigator* and David Twentyman's *Peregrine*.

All three boats had managed good starts.

The wind switched to a 10-knot southeasterly as the boats neared the mark making the second leg to Ackland Rock a spinnaker run.

There were some exciting moments as *Peregrine* caught up to and managed to sail over the top of *BC Navigator* just before rounding the top mark, capturing second place.

The final leg proved challenging for most of the boats due to the very sloppy and choppy seas off Nelson Island.

Although the wind continued at a steady five to seven knots, many boats



photo submitted

Tidal currents made for a tricky start at the Garden Bay Sailing Club's 22nd annual Malaspina Regatta.

stalled as they fought the strong tides.

BC Navigator, whose skipper had had chosen to head out into the straits, regained its second position.

David Pritchard in *Seven* managed to come from behind and forged ahead of *Peregrine* into third position on this leg.

Unfortunately, the poor sea conditions contributed to 10 boats not finishing the race within the five-hour allotted time.

The winner of the overall trophy was David Pritchard in *Seven* (Martin 242) and the trophy for "first over the line" was awarded to Ron Badley in *Drifter* (Newick 36).

CLASS WINNERS:

Division AA: Dave Zuest in *Avanti* (Kirby 30-32)

Division A: Tom Barker in *BC Navigator* (Spencer 1330)

Division B: David Pritchard in *Seven* (Martin 242)

Following the race about 120 skippers, families and crew met at Fisherman's Resort and Marina in Garden Bay for a barbecue and the presentation of awards.

Many thanks to Ron Breadner and his pals for the wonderful music and to Craig and Kent for their melodic bagpipin.

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Bus might be on the hook as summer ridership fails to materialize



By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A

PHSS
GRADUATION

I was honoured to present the SCRD bursary at the 2011 Pender graduation ceremony to Aurora Noble, for her winning essay on the “Importance of Community Involvement.”

As this years co-president of the student council she has shown that her involvement in the school is more than just words.

The first paragraph of her winning essay:

“The community in which one is raised greatly impacts the type of person that individual will be and the

quality of a community is significantly linked with the involvement of its members. Therefore, in order for a community to raise good-natured children it needs involved members.”

The rest of her essay was very well expressed, offering insight into how community involvement benefits both the person and the community.

Well done Aurora — I think you are a real asset to our community as is all the class of 2011.

I know we all wish the very best to all this year’s graduates.

VANDALISM

A couple of months ago I called a special meeting with downtown Madeira Park business people, the P. H. Chamber of Commerce, community policing and the new commander

of the Sunshine Coast RCMP detachment, as well as one of his officers.

Everybody present had the chance to meet the newly appointed CO and he listened closely to our concerns on vandalism, underage drinking (primarily on weekends in public areas) and the spinning of tires in parking lots and on the highways (which is very dangerous and does not impress the summer tourists).

The police told us that if someone phones in a complaint with the detachment, ask for a file number.

The watch commander goes through the files and if there is a rash of similar incidents, they will do something on it.

This is their way of tracking problem areas and it is how complainants can follow up and inquire about

what action was taken.

They also mentioned that if they have enough information on the car that is spinning tires in a dangerous fashion they can lay a serious charge against the owner of the vehicle and impound the vehicle for three months.

They also told us the charge will only be successful if there is enough evidence and witnesses are willing to testify in court.

Not long after our meeting there was a break-in at our elementary school causing a great deal of damage.

The police happened to be in the area and they responded immediately, apprehending two suspects in the school.

COMMUNITY BUS

Up until the summer months, the ridership on the bus has been dismal, working out to two people per hour.

In order to receive potential funding from the province, we have to have 10 passengers per hour.

I rode the bus on July 7 from Madeira Park to Egmont, to Halfmoon Bay and back to Madeira Park and counted a total of 4 passengers.

If ridership doesn’t improve by Sept. 1, a decision will have to be made on whether to continue the service until a November referendum or cancel the service immediately in order to save the \$30,000 cost to hold a referendum.

The BC Ferries schedule will change on Sept. 6 as will the Halfmoon Bay bus schedule.

There will be new schedules handed out around Area A and one can also look it up on the SCRD website.

There are no planned meetings for the regional directors in August and I plan on being away until the first meeting Sept. 8.

My alternate will be available if needed and since I will not be here there won’t be an article for the September issue of the Harbour Spiel.

OBITUARY

Collin Calenso

FEBRUARY 2, 1936 — JULY 8, 2011



Collin was born in Edmonton, Alta., to parents who owned a large nursery.

He grew up surrounded by plants and flowers so chose that for his future career by getting an education at Vermilion Agriculture College.

Collin passed away peacefully in the early hours of Friday July 8 in Totem Lodge.

Family and friends are grieving with our loss but know he is no longer in pain.

A celebration of his life will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 112 in August.

The date will be announced when all family members can attend.

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Sunshine Coast Regional District

AREA A - ADVISORY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Advisory Planning Commission is on Wednesday, August 31 at 7:00 p.m.at Pender Harbour High School, Room 107.

LANDFILL TIPPING FEE INCREASE

Effective July 1, 2011 the tipping fee for Municipal Solid Waste will increase to \$110 per tonne at the Pender Harbour Landfill site.

For more information check www.scrd.ca or call 604-885-6800 ext. 6139.

PENDER HARBOUR RECREATION FACILITY

The Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre is closed until September 11.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL SUMMER HOURS

Wednesday to Monday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

SPRINKLING REGULATIONS FOR PENDER HARBOUR

Houses with odd numbered addresses on odd calendar dates
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Houses with even numbered addresses on even calendar dates
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- NO sprinkling outside these hours
- NO sprinkling overnight
- REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED
- Violators will fined pursuant to the SCRD Municipal Ticketing Bylaw
- Hand watering is permitted

THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

Area A - Director Contact Information

Director Eric Graham is available to meet with residents to discuss local issues related to the Sunshine Coast Regional District. He can be reached at home at 604-883-9061 or by email at ericgraham@dccnet.com.

For more information:
1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A1
T: 604-885-6800 F: 604-885-7909
Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.scrd.ca

The Pender Harbour Rotary Club wishes to thank the following for their support in providing materials and assistance in the construction of John Daly Park's new salmon viewing platform:

- Swanson's Read-mix
- Rona Revy Inc.
- SCRD
- Boyd Trucking and Gravel
- All of the volunteers who helped in its construction

LOCAL MUSIC

P. H. Jazz festival celebrates 15 years with a party

Submitted

It's back — mark it on your calendars.

The annual Pender Harbour Jazz Festival returns Friday, Sept. 16 and runs through the weekend.

Festival organizers have put together a program featuring 29 performances throughout the Harbour featuring everything from gypsy to boogie-woogie and hot Latin to smooth oldies.

What is more astounding, of the 29 performances, only four are ticketed events.

DON STEWART

It all starts at the opening gala dinner and dance on Friday at the Pender Harbour Legion Hall.

The velvety smooth Don Stewart, backed by his stellar band, will cover songs of Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Nat "King" Cole, Johnny Mathis and more.



photo submitted

Toronto's Fathead will play Sept. 17 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

Prepare to wine, dine and dance as the Legion is pulling out all the stops, serving delicious appetizers, prime rib (with Yorkshire pudding), vegetarian lasagna, seasonal fresh vegetables, salads and desserts.

The place will be decorated so dress up if you dare but please leave the perfume and after-shave at home as it is a scent-free event.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and tickets for the evening are \$65, available at John Henry's in Garden Bay, the Oak Tree Market in Madeira Park, and online at www.phjazz.ca.

FATHEAD

Saturday's "Big Dance at the Hall," features Fathead who have travelled all the way from Toronto.

These guys are so hot, they're cool.

You love Brickhouse? Check these guys out.

They are two-time Juno award winners for best blues recording and best blues album of the year.

They are to Toronto what Brickhouse is to Vancouver — the best and busiest dance band there is.

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Go online to find them on our Musicians Page at www.phjazz.ca and click on the link to their website to have a listen.

This dance will sell out fast, so get your tickets early. Tickets are \$30 and doors open at 9 p.m.

We even have a small van to take folks who need a lift home from midnight until 2 a.m. (Please tip your driver.)

KOOL KAT PROGRAM

So how do we, year after year, continue to provide so much free jazz and great performers?

It's sponsorship.

This year, we are reaching out to the public and asking you to become "Kool Kat" sponsors.

Support the Pender Harbour Jazz Festival and ensure it continues by becoming a Kool Kat.

A single annual Kool Kat sponsorship costs \$150 and brings you opportunities for advance ticket sales a full two weeks before tickets are available to the general public.

You'll also receive a free festival T-shirt, a chance at winning a gorgeous limited edition print, Motoko's "Sunset Sky" as well as getting whisked to the front of the line for early bird seating selection at designated events.

For complete information on our Kool Kats program, the fabulous 15th festival line-up, information on and links to musician's websites and their music, ticket sales and everything else you might need to know about the festival, go to www.phjazz.ca.

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By Irvines Landing I sat down and wept: Elizabeth Smart and her

By Brian Lee

I am dissolved dissolved dissolved with my tears overflowing all Pender Harbour. ~ Elizabeth Smart

Seventy years ago this month, a very pregnant 28-year-old woman completed what has been described as one of the finest pieces of writing in the English language.

That she did so while living in a ramshackle former schoolhouse tucked behind a store in Irvines Landing only adds to the mystique that has enthralled fans of Elizabeth Smart ever since.

Smart completed *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept* in August of 1941, two weeks before giving birth to her first child at nearby St. Mary's Hospital in Garden Bay.

Smart arrived alone on the Union Steamship *Lady Cynthia* on April 5 of that year and, by all accounts, was clearly in "a bad way."

Pender Harbour is neither mentioned in Smart's masterpiece of love and betrayal nor did it seem to offer any particular literary inspiration.

Instead, Pender Harbour served as a "wild and inaccessible enough country" where she could keep secret her pregnancy with married British poet George Barker.

It also provided the solitude required to finish what Brigid Brophy, in her 1966 foreword to the book's new edition, declared was one of "a half dozen masterpieces of poetic prose in the world."

Elizabeth Smart was born in Ottawa on Dec. 27, 1913.

The Smarts' financial situation gave her the freedom to explore her education and literary aspirations.

A romantic free spirit, the young Smart was increasingly given to pur-



Georgina Barker photo

Elizabeth Smart in California, 1940.

suing a life without inhibition.

She travelled extensively, flitting from London to Paris, New York to Mexico, all the while writing and making acquaintances with other artists.

Much of her writing was semi-autobiographical — often in the form of diary entries capturing the frothing emotion left behind when romance failed to deliver on her vision of heroic love.

By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept often seems like it

was written by a woman on the verge of hysteria, weaving dreamlike sequences that meld legend and biblical metaphor.

O the water of love that floods everything over, so that there is nothing the eye sees that is not covered in. There is no angle the world can assume which the love in my eye cannot make into a symbol of love. Even the precise geometry of his hand, when I gaze at it, dissolves me into water and I flow away in a flood of love.

time in Pender Harbour

If it wasn't written so well, if the poetry of her words wasn't so powerful, you might be convinced the narrator — or author — was mad.

Though not quite mad, Smart could easily be described as an eccentric, and faulted for seeking more out of life and love than humanly possible.

Describing her expectations of love, Smart wrote in her diary, "I want an ecstasy — not a comfort," and she would not accept anything less.

She found her ecstasy in George Barker.

Smart fell in love with Barker through his poetry, long before the two ever met.

Barker had scratched a living as a successful poet but depended on patrons for support.

He saw in Elizabeth Smart a wealthy sympathizer.

In him, Smart found artistic inspiration and saw herself as, "nature's instrument. A key that fits no other lock, a plant that can only be fed from one source."

The two began writing to each other.

Smart found herself living in an artists' colony in Big Sur, Calif., in early 1940.

She agreed to help arrange passage for Barker from Japan to the U.S. as war looked imminent.

Though she had never met the man, she claimed she was already deeply in love with him.

But it wasn't until Barker requested two tickets to America that she considered he might be married.

Her fictionalized account of their relationship, *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*, begins at their first meeting in California.

The opening lines hint at Smart's August 2011

moral struggle as an instrument of fate, the unwilling accomplice in wife Jessica Barker's inevitable martyrdom at the hands of their love.

I am standing on a corner in Monterey, waiting for the bus to come in, and all the muscles of my will are holding my terror to face the moment I most desire. Apprehension and the summer afternoon keep drying my lips, prepared at ten-minute intervals all through the five-hour wait.

But then it is her eyes that come forward out of the vulgar disembark-

ers to reassure me that the bus has not disgorged disaster: her Madonna eyes, soft as the newly born, trusting as the untempted. And, for a moment, at that gaze, I am happy to forego my future, and postpone indefinitely the miracle hanging fire. Her eyes shower me with their innocence and surprise.

The Barkers joined Smart in Big Sur in the summer of 1940 and, despite weak attempts at resistance, the two fell in love.

(continued next page)



Elsie Turner photo/Fred Brooks collection

Bill Matier, described by Howard White in *The Sunshine Coast* as Irvines Landing's 'dipsomaniacal wharfinger, was the face of the settlement for close to 50 years. Matier is reputed to have been responsible for setting Elizabeth Smart up in the former schoolhouse in Irvines Landing after she disembarked from the *Lady Cynthia*.

Elizabeth Smart (cont.)

(continued from p. 17)

In her diary, Smart wrote of first of subtle flirtations that eventually led to an intense love affair.

Under the waterfall he surprised me bathing and gave me what I could no more refuse than the earth can refuse the rain.

Throughout her affair with Barker, Smart maintained a presumptuous faith they were soul mates who would eventually marry.

But the confidence she felt about the righteousness of their love didn't salve the guilt she felt towards Barker's wife.

Brush away heart disease

Heart disease has many causes linked to poor life style choices or to family genetics. However, the way to a healthy heart is likely to be through your teeth and gums.

Evidence suggests that the healthier the teeth and gums, the stronger and less disease-prone the heart is. If you don't floss or brush, you might be setting yourself up not just for gum disease but also for heart disease.

Research studies are suggesting a possible link between oral infection and systemic disorders. Gum disease might be a kind of early warning system, with poor oral health linked to diabetes, kidney disease, preterm labour, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease and even certain types of cancer.

There is a startling correlation between the health of your gums and atherosclerosis, a condition that is an underlying cause of heart disease: The worse a person's gum disease, the narrower that person's arteries may be due to a buildup of plaque. This may hold true even for young, healthy adults who have no other symptoms of heart disease.

Gum disease in the early stages is called gingivitis and left untreated develops into full-blown periodontal disease. The tissue that surrounds the bones supporting the teeth becomes inflamed and infected. This results from the accumulation of bacteria in the plaque under the tissue holding the teeth. The bacteria release toxins and other chemicals that begin to destroy the bone. Scientists believe these toxins circulate and cause damage elsewhere in the body; exactly how remains unclear.

People need to think of their dentist and hygienist as important members in their health care team. After all the sooner a disease is diagnosed the more likely a good outcome will result. Remember regular visits to a dentist will make use of that early warning system that is your mouth.

To learn more about your oral health and how it contributes to your total well-being, call for an appointment with our friendly and informed staff.



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A recurring theme throughout *By Grand Central Station* is the narrator's guilt at the pain she was causing.

How can I speak to her? How can I comfort her?

How can I explain to her any more than I can to the flowers that I crush with my foot when I walk in the field?

Jessica Barker clearly knew about the affair but accepted her husband's consolations, wanting to believe it was a sexual fling.

Stricken by indecision and breaking promises on both sides, Barker bounced between Smart and his wife for many years.

In her biography of Elizabeth Smart, author Rosemary Sullivan wrote:

"Of Barker, one can say one thing with assurance. Convinced of his own talent, he had made a lifelong commitment, from which he never wavered, to dedicate his life to poetry.

"He was 'married to poetry,' as the writer Paul Potts put it. A vagrant in life, 'the only place where he has a fixed abode is in the poetry of this language.'"

Despite Barker's many shortcomings, Smart continued to wait for him.

By Christmas of 1940, she was pregnant with Barker's child.

It wasn't an option for her mother to find out she was to give birth out of wedlock so Smart aimed to travel as far away as possible.

But her plan was stifled by war-time travel restrictions.

After being denied entry into the U.S. and Great Britain, Barker joined her in Ottawa and the two travelled to Vancouver by train.

After a month, Barker abandoned her once again and travelled back to

his wife in New York.

In despair, Smart likely aimed her compass for a spot that seemed as hidden away as Britain was distant.

On April 5, 1941, Elizabeth Smart boarded the steamship *Lady Cynthia* bound for Pender Harbour.

She likely made quite an impression upon her arrival, standing on the wharf in Irvines Landing among the boxes of freight and loggers travelling to camp, loaded down with trunks of evening dresses and books.

Wharfinger Bill Matier put her up in the former school house that sat behind Pieper's store.

It's unknown how long she planned to stay but she made an effort to create a home here.

She painted her door yellow over which she inscribed a telling line from Blake, "The cut worm forgives the plow."

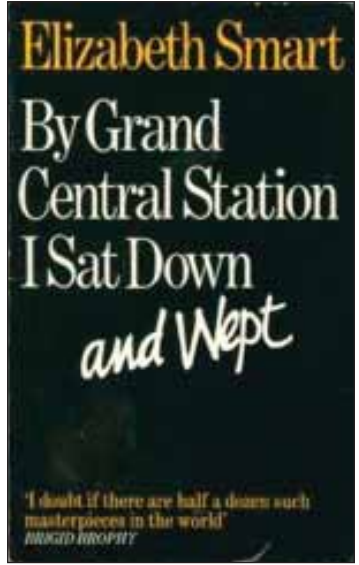
The line offers an insight into Smart's state of mind and her determination to find strength in the face of almighty suffering.

But her eccentricities didn't go unnoticed with the locals.

A routine visit by the RCMP found only "a religious maniac," after dropping on her home decorated with pictures of Christs and madonnas.

In *By Grand Central Station*, Smarts writes of an encounter with a woman who was most likely Vivian Pieper.

Mrs. Pieper and her husband Bill owned much of Irvines Landing at the time including the store and Smart's home.



The cover of the 1966 edition of *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*.

They eye me. They bore a hole in my wedding finger because it is bare, and they measure my belly like tailors, to weave a juicy bit of gossip.

You're in a bad way, aren't you my dear? You're in quite a spot?

Oh no, thank you, I'm all right, I'm fine. A little short of cash maybe.

If there's anything you'd like to tell me, you can trust me you know. I've been around, my husband and I, we've been around.

Oh no thank you, I'm fine.

I don't like to say anything but it was rather queer, you know the way you arrived and everything. You know how people will talk.

She did make some friends while in Pender Harbour.

There are unconfirmed reports of a young Tiffy Wray taking a fancy to her and she dedicated *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept* to Maximiliane Von Upani Southwell.

Southwell was "a cultivated Viennese woman 20 years her senior," who lived with her invalid fisherman

husband and their 10-year-old son near the mud flats at the head of the Harbour.

They were poor but lived in "im-mense elegance."

It may have even been Southwell who helped open Smart's eyes to Barker's deceit for by this time her diary entries seemed to question his faith.

He visited for a month in late May, promising imminent divorce from Jessica and his return before the child was born.

He failed to come through on either promise.

It was a situation that made Smart's time in Pender Harbour one of the most cathartic periods in her life.

As her faith in Barker crumbled, the imminent birth of her child became the focus of her grief.

I am going to have a child, so all my dreams are of water, across which the ghost of an almost accomplished calamity beckons.

But tonight that child lay within like the fated and only island in all seas.

For the rest of the summer, Smart threw herself into the writing of her book.

Much of *By Grand Central Station* is taken directly from Elizabeth Smart's diaries.

(continued next page)

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Elizabeth Smart (cont.)

(continued from p. 19)

The last chapter had already been written before she arrived in Pender Harbour but the first chapter was written last and it's clear other parts of the book were penned here as well.

Relentless spring goes on and dares to finish itself without him, and

*I grow from one shape into another, and the oblivious child leaps without waiting for a father.
Forty days in the wilderness and not one holy vision. Sights to dazzle the eye, but I bask in the sun without drawing one metaphor from it. Nature is using me. I am the seedbag. Jumping down rocks and hills I have a different balance, and fall backward or trip too easily, overloaded in front.*

Fearing she might die while giving birth, Smart wanted to complete the book as a testament to her heroic struggle.

When it was finished, she moved in with Maxie Southwell and her family to wait for the first pangs of labour. While there, Smart wrote a note to her unborn child — her last will and testament :

But to my child I owe some explanation, though I still think it worthwhile being born.

I hope he will not mind being a bastard. Surely it will help him avoid the bores, the snobs, the petty and the afraid.

And even when he looks at my life let him remember that truly there is nothing worth anything in life but Love.

Two weeks after finishing her masterpiece, she was rowed to St. Mary's Hospital in Garden Bay by "Mr. Reid, a local fisherman" where she gave birth to Georgina Barker on August 28.

Barker tried to visit her in September but his application for immigration to Canada was denied by F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration.

In his letter dated Sept. 19, 1941, Blair explains why Barker's application was turned down, pointing out some holes in his story he discovered by phoning Smart's family in Ottawa.

But Blair also mentions that he, "already has a great deal of information about Elizabeth Smart and her illegitimate child."

Smart's family didn't know she

had just given birth so it's a mystery how Blair learned of the child three weeks after she was born, but he knew Barker's intention was to travel west to meet Smart.

It's possible that, while investigating Barker, he may have made a call to her landlords, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Pieper.

If so, it might explain why, in the acknowledgements of her handwritten manuscript, Smart lists a Mrs. Peiper (sic) along with Blair and such varied agencies as the Quebec Provincial Police and the F.B.I. under a scratched-out heading: "Dedicated with much hate."

Smart left Pender Harbour, and her four-month old baby, to meet Barker in New York on Dec. 7, 1941.

Maxi Southwell cared for Georgina for three months until her own son became seriously ill.

Georgina was put in foster care until Smart could arrange to have her flown to meet her in the U.S.

Smart would go on to have three more children by George Barker.

A letter from Jessica that spring is a poignant example of the openness shared between wife and mistress:

"I know he loves me Elizabeth and I believe now what I first believed. That he enjoys sleeping with you but does not really want to live with you.

"Obviously he could have been living with you all this time if he had really wanted to do so and he says that all the lies are to prevent me going from him and it must be true."

Jessica Barker ends her letter, "You certainly have made your mark on our lives my sweet."

Smart and Jessica Barker both became pregnant by Barker in the winter of 1942.

August 2011

Jessica gave birth to twins the next year but by then their marriage was over.

The two never divorced but Barker went on to father 11 more children with various women, often contributing little more to their upbringing than the initial act itself.

The scars of betrayal eventually muted the intensity of Elizabeth Smart and George Barker's love too.

Barker would father four children with Smart and the two remained acquaintances until the end of their lives.

In February of 1970, Smart visited Pender Harbour with her old friend Maxie Southwell.

The old schoolhouse was gone but the two dropped in to the hospital where Smart gave birth to her daughter.

By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept was republished in 1966.

Its critical acclaim grew over the years but failed to contribute more than a few pounds a year to Smart's income.

After her death, the book acquired a wider audience and praise from a number of popular authors and musicians.

"At some point every good reader comes across *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down And Wept*," wrote Michael Ondaatje on the back cover of the 1992 edition.

"And he or she recognizes an emotion essential and permanent to us."

Elizabeth Smart died in Greece on March 4, 1986.

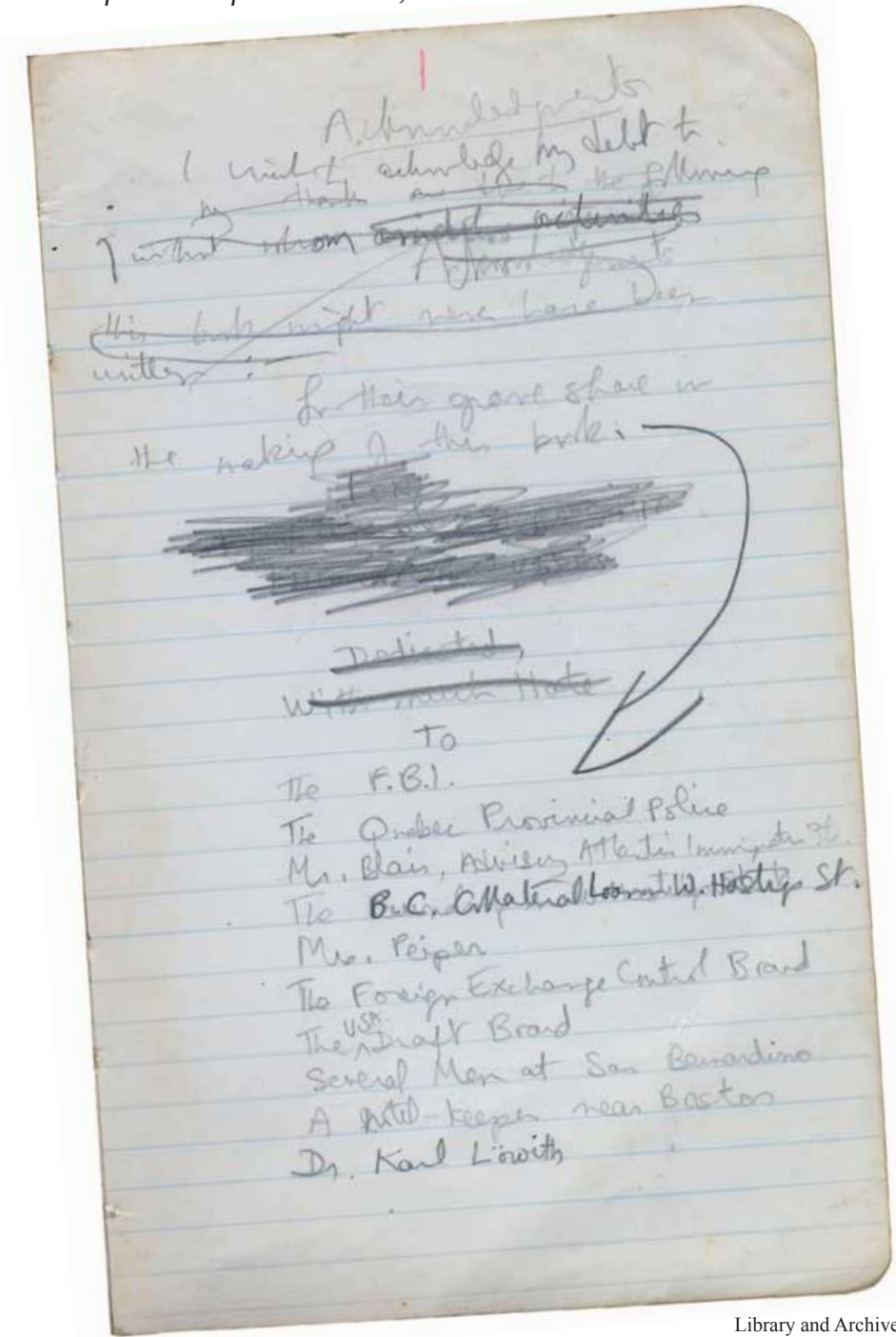
Despite the significance of Pender Harbour to her personal story, only her words remain to offer a testament to the tortured love she endured here.



Elizabeth Smart, 1980. photographer unknown

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Library and Archives Canada

We may never know why Smart chose to include Mrs. Peiper (sic) on a list of enemies included with her original manuscript. Above names including the F.B.I. and the cryptic 'Several men at San Bernardino,' Smart had crossed out, 'Dedicated with much hate.'



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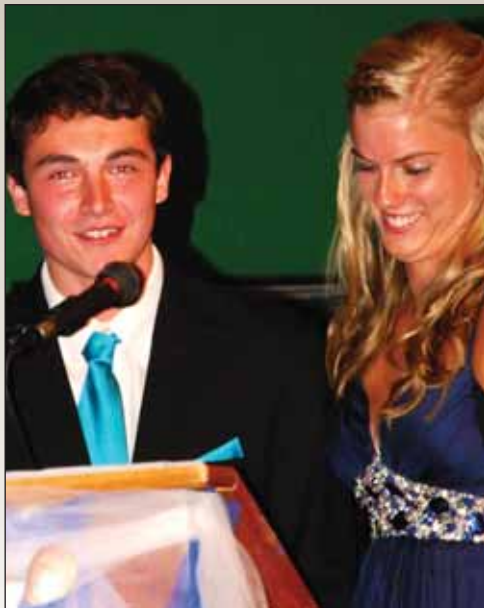
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(Charlotte Gray/Teaguen Craig)



STEPHANIE WILLIAMS
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MC John Smith entertained with impersonations of grads on their recent trip to the Dominican Republic.



Class valedictorians Taylor McKay and Chloe Christie



The Pender Harbour Paddling Society awarded a bursary (and paddle) to Lauren Storoschuk.



Sisters Natasha (grad) and Ayla Jerema (candlelighter).



Graduate Robert Edwardson flanked by candlelighters Tia Haases (l) and Jenna Smith (r).



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Thank you to **Linda Curtiss** for all the time and skills she has shared with the girls and leaders of Pender Harbour District, Girl Guides of Canada. You have been an inspiration to all of us,

Gwen Walwyn, Michelle Silvey,
Megan Noel, Kate Purnell,
Tanya Massullo

A huge Brownie Seal and grand howl to **Tanya Massullo/Brown Owl** for all her hard work, patience, organization and help with Brownies this year. The girls are lucky to have you as their leader.

Gwen Walwyn (other leader)

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Bev at the IGA** for taking some of her lunch time to look for my grandson’s rollerblades and helmet which had been left on the school basketball court.

Another Harbour Seal of Approval to **Les at Marina Pharmacy** who responded almost immediately to my call for help and found the rollerblades and helmet where they had been forgotten.

Iilana Hoelzley

A Seal of Approval to **the guer-rilla gardener** who left the lovely flower planter at our new venue in Egmont. You know who you are — thanks!

Beverly Saunders
Skookum ‘Chuck Wagon

A big Seal of Approval to **Doug Kasuba of Lamplight Electric**, for responding to our call so promptly at the Art Gallery.

Helen LeBlanc
Harbour Gallery

Harbour Seals to the **P. H. Rotary Club and the P. H. Coast Guard Auxiliary** for their kind support of the Pender Harbour Summer Garlic & Music Festival.

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Lee family photo collection

The Pender Harbour fleet anchored up in Smith Inlet waiting to fish in the summer of 1938.

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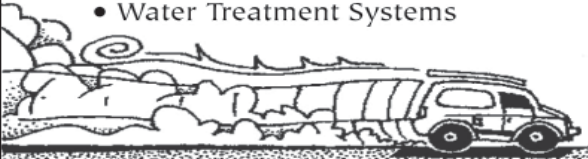
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Close to 500 riders sample Pender Harbour’s back country in fourth

The BC Bike Race once again rolled through the Sunshine Coast on July 6 and 7, introducing 500 riders from around the world to local trails. The fourth stage of the seven-stage mountain bike race from Vancouver Island to Whistler runs between Earl’s Cove and Sechelt. At 65 kilometres and a 2,110-metre elevation gain, it’s the toughest stage and known for varied terrain and challenging hills. Canadian Chris Sheppard logged the fastest time of the day, completing the course in three hours and 24 minutes. Sheppard also took the overall solo division victory while Sechelt’s Kris Sneddon and partner Barry Wicks won the men’s team event for

the second consecutive year. The photos on these pages were taken on a local mountain bike trail above the MacNeill Lake forest service road named “Highway to Hell.” The trail was started three years ago before logging halted its construction. After logging was complete, contractor Ken Sneddon (Kris Sneddon’s father) voluntarily sent a machine back in to rebuild the portion of the trail that was destroyed and continued it the rest of the way through the cutblock. The trail offers fantastic views of Pender Harbour and, as new growth takes hold, the trail is getting better every year.



Many of the riders taking part in the race come from around the world just to sample BC’s singletrack and it’s scenery like this that keeps them coming back. Here American Devora Peterson tries to take in the view while keeping at least one eye on the trail.



This portion of the course is 22 kilometres from the start in Earls Cove. With 43 kilometres to go until the finish in Sechelt, any downhill provides welcome relief.



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stage of the BC Bike Race



The onramp to “Highway to Hell.”



Venezuelan Jose Antonio Gutierrez and Costa Rican Juan Zumbado stop to pose for a photo after mistaking ‘Harbour Spiel’ for ‘Bike Magazine.’



This aid station at kilometre 22 is the first of two that are set up and taken down each day along the route to offer fluids, food and first aid to riders

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• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	741-5840
• Community Policing	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont & District Volunteer Fire Department	883-2555
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• P. H. Golf Club.....	883-9541
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.)	883-9766
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary.....	883-0522
• InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre)...	883-0748
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.)	883-1361
• P. H. Garden Club	883-9415
• P. H. Hiking Club (8:30 am, Mon. & Wed.)	883-2930
• P. H. Living Heritage Society	883-0748
• P. H. Music Society (bookings).....	883-9749
• P. H. Paddling Society.....	883-3678
• P. H. Power & Sail Squadron (2nd Wed. 7:30 p.m.)....	883-9313
• P. H. Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening)	883-9270
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:00 pm Tues).....	883-9749
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-9209
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-2544
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-2235
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society.....	883-9994
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed.,1:30 p.m.)	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-0704
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• Sunshine Coast SHROOM.....	883-3678
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• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
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ORGANIZATIONS

PENDER HARBOUR FALL FAIRE

The Pender Harbour Fall Faire is a well-attended event put on by a handful of volunteers who diligently plan and work all summer to make the event a success. The event is on the first Saturday of October and intended to increase traffic for local businesses during the shoulder season.

The committee needs more entries in the harvest exhibition and especially in our judged and sponsored amateur photo contest. The photo contest has student and adult categories and involving all age groups,

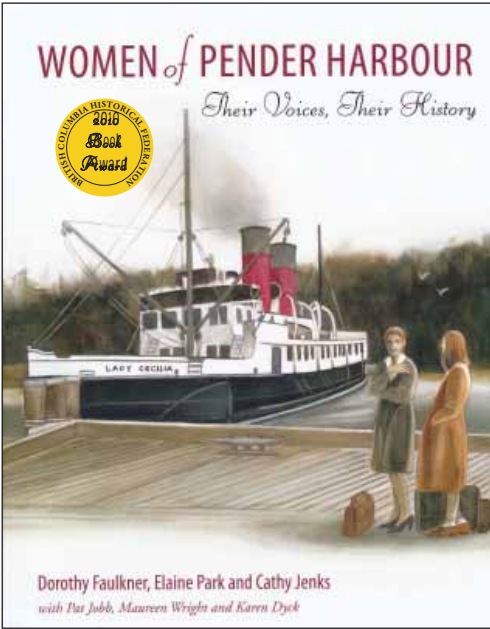
There is also an under-12 entry form for the exhibition. If you would like this great event to keep going each year, please support it. If you have questions about the Pender Harbour Fall Faire or the photo contest, please contact Carol Krych at (604) 883-9844.

WOMEN OF PENDER HARBOUR BOOK PROJECT

The book awards just keep on coming for *Women of Pender Harbour: Their Voices, Their History*. The volunteer-produced story of pioneer living in the Harbour has received second prize in the BC Genealogical Society’s Family History Book Awards for 2010.

The BCGS’s new book award was created to encourage family history research and writing in and about BC. Books chosen must be written by a BC author or related to BC family history. The book prize was awarded at the BCGS open house in Surrey July 17.

Women of Pender Harbour is available at Bluewaters Books, Talewind Books (in Sechelt), John Henry’s Marina in Garden Bay, Wood’s Show Case store in Gibsons, the Egmont Heritage Centre and the Sunshine Coast Museum in Gibsons. Proceeds from sales go to heritage preservation projects in Pender Harbour under the direction of the Living Heritage Society.



Harbour Spiel

LETTERS

July editorial sours Honeybourne

Dear Editor,

Just great, you have managed to piss everybody off — locals, local business owners and visitors in your July issue.

In your editorial, you have portrayed local residents as interbred, unwashed and nosy.

You have insulted local business owners with a form of blackmail by saying those who do not advertise in your paper as “probably no frickin’ good anyways.”

You are recommending if anyone craves sushi, they should go to Sechelt, when one can get good sushi at Off The Hook Seafood right here in

Madeira Park.

In the article written by you on mosquitoes, you attack visitors by calling them “drunken townies” and being a threat to our summer enjoyment.

Lovely, just bloody lovely.
Larry Honeybourne
Madeira Park

Ditto for Wharton

Dear Editor,

I could not believe what I was reading in you editorial, “Giving up our secrets.”

I had to read it a couple of times to see if I was reading it right, and each time I became more furious.

You tell all of Pender Harbour, people up and down the coast, tourists etc. to not waste their time with local businesses that do not advertise in

your paper.

I can’t believe a person like you, born and raised here in the Harbour and knows how tough it is, would say something like that.

I know that I and other business owners are doing our best to provide a good service to the local community and visitors.

I have talked with a lot of business owners and we all had a long tough winter, and summer so far has

not been its best.

You should be praising all of the business owners for keeping the doors open, instead you say we are “No frickin’ good.”

P.S. Thanks for portraying our community as drunken inbreds in need of a shower.

You should be ashamed of yourself.
Shelley Wharton
Garden Bay

The July editorial “Giving up our secrets” made use of some traditional local stereotypes and was intended to be read as tongue in-cheek humour only. I sincerely apologize to anyone who interpreted it otherwise. ~Ed.

Many thanks to everyone who donated or volunteered their time to our 25th celebration.

Specific thanks to the following who donated material goods:

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Painted Boat Spa

In-touch Therapeutics

Myrtle Point Golf Club

Sunshine Coast Golf Club

Sechelt Golf Club

Crown Isle Golf Club

Lorne Campbell

Marina Pharmacy

IGA Marketplace (Madeira Park)

Mickey McMillan

Coast Reporter

BC Golf Association

Rona

Eldy Gandy

Kleindale Nursery

Jan Watson

Sleemans

Gordons Foods

Okanagan Springs

Callaway

Superior Propane

Cathy McEachern

Stonewater Motel

Pender Harbour Diesel

Mountainview Service

Bob Alexander

PENDER HARBOUR
LEGION

Upcoming events

P.H. Jazz Festival opening gala dinner & dance
Fri. Sept. 16.
(Visit www.phjazz.ca for information and tickets.)

- **Cheap Beer Day**
Wednesdays: 2 - 6 pm
- **Poker nights**
Thursdays: 7 - 11 pm
- **Fish & Chips (plus special)**
Fridays: 11 am - 7:30 pm
- **Meat Draw**
Saturdays: 11 am - 8 pm

Fundraising?
Have a Quiz Night at the Legion.



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Please check the website for current hours and information.

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Intake (604) 740-8900 or (604) 886-5525

HARBOUR HEALTH

Tips for maintaining a healthy heart

Compiled by Pender Harbour Health
Centre nursing staff

If you have high blood cholesterol, you are more likely to have a heart attack or a stroke.

You are at higher risk for high blood cholesterol and heart disease if someone in your immediate family (parent, brother or sister) has high blood cholesterol.

It is especially dangerous for people who smoke and for people with high blood pressure or diabetes.

Extra cholesterol can lead to blocked arteries and if one of those happens to supply blood to your heart, you experience a heart attack.

If an artery that supplies blood to the brain becomes blocked, a stroke occurs.

There is “good” cholesterol and “bad” cholesterol.

The good stuff is called HDL, or high density lipids, and it helps to clear out the bad cholesterol from inside the arteries.

The bad stuff (LDL or low-density lipids) tend to block the arteries.

Getting your blood cholesterol checked requires fasting and a blood test.

You must fast for 10 hours and have no alcohol for 48 hours before the test.

The lab will report on both types of cholesterol, as well as triglycerides.

Triglycerides are the most common fat in the diet and in the blood.

If you have a high reading of

LDL or a low reading of HDL, you may have a higher risk of having heart disease.

TOTAL CHOLESTEROL

Ideal: less than 5.2 mmol/L

Borderline high: 5.2 to 6.2 mmol/L

High: 6.2 mmol/L or more

HDL OR “GOOD CHOLESTEROL”

Desired: more than 0.9 mmol/L

LDL OR “BAD CHOLESTEROL”

Ideal: less than 3.5 mmol/L

Borderline high:

3.5 to 3.9 mmol/L

High: 4.0 mmol/L or more

TRIGLYCERIDES

Ideal: less than 2.0 mmol/L

Borderline high: 2.0 to 3.0 mmol/L

High: more than 3.0 mmol/L

If you already have heart disease or other risk factors, your doctor may advise you to lower these levels even further. You need to be responsible for your cholesterol values.

Six ways to control your blood cholesterol:

- Eat less fat and cholesterol.
- Eat more vegetables, fruits, whole grains and legumes.
- Control your weight.
- Be active.
- Don’t smoke.
- If you are taking medication for cholesterol, take it as your doctor prescribed it.

If you have any questions about your cholesterol values, come in to the Pender Harbour Health Centre and speak to one of the nurses or the dietician.

We will be offering a healthy heart program this fall and more information will follow.

P. H. HEALTH CENTRE SOCIETY AGM

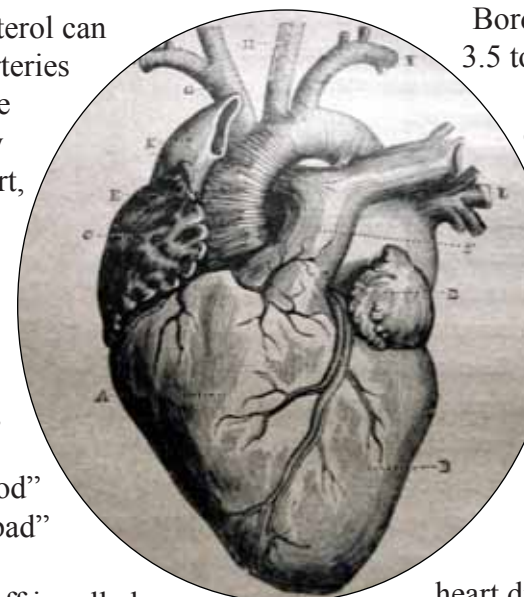
The Pender Harbour Health Centre Society’s AGM is on Sept. 25.

It’s a great opportunity to find out what’s happening at your health centre.

Membership is \$5, which can be paid at any time during office hours at the reception desk.

During July, August and part of September, the health centre is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During those hours a nurse will be on duty to provide ambulatory care.



Alcoholics Anonymous meets Monday and Wednesday at 8 p.m. – Everyone welcome.
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HARBOUR ALMANAC

THE DAYS

BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 1: Linda Drought, Kelly Marko, Edith Hubbard and Jen Hardwick.
 Aug. 2: Enya Delaney and Jessica “Lu-Lu” Kammerle.
 Aug 3: Peter Wray .
 Aug. 4: Kathleen White, Daniel White, Carol Reid, Jessica Sutherland and Gloria Keene.
 Aug. 5: Genevieve Patterson and Bill Purnell.
 Aug. 9: Shirley Adams.
 Aug.10: Bryan Clerx and Norma Martin.
 Aug. 12: Mary White and Helga Morin.
 Aug. 13: Peter Kenny.
 Aug. 15: George Huey and Daryl Percival.
 Aug. 16: Paul McKimm, Anna-Maria Massullo and Justin Tiefenbach.
 Aug. 17: Bob Forsyth.

Aug. 18: Charles Dougan.
 Aug. 20: Jim Barnet, Willy Rousseau, June Reeder, Glen Spencer, Helga Thiele and Rachel Wilson.
 Aug 21: Doris Edwardson, Joyce Fowler, Kory Francis, Shelley Clay and Klisala Harrison.
 Aug. 22: Buzzard Edwardson.
 Aug. 23: Kelly Reid.
 Aug. 25: Rory Percival.
 Aug. 27: Warne Clay and Kailee Yablonski.
 Aug. 28: Wilma Thompson, Mike Ough and Brent Metcalfe.
 Aug. 29: Steve Adamson and Karen O’Leary.
 Aug. 30: Ruth King, Donna Hobson, Megan Bathgate and Barbara Loften.
 Aug. 31: Eric English, Bryce Higgins, Corinne Gamble and Lillea Hohn.

AUGUST ASTROLOGY

JULY 23 TO AUGUST 23 (LEO)

Lions are idealists and romantics, honourable and loyal. Always individualistic, they are usually stylish, charismatic and flamboyant. These characteristics often hide a disturbingly common preoccupation with licking themselves. Down “there.”

AUG. 24–SEPT. 23 (VIRGO)

Virgos value knowledge highly. They make good teachers and advisers while avoiding positions of high power. Often shy, Virgos hide their sensitivity under a self-controlled surface and overt sexual delinquene. A 2006 survey revealed 86 per cent of Canadian exotic entertainers were Virgos.

HARBOUR ALMANAC

OF AUGUST

PARALYTIC SHELLFISH POISONING

Paralytic shellfish poisoning, or PSP, most often occurs in bivalve mollusks. Bivalves have hinged, two-part shells and obtain nutrients by filtering large volumes of water around them. Because of this eating habit, they are most susceptible to accumulation of toxins associated with certain types of microscopic algae called dinoflagellates (genus Alexandrium).

These one-celled organisms produce biotoxins that accumulate in the tissues of bivalves during heavy concentration periods commonly referred to as a “bloom.” There are cases of non-bivalve shellfish (whelks) and crustaceans (crab) affected by PSP but primarily the toxins reside in oysters, clams, cockles, mussels and scallops.

Though paralytic shellfish poisoning is often associated with the term “red tide,” which refers to any water discolouration during a significant algae bloom, many algae blooms do not produce the toxins associated with PSP. Blooms can cause a variety of water discolourations from pale yellow and green to amber and bright red but PSP outbreaks often occur without a visible indicator

Little is known about how or why specific types of algae produce the toxins but they are among the most potent natural poisons in the world. PSP is caused by a group of related toxins referred to as saxitoxins and have toxicity 55 times more potent than strychnine and over 1,000 times more powerful than cyanide.

~ excerpted from July 2008 Harbour Spiel article

AUGUST WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our average August daily high temperature is 21 C and our average daily low is 14.6 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 17.7 C. August averages 22 days with temperatures above 18 C, and the highest August temperature recorded is 32.2 C (Aug. 4, 1961); the lowest is 8.9 C (Aug. 18, 1973).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)

August averages seven days with rainfall and a total of 38.1 mm for the month (the lowest of the year). The highest daily rainfall recorded in August was 42.4 mm (Aug. 4, 1962). August has an average of 275.3 hours of bright sunshine.

Skookumchuck viewing times

~ August ~



DATE/TIME - SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large),
 EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechart Inlet).

Aug. 1	12:31 pm -XL, 7:19 pm +XL
Aug. 2	1:19 pm -XL, 7:43 pm +XL
Aug. 3	2:15 pm -L, 8:11 pm +XL
Aug. 4	9:00 am +L, 3:02 pm -L
Aug. 5	10:11 am +L, 4:16 pm -M
Aug. 6	11:30 am +L, 5:23 pm -M
Aug. 7	12:54 pm +L, 6:38 pm -S
Aug. 8	2:04 pm +L, 7:55 pm -S
Aug. 9	8:09 am -XL, 3:21 pm +XL
Aug. 10	9:32 am -XL, 4:19 pm +XL
Aug. 11	10:29 am -XL, 5:08 pm +XL
Aug. 12	11:16 am -XL, 5:48 pm +XL
Aug. 13	11:18 am -XL, 6:21 pm +XL
Aug. 14	11:54 am -XL, 6:45 pm +XL
Aug. 15	12:26 pm -L, 7:03 pm +XL
Aug. 16	1:02 pm -L, 7:17 pm +L
Aug. 17	1:45 pm -L, 7:31 pm +L
Aug. 18	2:21 pm -M, 7:47 pm +L
Aug. 19	3:13 pm -M, 8:09 pm +L
Aug. 20	10:28 pm +L, 4:19 pm -S
Aug. 21	11:34 am +L, 5:20 pm -S
Aug. 22	12:44 pm +L, 6:26 pm -S
Aug. 23	1:46 pm +L, 7:30 pm -S
Aug. 24	7:04 am -L, 3:03 pm +L
Aug. 25	8:13 am -L, 3:49 pm +XL
Aug. 26	9:11 am -XL, 4:34 pm +XL
Aug. 27	10:02 am -XL, 5:10 pm +XL
Aug. 28	10:49 am -XL, 5:43 pm +XL
Aug. 29	11:38 am -XL, 6:03 pm +XL
Aug. 30	12:30 pm -XL, 6:26 pm +XL
Aug. 31	1:13 pm -L, 6:53 pm +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

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- Replacing an older minimum 13+ litre toilet

PROGRAM DETAILS

The SCRD wants to replace up to two of your old toilets, showerheads and faucet aerators for high efficiency models—for FREE! Installation is included (approximate value of \$500 per bathroom). Maximum of two toilet replacements per household.

To view available toilets online visit www.scrd.ca or see them on display at the following locations:

- Pender Harbour office (12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park).
- Sechelt Plumbing (4349 Sunshine Coast Highway, Wilson Creek).

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LOCAL PARKS

Efforts afoot to create Spiipiyus National Park

By Joe Harrison

Few Sunshine Coast residents are aware that more than 60 per cent of the regional district consists of a 1,500-square-kilometre alpine plateau lying 1,000 metres above the ribbon of settlement and working forest along the shore.

This mostly unknown area curves in a huge question mark shape along the south shore of Jervis Inlet to Princess Royal Reach and Deserted Bay near Malibu.

And from there it stretches over a 10-kilometre pass to Ashlu Creek flowing down to Squamish (encompassing Sechelt, Narrows, and Salmon inlets) before sweeping back towards Tetrahedron Peak above Sechelt.

Inlets and steep glacial slopes with the low environmental impact of tourism can provide a sustainable economic base while protecting fragile eco-systems.

Years ago the MacNaughton brothers, Don and Bill, operated a trap line over the 1,000-metre hump from Deserted Bay along Stakawus Creek to the Ashlu.

Historically the Sechelt Nation used the trail to visit relatives along the Squamish River.

An example of its tourism potential:

A five-kilometre gondola ride over the shoulder of spectacular Mt. Crerar (2,400 m) would allow international visitors to Whistler to experience a Sky to Sea flight from existing roads on Ashlu Creek, then bus down to Deserted Bay where they could continue by tour boat to Egmont.

Some years ago Garden Bay resident Paul Jones, along with the Friends of Caren, were responsible for the establishment of Spiipiyus Provin-



photo submitted

The triangular shape on this map gives the basic outline for a proposed park that would include the Caren Range, much of Jervis, Salmon, Narrows and Sechelt inlets.

cial Park above Pender Harbour.

It was in an effort to protect Canada's oldest forest of ancient yellow cedars, many of which began growing when the Romans were still in Britain in 400 AD.

Jones was among the first people ever to see the endangered marbled murrelet feed its single chick in a nest on a mossy bough of yellow cedar after beating its stubby wings over 1,000 metres up from the inlets with a sand lance.

Known as "Kiss Me Ass" by local fishermen, murrelets dive for these thin herring type fish to depths up to 18 fathoms near Pender Harbour or perhaps Narrows Inlet.

Last spring, Jones took a resolution to enlarge the park from the Pender Harbour Wildlife Club to the

Annual Convention of Nature BC (Federation of BC Naturalists).

Jones also began exploring the idea of a larger national park to protect the entire plateau, to be dubbed the Spiipiyus National Park after the Sechelt word for the endangered marbled murrelets that nest there.

Discussions are underway with MP John Weston to initiate what could be a lengthy process.

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Pender Harbour Regatta Days (Harbour Spiel, Feb. 1996)



By Flo Dubois
(Article first appeared
in the Harbour Spiel,
February 1996)

Every summer the community and the local store owners got together to hold a day of fun and entertainment. Everyone joined in in some way including local forestry workers and young school teachers. I remember a young Italian man who participated in all the sporting events. I am not sure when Pender Harbour held its first regatta but I joined the executive committee in the mid-1950s.

At that time, those who helped in its success were Bill and Muriel Hodson, Bob Wray, Albert Martin, Bob Donley, Harry and Jennifer Reiter, Ollie Sladey, Bernice Fisher, Bill Scoular, Larry Bromley and many others.

The main event was always the regatta itself where people decorated their boats in imaginative ways to compete for prizes.

Harry Reiter had a float one year at Irvines Landing.

It was a boat covered in canvas and decorated with oysters, starfish, kelp and a blinking light. He won first prize.

Dan Leavens' float was decorated to resemble a family's campsite com-



P. H. Regatta Days circa 1950s

Wendy Phillips photo collection

plete with a bonfire in a tub and the family cooking wieners over a fire. Bob Donley's float featured a rabbit taking a man from a hat. Another float consisted of a boat draped with black canvas and made up to resemble a whale spouting water from its mouth. A number of booths were set up to sell food and other items to regatta-goers (which was just about every-

body who lived in the area at that time). Shirley West (my younger sister) and Beverly and Marlene, my eldest girls, worked in one of the booths selling souvenirs. It was a great event for these young people. A float plane stood by to take people for rides — 10 minutes for a birds eye view of the area and it cost only \$5.

A number of other contests were organized and they were as much fun for the people watching as for the competitors themselves. Water jousting was a popular competition. The rules required two boats, each with one man armed with a jousting stick and a rower. The first one in the water lost.

One year in Irvines Landing we

included logger sports in the regatta. Log sawing, log chopping and log rolling were just some of the competitions. Gordon Klein, Bud and Babe Kammerle, Archie Douglas and his son participated in some or all of the events. Log rolling was popular too. I remember Archie Douglas rolling all of his competitors into the water (at the time he was not a young man like many of the other contestants). The crowning of the regatta queen was a great ceremony and it was a great honour to be the year's queen. Some of the regatta queens I can recall are Bonnie Dubois, Patsy Reiter and Fay Cherry.



Sue Kammerle photo collection

Water jousting was a popular event in the schedule of the Pender Harbour Regatta Days. This photo was taken in the 1950s.

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PENDER GOLF

Duggan shoots hole-in-one



By Jan Watson

John Duggan
shot his first hole-in-
one using a five wood
from the white tees
on No. 5, 165 yards to
the white flag.

He didn't have "hole-in-one in-
surance," but was saved by his quarter
in the "pot."

25TH ANNIVERSARY TOURNAMENT

Before going out to play the full
slate of participants were treated to
a medley of tunes on the bagpipes
played by Lorne Campbell in full
Scottish regalia.

This was reminiscent of opening
day 25 years ago.

Playing a four-ball, best two
low net event, the winning team was
Lorne Campbell, Kathy Needham,
Bob and Nora Brooks. The golf was
followed by a lovely prime rib dinner
and a fun evening.

INTERCLUB

The men rounded out a success-
ful year by beating Myrtle Point 29.5
points to 24.5 points overall.

The ladies lost by four points to
the Sunshine Coast G.C.

MEN'S CLUB

The Stableford on July 5 was
won by Brian Orr with 25 points but
breathing down his neck was Ron
Needham with 24 points.

Kps on No. 3 was Andrew Bark-
er and on No. 6, it was John (hole-in-
one) Duggan.

On July 12 the skins match was
tied with 8 skins by Terry Cowan and
Gerry Reiter.

Second with four each were

Brian Disney and Norm Bullock.

Kps on No. 3 was Blake Priebe;
on No. 6 it was Rusty Ellis.

LADIES' CLUB

The July 14 match saw a Criers
Tourney where the worst hole score
reverts to par.

Winners tied with 84 were Con-
nie McGill and Reni Ducich.

LADIES STEAK NIGHT

On July 8 the ladies had fun as
usual with some new faces and old
friends taking part.

The scores were all close and
the winners were The Juicers: Sue
Werger, Lorraine Wareham, Roberta
Oleksyn and Jan Watson with 36.

MONDAY TWILIGHT SCRAMBLES

On July 4, with seven teams
participating, the winners were Brett
Hallborg, Pam and Chad Nordin and
Lorna Lycan with 34.

Second after a tiebreaker was
John Maveety, Connie McGill, Bob
and Diane Reed with 35.

Paul Clinton had Kps on both
No. 3 and No. 6 for the men and Jan
Watson on No. 3 for the ladies.

On July 11, the scores were all
very close.

Winners were Jeanie Byrd, Anita
Caspersen, Jonathon Kline and Brett
Hallborg with 35.

Runners up were Ron Needham,
Reni Ducich and Lorna Lycan with
36.

The only Kp was Jan Dean on
No. 3 for the ladies.

FROM THE 19TH HOLE

Enjoy the game.
Happy golf is good golf.
~ Gary Player

Harbour Spiel

PHOTOJOURNAL

Local beaver residents (Madeira Park Marsh and Garden Bay Lake)



Mary Cain photo



Mary Cain photo



Mary Cain photo



August 2011

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Wei Hsu: The first non-native Pender Harbourite (Part XIII)



Vague recollections have persisted for many years that the first non-native person to live in Pender Harbour was a Chinese man who operated a fish saltery in Irvines Landing. Before Charlie Irvine landed here and lent his name to the stretch of beach at the western entrance to Pender Harbour, a family named Hsu had settled there years before in 1873.

The historic events depicted here are loosely based on the author's own imagination and should not be interpreted as fact — unless it suits the reader to do so.

By Anne Crocker

Part XIII: (Continued from July 2011)

By the end of July, the western end of Sauch-en-auch Lake buzzed with activity. The returning stsekay (sockeye salmon) run was set to peak soon and all who attended the annual event focused on the little bay where the lake emptied into the ocean.

For weeks there had been signs the salmon were arriving in greater numbers — but then they would disappear again with very few venturing up the creek. This made the expectant families waiting on the shore increasingly nervous. They had been gathered for a few weeks and now that preparations were complete it was time to work. But there was little to do without the fish.

By this time Wei Hsu was also growing desperate. He'd stacked orders awaiting July's expected bounty. He'd cleared his saltery of excess stock to make room and as his operation sat idle, he worried he was missing the most prosperous time of the year.

He'd put a number of prospective customers off asking them to come back in a few weeks. By now he was familiar with the schedules of most of the regular visitors who worked up and down the coast. Most made regular trips every month or so through the summer but Hsu couldn't be sure when they might arrive and didn't want to risk turning them away again.

By the end of the first week in August, larger numbers showed in the bay. Few entered the lake but their growing presence was verified by the sudden proliferation of seals and birds.

It was all Wei Hsu could stand and early one morning he set his gillnet across the mouth of the bay. Before he had even cast the end out, men and women in canoes ventured out to berate him for starting so soon.

They needn't have worried. Still unfamiliar with the art of gillnetting, Hsu's net was soon twirled into a tight ball by an eddy created by the incoming tide. He caught one salmon but he and Lucy spent the rest of the afternoon

untangling the mess. Neither Qwuní and Smqáma offered their help and Hsu could feel the resentment coming from the rest of the encampment.

A few days later, activity in the bay increased and the outgoing tide deposited a dozen or more salmon or behind the walls of the ancient fish trap. It was on.

The camp sprang into action with the men working the weir late into the night while the women processed what they caught. As the evening tide fulfilled its duty by pushing the fish over the rock walls and through the weir's mouth, the men stood in the waist high current with nets to prevent the larger fish from escaping. As the tide receded, dozens of salmon remained behind, their silver backs already turning red from the fresh water. The men dipnetted what they could and children transported their wriggling prize to the women working by firelight above.

Hsu was chastened after his first attempt at gillnetting in the bay but as he prepared to set again, nobody even noticed him — all were too busy with their own fishing. This time he made sure to set at slack tide. It didn't matter so much when he was a distance from shore, but here it was easier to keep his net straight and required a lot less rowing to maintain position if he obeyed the tides.

It paid off, this time netting 22 fish. With so many fish in the weir few noticed Hsu's success. For three days, Hsu set during each daily slack tide, each set returning slightly better results.

He often had to spend much of the time between sets repairing the weak web from damage wrought by seals but he was relieved when finally the saltery began to fill up once again.

By the second week, he became bolder with his skills and found he could catch much more when he set deeper in the bay. Late one evening while the sun was just beginning to set, he cats his net across the bay awhile after the tide had shifted and started to come in.

He hadn't seen this many fish in the bay before and was confident in his new found skills.

As the he set across the bay, he discovered the tide



Image courtesy of Hsu family archives

Mary Hsu's painting of her father, Wei Hsu, gillnetting for sockeye salmon at the mouth of Sakinaw Creek, August 1875.

brought his net in perfectly while the outflowing current from the creek kept it in a perfect half moon shape. Hsu had essentially blocked off the bay.

As he and his net drifted closer to the beach the men and women preparing for their evening ritual noticed too.

They yelled for Hsu to back off but he ignored them, intent on the thrashing going on in his net. Every few seconds another salmon would hit, bobbing corks and twisting the rope.

A rock landed in his boat and he realized his friends on the beach were furious. He decided to start picking the net but as he began to haul, the fish kept coming. By the time he'd hauled the first 20 feet he realized he might be in trouble. He'd already untangled 30 fish and there was still 60 feet to go. Only a few corks could be seen as Wei Hsu realized his net was sinking. As he picked furiously, straining to pull it over the transom, he could almost feel the stern gaze coming from those beach.

Every foot of net yielded 10 or more fish and as he laboured, the opposite end had sunk under the weight and caught on the bottom. As the tide twisted him around his net anchor, he yelled to the beach for help. By this time the men were more than busy with their own fishing efforts.

Huge volumes of salmon had found their way into the weir and the camp too was overwhelmed.

Eventually the weight of Hsu's net threatened to capsize his overloaded boat. He was filled to capacity with salmon and had only picked a quarter of his now sunk net which sat anchored to the bottom of the bay, still full of salmon.

With nothing else to do, he cut himself free and rowed home with his catch to Lucy who was waiting to process. The two stayed up all night filleting and salting the catch and without having slept, Hsu rowed back around to the bay in the morning.

The tide was fully out and his net lay shredded on the rocks. Half-eaten salmon carcasses littered the beach. He estimated there to be 300 salmon left to the birds and seals.

While he picked through the mess to see if he could salvage anything, a few exhausted looking men came down to see him. Qwuní was one of them.

"Shem," (shame in Chinook jargon) was all he said as he looked at the wasted carcasses strewn around the beach. "Shem."

(Continued next month)

BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of July 10)

1. **Adventures in Solitude** by Grant Lawrence
2. **Ruta's Closet** by Keith Morgan
3. **Tragedy on Jackass Mountain** by Charles Scheideman
4. **52 Best Day Trips from Vancouver**, New Edition by Jack Christie
5. **A Thrilling Ride** edited by Paul Chapman & Bev Wake
6. **Trauma Farm** by Brian Brett
7. **Geology of British Columbia**, New Edition by Sydney Cannings
8. **Hiking the Gulf Islands of British Columbia**, Expanded 3rd Edition by Charles Kahn
9. **How Bad are Bananas?** by Mike Berners-Lee
10. **The Sentimentalists** by Johanna Skibsrud

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BOOKS

Summer reads that delve into the heart of our



By Theresa Kishkan

I was delighted to learn that *Opening Doors In Vancouver's East End: Strathcona*, a collection of fifty oral histories gathered by Carole Itter and Daphne Marlatt in the late 1970s, has been republished by Harbour Publishing as a Vancouver 125 Legacy Book. I loved it the first time I read it 30 years ago and it holds up very well after all this time.

The cover photograph, a bright door, welcomes the reader to both the neighbourhood and into its houses where tea is poured, glasses of wine clink together to toast more than a century of community.

Listening to the voices in this book, we learn about the Italians who worked as longshoremen, the Chinese who sold vegetables from wooden carts, the Polish and Russian Jews who raised money to build a synagogue on Heatley and Pender, Rosa Pryor who ran the Chicken Inn, and the hard days of the 1930s when Ukrainian families moved every few months from one terrible situation to another.

Japanese-Canadians who were displaced during the Second World War tell of the difficulty of making arrangements to leave their homes with less than a day's notice and Nora Hendrix, the grandmother of Jimi, remembers the gambling dens, the minstrel shows, and the powerful pull of religion.

Several of the people interviewed refer to their neighbourhood as a

"League of Nations" or the school playgrounds as "United Nations." So many nationalities were represented and every imaginable language could be heard on the streets and in the markets. The community was not without its tensions but it seems to have been a microcosm of the larger Canadian multicultural experience.

"The coloured kids were the ones who taught us how to jitterbug," Ines Petrin Leland recalled. And Irma Benedetti remembered that the women in the bawdy houses were unfailingly generous to children at Halloween.

In her foreword to the book, editor Carole Itter writes about the process of working with her neighbours to gather their stories.

"So how did it feel? It felt like being inside and outside simultaneously... Meeting someone, then tape-recording his memories, returning home to move more firewood up the front steps, arranging to be at the community centre meeting next Wednesday night, listening to a recording and placing the words on paper, going to the corner store for groceries and hearing the same voices there."

I was reminded of our own *Women of Pender Harbour*, where individual memories and anecdotes accumulate to produce a wholly unique portrait of a place, rich with experience and the texture of living.

Victoria writer Pauline Holdstock's last novel, *Beyond Measure*, was shortlisted for the prestigious Giller Prize in 2005 and it won the Ethel Wilson Prize. Her new novel,



BOOKS

history

Into the Heart of the Country (HarperCollins, 2011), deserves to be just as successful.

Set in the 18th century in what is now northern Manitoba, the novel explores the uneasy relationships between the European traders and the native people who worked for them, guided them through wild and dangerous country, and in the case of the women, warmed their beds and bore children who were not entirely accepted by either camp.

Molly Norton is the daughter of Governor Moses Norton, himself the son of a European father and a Dene mother. The governor was educated in England and when he returned to Prince of Wales Fort, he was determined to find his mother and the cousin he'd spent his infancy with. He wants his daughter to receive the respect of the Europeans at the fort and to make a good marriage. Molly wants Samuel Hearne and in turn he notices her and imagines her in his bed.

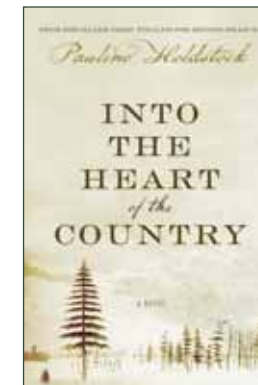
Into the Heart of the Country takes the reader into a strange and forbidding world. Holdstock's grasp of geography and history animates the landscape, each river lovingly described, the detail of every boreal forest revealed bough by trunk, the

skies praised.

"The long hours of darkness were more oppressive within the fort than out in open country. There the black sky was netted by glittering stars and their light fell on the brilliant snow...The lovely moon. The splendid glowing curtain of the aurora rippling with its winds of light. In the depths of the country the night was not dark at all."

The human relationships are just as clearly delineated too. The men who take country wives want the knowledge of the country that these women bring; the women in turn want the protection of the fort and the comforts of trade goods. The affections that develop can be a barrier to advancement, both for the men and for the women. The children that result from the unions have a foot in two camps but are not really entirely welcome in either.

This is a quiet book. Its rhythms are slow and cyclical, like seasons and weather. It's a wise book, too, as unerring in its portraits of the forts and traders as its mapping of the human heart. It's an ideal companion to Fred Stenson's *The Trade* or Guy Vanderhaeghe's *The Last Crossing* — our history, with a feminine inflection.



Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana. (Groucho Marx)



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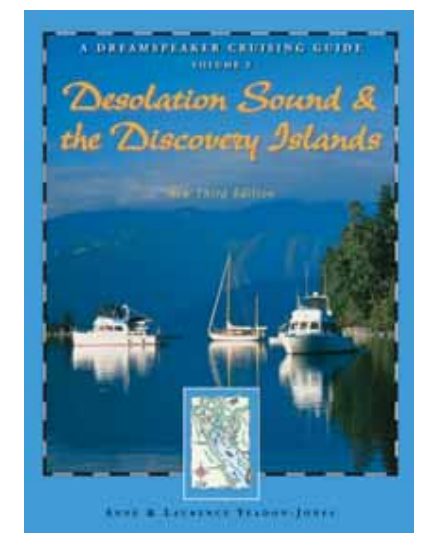
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Page 47

There's 'vintage,' and then there's just 'old'



By Shane McCune

A sure sign of summer is the arrival of the vintage car flock, migrating up Highway 101 to nesting grounds including the Garden Bay Pub show-and-shine this month.

I don't know anyone who doesn't love old cars, and I wouldn't want to. I picked up my infatuation with flying fenders and rumble seats from my older brothers. To my dad's chagrin, his eldest son used to clutter the backyard with police auction hulks (ever hear of a Plymouth Cranbrook?) that never attained anything resembling concourse condition. Although I recall a '53 Studebaker that managed to wheeze once around our block, blanketing the neighbourhood in blue smoke.

The middle brother, a retired teacher in Powell River, belongs to a classic car club although he has yet to find his own chunk of prime Detroit iron.

Having neither the money to buy a fully restored antique nor the skills to do the job

myself, my only chance at owning a vintage auto is to buy a new one and keep it for 30 years.

Alas, all available data indicate that neither I nor any car in my possession is likely to last that long.

Not that I burn through vehicles. I bought my first car 40 years ago and am now on my seventh. Some of my peers have had twice as many.

That first car is still my favourite: a 1960 Austin Cambridge in battleship grey with agility to match. Once, racing to catch a ferry, I floored it until the speedo needle wobbled up to 70, whereupon it fell dead, never to wobble again.

Ah, but it had the comfort and aroma of those English leather seats, and if the 1,489cc motor wasn't exactly peppy, it was indomitable. The battery was almost dead but if you could push it 10 feet it would jump-start in

second gear.

I might still be driving it if people didn't keep running into it. It was struck once on each corner, and the last one bent the chassis. Every offending driver paid me cash to avoid higher insurance premiums so I collected about \$800 for the damage to my \$250 car.



Early 1973 found me posing as a sports editor at the Cariboo Observer in Quesnel, where I acquired a 1970 Mazda coupe. It wasn't a rotary, just a 1,000cc four-banger, but the car barely outweighed me so it zipped along nicely, unless you ran through a puddle, which stalled it.

Soon afterward I moved to Montreal. When a girl I met declined a date because she had to go to Kingston that weekend, I said, "No problem, I'll drive you there after the concert."

Van Morrison was great, but things went sideways after that. My date was badly sunburned from a sailing date with somebody else. So we headed out into the muggy summer night, sans radio and AC, with her whimpering in pain every time the car hit a bump. Not that I noticed that, because we also had her Siamese cat along, and it yowled like an air-raid siren the entire trip.

Outside Cornwall, Ont., there was an even louder sound — a sort of ka-TANG-ka-TANG — and the car lost power. A local mechanic (well, he was wearing overalls) thought it might be the battery. It was actually a broken crankshaft and a cracked engine block. I forked out \$450 for a "new" engine from a wrecker — and a few months later that crapped out too. I abandoned both the Mazda and Montreal and flew back to Vancouver.

Next up was a 1965 Chevrolet Belair with a 230 "Turbothrift" six, purchased in Langford in 1978. En route to Calgary, I rounded a corner near Ashcroft and drove over what looked like a tree branch. It was somebody's transmission, which punched a fist-sized hole in my gas tank (which was full, luckily, so there was no air to allow an explosion).

In 1978 I inherited my dad's 1977 Plymouth Volare, which is Italian for "lemon." And it was such a nerdy car — the wrong thing to be driving as I was turning 30. So I bought a motorcycle, and in 1986 I added a two-year-old Mazda RX-7.

But when I moved to a houseboat, I found it was no fun wrangling appliance-sized propane tanks in a two-seater, never mind a two-wheeler. Farewell youthful toys, hello 1994 Ford Explorer. It was a two-door, two-wheel drive (or "two-by-four" as a friend dubbed it) with a five on the floor. ICBC classified it as a station wagon.

After 13 years a friend bought it for her son, who drove it into a tree during his first driving lesson. I replaced it with a 2003 Hyundai that I called my Sonata sports car (because it's so-not-a sports car, get it?).

Nothing wrong with it, except it's small and I'm big, and I soon had permanent bruising on my shins from getting into it.

Now I have a 1996 Mercury Grand Marquis in near-mint condition, with only 89,000 miles (it's a U.S. car) on it and all the room a portly old man could desire. Hell, when I stow the golf bag in the trunk I leave it attached to the cart.

But driving a big ol' sedan takes a little getting used to. Before I hit the road I go over my start-up checklist:

1. Lower seat and tilt steering wheel up until the brim of my fedora is level with the top of steering wheel and I have a clear sightline through the top half of the wheel.
2. Tune radio to C-NILE oldies channel.
3. Make sure turn signal is on. (I usually do this when I park it at night, just to be sure.)
4. After backing out of parking space, shift into second gear and leave it there all day.

But hey, if we both survive another 15 years, I get to join the vintage car rallies.

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Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

AUGUST

- Sun. Aug. 7.....P. H. Farmer's and Artisan's Market - Crossroads Grill, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sun. Aug. 7.....Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Aug. 8.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
- Sat. Aug. 13.....Village Vinter Beer Launch! - Village Vintner, Noon to 5 p.m.
- Sun. Aug. 14.....Garden Bay Show and Shine/Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton - Garden Bay Pub, 12 Noon
- Fri. Aug. 19-21.....P. H. Chamber Music Festival - P. H. School of music, 3 days
- Sat. Aug. 20.....Author Marina Sonkina - Bluewaters Books, 1 to 3 p.m.
- Sat. Aug 20-21.....P. H. Garlic Festival (2 days) - P. H. Lions Park, All day
- Sun. Aug 21.....Lagoon Society AGM and Legacy Mosaic unveiling - Iris Griffith Nature Centre, 1 p.m.
- Sun. Aug. 21.....Sunday Jam with Gaetan - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Aug. 22.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
- Sat Aug. 27.....Ruby Lake Lagoon Nature Reserve Society's Family Fun BioBlitz - Iris Griffith Centre (2 days)
- Sun. Aug. 28.....Sunday Jam with Peter Van B3 - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.



FERRY DEPARTURES

~ Effective to Sept. 1 ~

Crossing time: Langdale 40 min./Earl's Cove 50 min. Ticket sales end 10 min. before sailing for foot passengers, 5 min. before for vehicles. See www.bcferries.com for information on added sailings during peak periods.

Langdale	Horseshoe Bay	Earl's Cove	Saltery Bay
6:20 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	7:15 a.m.
7:55 a.m. (Sat only)	9:00 a.m. (Sat only)	10:35 a.m.	9:25 a.m.
8:30 a.m.	9:40 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	11:40 a.m.
10:05 a.m. (Sat. only)	11:10 a.m. (Sat only)	3:10 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
10:50 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
♥ 12:30 p.m.	♥ 1:35 p.m.	7:40 p.m.	6:40 p.m.
1:05 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	2:15 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	9:35 p.m.	8:35 p.m.
▲ 2:40 p.m.	▲ 3:45 p.m.	11:25 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
◆ 3:25 p.m.	◆ 4:30 p.m.		
4:45 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	5:50 p.m.(Daily except Sat.)		
◆ 5:30 p.m.	◆ 6:35 p.m.		
♣ 6:55 p.m.	♣ 7:55 p.m.		
◆ 7:35 p.m.	◆ 8:40 p.m.		
8:55 p.m. (Tues & Wed. only)	9:50 p.m. (Tues & Wed. only)		
◆ 9:40 p.m.	◆ 10:35 p.m.		

♥ Mon, Thurs, Fri. & Sat. only

▲ Tues, Wed, Fri, Sun & Aug. 1 only

◆ Daily except Tues & Wed.

♣ Tues., Wed., & Sun. only (except July 31)

Deep Thoughts . . .

Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right.

— Isaac Asimov

AUGUST 20-21 / 2011

SATURDAY FROM 10 AM – 10 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM – 6 PM

PENDER HARBOUR LIONS PARK, SUNSHINE COAST HIGHWAY

\$5.00 ADMISSION
KIDS UNDER 12 FREE

the SECOND ANNUAL

Pender Harbour

SUMMER Garlic & Music Festival

also Featuring
Joel Fafard
Penny Lang

featuring
Valdy



Shuttle service from PHSS to the site

BRING YOUR GARLIC TO MARKET: Any garlic and produce vendors (or any other vendors) interested in taking part should call Neale and Niki Smith at 604.883.3693 or e-mail nealesmith@dccnet.com.

Great food. Great music:

Saturday, August 20

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ~ Penny Lang,
11 a.m. to 12 noon ~ Katherine Rowlands,
Noon to 1 p.m. ~ Koca and Friends,
1p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ~ Cat in the Middle,
2:30 to 3:30 p.m. ~ Shady Days,
3:30 to 5:30 p.m. ~ Valdy
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. ~ Larrie Cooke & the Bluesmasters,
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. ~ Dr. Fun & the Painkillers.

Sunday Aug. 21st

10 to 11 a.m. ~ Penny Lang,
11 a.m. to noon ~ Back Porch Reunion,
Noon to 1 p.m. ~ Angie McAuley & Dave Groom,
1 p.m. to 2 p.m. ~ Joel Fafard,
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. ~ Gaetan & the French Connection,
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. ~ Linda Connell/Studley,
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Shrugs

Bring the kids ~ Children's entertainer Graham Walker will entertain the kids in the playground both days.

www.penderharbourgarlicfestival.ca





GPS: 49.37.988N, 124.03-247W

PENDER HARBOUR LANDING

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Oak Tree Market

883~2411



Now stocking:
LADY BUG
organic BC apple juice

Triple B's Burgers
883-9655

Harbour Pizza
883-2543

Johnny's **CRANE & TRUCKING**



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12467 Clay Road, Madeira Park • mjepalmer@gmail.com

AUGUST MUSIC:

Aug. 1: Midnight Eagles
Aug. 4: Glen Pearson
Aug. 5: Glen Pearson
Aug. 6: Glen Pearson
Aug. 7: Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook
Aug. 8: Harpoonist and the Axe Murderer
Aug. 9: Harpoonist and the Axe Murderer
Aug. 10: Harpoonist and the Axe Murderer
Aug. 12: Arsen Shomakov
Aug. 13: Arsen Shomakov
Aug. 14: Joe Stanton and the GB Show and Shine
Aug. 15: Jason Buie
Aug. 16: Jason Buie
Aug. 17: Jason Buie
Aug. 19: Sibel Thrasher
Aug. 20: Sibel Thrasher
Aug. 21: Sunday Jam with Gaetan
Aug. 23: Willie McCaLder
Aug. 24: Willie McCaLder
Aug. 25: Willie McCaLder
Aug. 26: Gary Comeau/Chris Nordquist/Tim Hearsey
Aug. 27: Gary Comeau/Chris Nordquist/Tim Hearsey
Aug. 28: Sunday Jam w/ Peter Van B3

*Drop by for the
8th annual
Garden Bay
Show and Shine:
Aug. 14.*

PUB SPECIALS:

FRIDAY: Meat Draws
(Proceeds to P.H. Blues Society)
SATURDAY: Prime Rib
SUNDAY: Eggs Benny



GARDEN BAY PUB
OPEN DAILY AT 11... (604)883-2674