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Cover image: Flying Brant Geese arriving at Cable Beach - March 12, 2021. Photo by Dennis Forsyth



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*The opinions expressed herein do not
necessarily reflect the views of the
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A Handy Guide for Spreading Gossip & Rumours

By Grumpy & the Staff

COMMUNITY NOTICE

It has come to our attention that there is a rumour going around that one or more of our employees at the General Store and Post Office has COVID. THIS IS FALSE NEWS. NO EMPLOYEE HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID. If an employee did test positive, we would post a public health alert. We are following and in many cases exceeding, the provincial health guidelines for operating during this pandemic. We are spraying down surfaces. We are limiting the number of people into the General Store to a maximum of 4 people plus one person at the Post Office. You must wear a mask prior to entering the General Store and Post Office.

Our front-line staff are working very hard under very stressful conditions. False rumours about COVID are to adding not taking away, from the stress. We are operating under difficult financial circumstances. False news is very damaging and does not help our precarious financial situation. We will hold anyone responsible for spreading these false rumours liable for all financial harm that we incur as a result of their actions. We will not allow our reputation to be damaged and we will seek to recover the harm we have incurred.

However, if you feel the need to spread gossip or malicious rumours here is a handy guide to help you along with way. We would suggest that malicious rumours and gossip be spread about Purple and Pink 5-legged zebras instead of the General Store and Post Office (or any person, business or group):

• Malicious Rumours about the General Store and Post Office

Malicious Rumours about Purple and Pink (P and P) 5-legged zebras

• Could result in 16 people losing their jobs.

The P and P zebras are self-employed.

• Could result in negative financial consequences for 20 or more Denman Island businesses and suppliers to the General Store.

The P and P zebras use agents who literally work for peanuts.

• If the General Store must close so will the Post Office. The nearest Postal outlet is in Union Bay.

Citing privacy legislation Canada Post will not comment on the volume of mail that P and P zebras receive or send. However, the biologists that we consulted say that P and P zebras prefer to skinny dip in Chickadee Lake rather than engage in online shopping, send or receive packages.

We wish to thank and acknowledge the assistance of the Purple and Pink 5-legged Zebra Anti-Defamation League for their assistance in preparing this article.

We also wish to thank Denman Islanders and all those people who visit the General Store and Post Office for their on-going support. We literally could not survive without you.

The final thought is from Grumpy: I heard a juicy rumour about butter but he did not want to spread it.

*With gratitude and hopes for understanding,
Grumpy and staff*

Denman Island General Store and Post Office World Headquarters

We appreciate and thank you for your support. We literally cannot exist without you.



A Brief History of Climate Action on Denman and Where to Go From Here

COMM INFO

By Ron Wilson • Chairperson, DI Climate Action Network

You may recall the movie An Inconvenient Truth with Al Gore. It came out in 2006. Several Denmanites took it to heart and started to take steps towards dealing with what was then called Global Warming. The focus was originally on Renewable Energy (REDI). Tours of off grid homes were arranged. Biofuels were studied. This evolved into Transition festivals based on a British model. This included the formation of the Growers and Producers Association which organized events such as Seedy Saturday and Slow films which showed documentaries from the Courtenay movie festival on Denman once a month. It also included a gathering of something like 35 different groups that existed on Denman so everyone could hear what each group was doing. A final sustainability festival was held in 2015.

A renewed effort at drawing awareness to what was now called Climate Change took shape in the fall of 2018 with a series of workshops held at the Community School focussing on how we could reduce our Carbon Footprint. Topics including how to assess our footprint, renewable energy, housing and transportation issues, food sustainability, and the 3Rs of recycling were discussed. Finally an enquiry into next steps charted the way forwards.

Enthusiasm waned somewhat over the winter but was reignited with an event featuring long time Climate Change Activist and Author, Guy Dauncey at the community hall in September 2019. We were challenged to work towards becoming 100% Climate and Nature Friendly by 2025. A formal Climate Action Committee under the auspices of DIRA was formed. This group formed new subgroups focussed sun as:

Letter writing to politicians and businesses promoting the need for climate action

A Repair cafe to minimize throwing fixable things away and repairing them

A Direct Action group that promoted system change

A Transportation group working towards reducing dependence on carbon

A Trees for Future group looking at reducing the amount of carbon in the atmosphere, food security, wildlife habitat, education about reforestation and soil stabilization.

Along with these groups a HUB was formed which looked at creating our Mission Statement and a website for our organization. Despite the fact that COVID-19 appeared and things moved much more slowly, we now have a Mission Statement and a Website set to be launched.

For those of you who want to come together again to move forward with Climate Action or for those who are new and wanting to find out more, there will be a general meeting on Tuesday, March 23rd at 7 pm by Zoom. If you would like an invite please get in touch with Frank or Debbie Frketich at frankfrketich501@gmail.com

Come and join us to find out more, bring your ideas and find out how you can be involved. 🍷

About Those Bats

By Jenny Balke • Denman & Hornby Bat Project

COMM INFO

WANTED

Bats Found Dead

for White Nose Disease Testing

(WND Testing window – up to May 31, 2021)

As it warms up and bugs get more plentiful, our few winter-resident bats will become more active and those bats that hibernate elsewhere will be returning to keep those bug populations in check. Meanwhile the deadly white nose disease that has killed millions of bats in eastern North America is spreading on the west coast. White Nose Syndrome kills nearly 100% of infected bats, but does not affect humans. Bats are found dead from the disease in their hibernacula and those that survive the winter may spread the disease when they emerge. As our west coast bats hibernate singly or in small groups, the disease is spreading more slowly than in the east. So, we have more time to track the disease spread and to work on disease prevention.

Reporting dead bats and submitting these bats for testing will help to track the spread of this disease. As yet no dead bats submitted for White Nose Disease testing by the *continued on P.5...*

TIDE TABLE

• Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove •
• Source: tides.gc.ca •

2021-03-18

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
02:05	2.9	9.5
07:51	4.4	14.4
14:58	1.7	5.6
21:48	4.0	13.1

2021-03-19

(Friday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
03:43	3.3	10.8
09:09	4.2	13.8
16:35	1.7	5.6

2021-03-20

(Saturday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
00:01	4.0	13.1
04:35	3.5	11.5
09:29	4.1	13.5
17:22	1.7	5.6

2021-03-21

(Sunday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
01:30	4.1	13.5
06:11	3.7	12.1
09:55	3.9	12.8
18:22	1.7	5.6

2021-03-22

(Monday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
02:50	4.2	13.8
08:26	3.7	12.1
10:44	3.8	12.5
19:32	1.6	5.2

2021-03-23

(Tuesday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
03:48	4.3	14.1
09:39	3.6	11.8
12:38	3.7	12.1
20:41	1.5	4.9

2021-03-24

(Wednesday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
04:31	4.4	14.4
10:17	3.4	11.2
14:23	3.8	12.5
21:41	1.3	4.3

2021-03-25

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PDT	(m)	(ft)
05:06	4.5	14.8
10:50	3.1	10.2
15:35	3.9	12.8
22:32	1.2	3.9



An Unpainted Portrait: Chukka (Part 1)

ARTS&LIT

By Leo Simmons



Chukka. *Def: a mummified Egyptian priest resurrected by unholy means and engaged to teach small boys using his eyebrows as semaphore devices. Speaks an archaic form of English.*

Mr Arthur 'Chukka' Limb was a legend in his own - very long - lifetime. My elder brother had told me numerous stories of this irascible old relic, none of which I'd entirely believed. They seemed too ridiculous to be true. His age, for starters, was clearly a fabrication - someone still teaching in his eighties (born in the *previous century*)? I couldn't believe it, however, my introduction to the reality of Chukka was to happen on my very first day at Ridgeway.

After an emotionally draining morning, the lunch break had screeched to a halt much too soon, and our first 'proper' lesson of the afternoon was an hour of history. I'd always enjoyed reading encyclopaedias at home, and so this was a subject that I was looking forward to. Having collected our pristine briefcases, we assembled outside the classroom in an excited rabble. We stood inside a glass-roofed cloakroom running the length of two classrooms in an old part of the school and as a consequence, we could see into the classroom we were about to enter. Within, I could see a robust figure moving about at the front of the class. There seemed to be a lot of hair and...well...a lot of *him*. I was wondering who he was, but was interrupted by a hoarse shriek from behind us. "SILENCE!" shouted the raspy voice again. With my classmates, I turned. There, resplendent in a tweed three-piece suit, enormous horn-rimmed thick spectacles and the most extravagant eyebrows that I'd ever seen, stood an extremely old man. His expression was one of horror mixed with indignation and a little confusion.

"What the bally hell is goin' on here?" he croaked. His voice sprang straight out of a 1930s melodrama, ripe with BBC pronunciation of the time, and was the first I'd ever heard using the word 'bally'. Of course, nobody knew how to describe what had been "goin' on", but the embarrassed silence was broken by a rich Lancashire brogue from over our shoulders. "Thank you, Mr Limb, you beat me to it. You lot must be 1S. Get in here now." Slightly stunned, we hesitated. "NOW!" bellowed our saviour, and spurred into action, we squeezed through the door and into the classroom. I scrambled behind a desk which seemed to be older than the school itself. Made from the darkest wood that I'd ever seen, the seat was connected to the desk with thick black iron rails which also formed the legs and feet of the whole contraption. The wood was itself almost black with age, scratched and marked with surreptitious graffiti. At the front of the desk was a brass ink well, complete with a sliding cover which made a satisfying 'clack' sound. I felt like I'd stepped backwards in time, and suddenly I wanted a quill pen.

"DON'T mess with the ink wells!" the teacher cried amid a gentle crescendo of clacking sounds. As he did so, I looked through the windows to see the old man standing exactly as before, still wearing that same outraged expression, but seemingly at a loss what to do next, faced as he was with an empty space. I wondered idly if he'd died standing up. "RIGHT!" The new teacher's voice grabbed me warmly by the ear again. "My name is Doctor Brew." He gestured to the board, upon which he had written 'Dr Brew'. So; he meant it, then. For the first time, I had a good look at the man who would be teaching me about the past. He stood approximately five feet eight inches in height and about the same around the waist. A pair of brown trousers and a sports jacket replete with leather elbow patches failed to disguise an impressive belly, below which were two very short

legs. His large head was enhanced with a ruff of black beard and a sparse but lengthy moustache. His eyes glared past a large red nose, completing the picture of a fierce little man with a short temper who would be most suited to stamping up and down on the poop deck of a pirate vessel. Within a week he would be awarded the moniker of 'Captain Pugwash' - and, your honour, I submit that never did a nickname suit a man more.

Our lesson with Pugwash passed quickly and with promise. It became immediately apparent that he was a very bright fellow, was passionate about his field of study and that he possessed a sense of humour. He also possessed a very loud voice when he was agitated by inattention, high jinks or anything else. Little did I know it then, but over the next seven years, he and I would lock horns on a great many occasions, due either to my propensity for inattention or inability to keep my mouth shut once I'd thought of something 'amusing' to say. I grew to like and admire him but this, sadly, was not mutual; as far as he was concerned I was an annoying little twerp. He'd worked me out almost immediately.

At the conclusion of the lesson, we packed up our new textbooks and took them and our first ever homework out of the room. I was still pondering the nature of homework - which seemed to me like an outrageous intrusion into my God-given right to lie around my home doing absolutely nothing of any worth - as we lined up outside Mr Limb's adjoining room. A five-minute pause between the end of one lesson and the start of the next was marked by the same bell, but almost immediately Mr Limb's eyebrows appeared around the classroom door, closely followed by the rest of him.

He beckoned us into the room and to what I felt might be our doom...



...continued from P.3 Denman Hornby Bat Project have been positive for the disease.

Please report any dead bats to 250-335-2151 or dhbatproject@gmail.com
Please do not handle any bats with bare hands – wear gloves. If your pet has been in direct contact with a bat, please contact your veterinarian. Note: pets need to be vaccinated against rabies.

In winter, our resident bats are occasionally spotted flying on relatively warm winter days or evenings. Bats may wake up, drink or even eat if bugs are also active. We can enjoy these winter bat-aerodynamics, but please report any unusual behaviours or deaths.

The BC Community Bat Program is supported by the Habitat Conservation Trust

Foundation, the Forest Enhancement Society of BC, the Province of BC, and the Habitat Stewardship Program and our local Denman and Hornby conservancies (DCA, CHI). The program works with the government and others on public outreach activities, public reports of roosting bats in buildings, our citizen-science bat monitoring program, and developing bat-friendly communities. The provincial program's website is www.bcbats.ca.



Living Well: Happiness

By Verna Isbister

COMM INFO

March 20 has been designated International Day of Happiness. I'm not sure who comes up with these celebrations but I'm a big believer in celebrating and our world sure needs a dose of happiness. Several years ago I read Gretchen Rubin's book, The Happiness Project. She spent a year, researching happiness from scientific studies, the wisdom of the ages and then tried to apply these principles into her life. Each month and each chapter focusses on developing happiness habits. In honour of March 20, here are a few of her gleanings about how to be happier:



having a large, loving, caring close-knit family in another city." He lived till he was 100 years old and embodied the saying, "laughter is the best medicine." He often reflected on his age, "You know you're old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there."

- "Give warm greetings and farewells whenever people come and go from home."
- "Go for a walk every day."
- "Happier people are more likely to help other people, they're more interested in social problems, they do more volunteer work and they contribute more to charity."
- "One of the best ways to make yourself happy is to make other people happy; One of the best ways to make other people happy is to be happy yourself."
- "There is no duty we so much underrate as the duty of being happy." Robert Louis Stevenson
- "Get more sleep and exercise." "Act the way I want to feel."
- "De-clutter." It's time for spring cleaning!
- "Research shows that regularly having fun is a key factor in having a happy life: people who have fun are twenty times as likely to feel happy." Think about what's fun for you.
- "Play." "Take time to be silly."
- "Go off the path." "Choose the bigger life."
- "One conclusion was blatantly clear from my happiness research: everyone, from contemporary scientists to ancient philosophers, agrees that having strong social bonds is probably the most meaningful contributor to happiness."
- Epicurus wrote, "Of all the things that wisdom provides for living one's entire life in happiness, the greatest by far is the possession of friendship." "Make three new friends."
- "Sing in the morning."
- "Pursue a passion." "Stimulate your mind in a new way."
- "In a poll where people were asked, 'What one thing in life has brought you the most happiness?' The most common answer was children or grandchildren or both."
- "Laugh out loud."

We just can't wave a wand and make ourselves happy. The renowned psychiatrist, Carl Jung, wrote "Even a happy life cannot be without a measure of darkness, and the word happy would lose its meaning if it were not balanced by sadness. It is far better to take things as they come along with patience and equanimity."

This past year, has been filled with darkness and sadness for many. We are each unique individuals and for some it is easier to be happy than for others. We certainly have had to be calm and patiently "take things as they come" over this past year. With the end of the pandemic in sight, I trust that the darkness will begin to lift and we can approach spring with a lightness of heart.

On Saturday, the International Day Happiness, I invite you to write a list of all of the things that bring you happiness and then go outside and laugh out loud!

Combining the last two ideas, the comedian George Burns said, "Happiness is



End of an Era! Homemade Thanks to Two Housing Volunteers

By Stephanie Slater

COMM INFO

There's nothing like a handmade rug to make a home feel cozy, so what better way to thank two tireless volunteers for their service to affordable housing than with a gift of handmade rugs?

Harlene Holm and Guy Marion dedicated countless hours over the past 12 years as board members of the Denman Community Land Trust Association (DCLTA). In appreciation for their community service toward the Pepper Lane seniors' affordable housing project, Donna Millen donated two of her handmade rugs - one for each of them. Concha Dennis donated two of her handmade booklets, in which community members wrote messages expressing their thanks.

Due to pandemic protocols, there was no formal presentation of the rugs and booklets. Instead, Donna and Louise Bell made surprise deliveries to Harlene and Guy - a lovely way to thank two people who have given a tremendous amount of time and expertise to the betterment of our community.



Introducing the Board of the Denman Community Land Trust Association

By DCLTA

COMM INFO

A former government minister, two communications professionals, and a retired environmental engineer whose past life includes running The Laughing Oyster Bookstore - these are some of the Denman Island residents who are on the board of the Denman Community Land Trust Association (DCLTA).

New members were recruited following the resignation of several directors, including founding members Harlene Holm and Guy Marion, who dedicated themselves to the organization for 12 years! Some new director positions were created to bring added strength to the board as the non-profit group approaches the milestone of buying the land for its seniors affordable housing project: Pepper Lane.

Board members now include long-time Denman residents such as bookkeeper Virginia MacCuspie - whose parents ran the General Store for 30 years - John Mather - who ran a concrete and gravel-hauling business on the island for 25 years - and Doug Olstead, a retired lawyer who has lived on Denman since 1988 and has acted as legal advisor to the DCLTA for the past four years.

Some members are relatively new to the island - at least as full-time residents. These include retired teacher Nancy Hoyano (now in her second term on the DCLTA board) and her neighbour Chris Wardman, whose varied career includes being a guitarist and songwriter with the '80s new wave band Blue Peter and creating an online presence for musicians as the Senior Manager of New Media at Universal Music Canada.

Other relative newcomers are Sue Hammell, a former teacher who served multiple terms as the NDP MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers and whose cabinet positions included being Minister of Housing.

Communications Consultant Brad Hornick moved to Denman with his family

in 2019 and he's applied his skills to volunteer work with multiple island organizations ever since.

Two board members can be described as both old and new to Denman. Paul Beauchemin and his wife (of the Laughing Oyster history) came to Denman for 10 years in 1973 before moving to North Vancouver where he worked as an environmental engineer. They moved back full-time last year.

Stephanie Slater and her husband have lived on Denman for seven years but Stephanie visited the island since the early 1970s when her family bought the property where her 95-year-old father, Bill, still lives. Stephanie is a Communications Manager with the First Nations Health Authority.

She sums up the reason why she and her fellow directors are serving on the board of the DCLTA: "A community without its Elders is poor, indeed. A healthy community makes a place for all its members - of all means."

Denman Housing Association

Registered Charity #84680 0936 RR0001

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday April 6 2021

Via Zoom at 5 p.m.

You are invited to attend our online AGM by video or by phone when we review the financial results and activities of the past year and elect a Board of Directors to serve for the next.

The Financials, a Directors' Report, and a proposed slate of Directors will be available on our website DenmanHousing.com from March 20.

The Zoom invitation will also be available on our website from April 5.

Anyone wishing to become a voting member should kindly provide a name & address before March 31 to - DenmanAffordableHousing@gmail.com

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DENMAN ISLAND COVID VACCINE CLINIC FOR THOSE AGE 80 AND OVER

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At the Activity (Senior's) Centre

To make appointment call

1-833-348-4787

Required information: First and last name,
Date of Birth, Postal Code, phone number,
Personal Health Number

DIRCS & The DI Community Hall

COMM INFO

By Lyndsey Jennings

The Board of Directors of DIRCS, which owns and runs the community hall on your behalf is getting cards and letters, as Dean Martin used to say, from community members looking to find out what the hall is up to, or as is the case over the last year, not up to. We nonetheless continued to spend your tax dollars and we want to update you on what is happening there from time to time, if only out of a slight sense of responsibility. It has been a long time since we last let the sterilizing effects of sunlight shine on our secretive doings, so here is a summary of the last year.

Covid of course shut everything down and events and bookings were cancelled until very recently. Currently, besides the preschool, the Farm to Family meal program and Tai Chi are using the facility.

With no rentals over the last year, the Board undertook some major repair projects. The dangerous log staircase up to the storage room in the back hall is no more. Richard Menard made a beautiful and safe staircase that can be lifted up out of the way when not in use. We have new stage lighting, a major and costly job overseen by Eli Hason. The kitchen floor was replaced, the room painted by Amy and Sara, and Tony Baker made a new cabinet.

The green room (the stage dressing room) has been gutted and completely rebuilt. (All of the tiny corpses found under the floor were tastefully interred in the DIRCS mausoleum nearby). This part of the hall dates in part from the original building and Kathy Reider and Michael Lindsay are almost finished this long overdue and major repair.

Funding for a covered play area was granted to the island via DICES and the intentions are to use the covered play area in the hall field. There are still many design issues to overcome before the DIRCS board signs off on the project and the entire concept is not without its issues.

Island residents with an opinion (are there any without one?) can certainly weigh in by emailing their views to de Neen Baldwin, board chair, at dbid@telus.net.

The preschool is moving to their new building on the school grounds soon and the space they have been using for decades will be vacant later this Spring. We are looking for suggestions on what the community would like to see the space used for in the future. Some suggestions to date are a community food hub, with space for the Growers and Producers and/or the Food Bank, a maker's space or tool library, or a music room/rehearsal space.

This is your space so let us know what you think.

Round Up the Usual Suspects: The Quad Squad

By Gwynee Dyer • OP March 15th, 2021

OP/ED

It has been quite pleasant living on a planet where most of the great powers were not locked up into two hostile nuclear-armed alliances, but nothing lasts forever. Creeping shyly onto the stage via Zoom, the successor to NATO emerged into public view last Friday.

It's called the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue – the 'Quad', for short. It's intended to be to China what NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) was to the old Soviet Union: an alliance to deter and contain the 'evil regime', now located in Beijing, until it finally collapses.

The core four in the Quad are countries that have all

continued on P.8...

Finally, recently the hall applied for 3 grants to help support the cost of installing an HVAC system. Sadly, we were turned down on all 3. An HVAC system would allow us to heat the building at **less cost and less noise**. It would also provide cooling and fresh air circulation into and out of the building (especially valuable during a pandemic).

THE ASK: Do you have the skill, knowledge and time, to help us identify and complete grants to fund this project? if you do, please contact us at dbid@telus.net. We would be very grateful for some community help on this.



DENMAN HARDWARE ANNOUNCEMENT

Noni and Stirling would like to congratulate Graeme and Verna Isbister on becoming the sole owners of Denman Hardware, effective March 1st.

While we have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy a very close relationship with these two wonderful people, we are moving on to other interests.

Many thanks to the community for supporting our efforts over the last two years.

Stirling Fraser & Noni Fenwick-Wilson



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...continued from P.7 fought China in the past 75 years: the United States and Australia (in the Korean War), Japan (before and during the Second World War), and India (sporadic border wars).

It was the militaristic Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan who originally proposed Quad 1.0 in 2007, but new Australian, US and Japanese leaders shelved it in 2008. Donald Trump re-launched it as part of his anti-Chinese policy in 2017, and this time the other former players were also up for it. Joe Biden has just given notice that he's also on board for Quad 2.0.

Most of the 'usual suspects' (the other NATO members) also want to join the team as players, or at least as substitutes: a Canadian warship sailed through the Taiwan Strait in January, and Britain, France, Germany and the Netherlands will all deploy warships to the Indo-Pacific region later in the year.

Is 'NATO in Asia' really getting ready for another decades-long cold war and/or a possible hot war? Every nuclear weapons power except Israel and perhaps Russia would be part of this confrontation, and there are many more potential flash-points in the Asia-Pacific region than there ever were in Europe.

This new alliance will provide employment for a generation of military professionals in many countries and a strategic rationale for pouring money into their arms industries. But what's driving it is not just the usual exaggerated 'threat assessments' of the military.

There is absolutely no evidence that China plans to invade anywhere (except Taiwan, which all members of the Quad acknowledge is technically part of China). In fact, apart from minor border clashes, no Chinese regime, Communist or otherwise, has invaded anywhere at all for centuries. So why worry?

There's something older and deeper at work here. It's the age-old 'balance of power' strategy that appeared among the Sumerian city-states about 2500 BC, and has dominated international politics for most of the time since.

All the major powers in a given region (Mesopotamia 3,500 years ago), or continent (Europe 350 years ago) or even the entire world (NATO vs. the Soviet Union 35 years ago) see every other big power as a potential enemy. And history teaches that today's friend can be tomorrow's enemy, so you must always be stronger.

In particular, countries worry about an emerging great power that might get big enough to upset the whole applecart – Spain in the 17th century, France in the

18th, Britain in the 19th, Germany in the early 20th century, Russia in the later 20th – and make alliances against it.

These arrangements have usually ended in great wars, but recently not so much: forty years of Cold War against the Soviet Union ended without a 'world war'. Now China's growing strength is great enough to set the wheel in motion again, and its behaviour would have to be utterly saintly to stop the others from ganging up on it in the time-honoured way.

There are aspects of the Chinese Communist regime that are indeed 'evil': its behaviour towards ethnic minorities in Xinjiang and Tibet, for example, and indeed towards dissenters among its own Chinese people. Treaty-breaking in Hong Kong and building military bases on disputed islands in the South China Sea in defiance of international law are hardly 'confidence-building measures' either.

But there is no need for this Quad alliance. It's as implausible to believe that China would invade some country beyond its borders now (except Taiwan, of course) as it was to think that the Soviet Union would ever have seriously considered invading West Germany. The Quad is a waste of time and resources, and (given nuclear weapons with many triggers) an unnecessary risk.

One staircase thought, however. Are Biden's advisers cunning enough to realise (a) that China under current management will eventually invade Taiwan and is bound to win; (b) that it would be suicidally dangerous for the US to intervene; and (c) that all America's current and prospective allies think the same?

In which case their real aim might be to spread the blame: they'd rather be just one of the Quad crowd that abandons Taiwan, rather than bearing the blame alone?

But I suspect they're not that clever.



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Vaccine...And Maybe Herd

ARTS&LIT

By Bill Engleson • www.engleson.ca

(A feeble play on the old saw, "Children should be seen and not heard.")

"It's just too much," Fred Biddle blurted out as Ernie Blue and I gathered in his garden, celebrating the Ides of March, safe distancing at a six-foot minimum though the way spittle flies out of Fred Biddle, ten feet comes to mind as a safer distance. "What's too much?" I ask, thinking it could be a mess of things but fairly sure it was only one thing. "It's the vaccine, isn't it?" I toss out like a fishing line cast into a stream. Well, I'd struck the nail on the proverbial head or maybe, the needle. "Yeah, it's the needle, fellas. Never been one to relish being jib-jabbed." "Ah, Freddie, Freddie, Freddie, it's for your own good," mantras Ernie Blue. Ya gotta hand it to Ernie. The man is a travelling fool, doing whatever he can to get on a plane And point it south. Point it anywhere. So, we sit there, bums on the ground, plastic chairs, actually,

shoring Fred up, thinking back a year when masks and keep-your-distance and talk of vaccine, was just not there. "When I was a kid, I'd faint each time," Fred allowed. "Before the shot usually. Even sometimes after." "But ya did it," Ernie noted, "Ya always did it." And Fred nodded and agreed that each and every time, he had. "Well," I piped in, "Maybe you'll get lucky and get the one-shot deal. Either way, we gotta do our part." We shot the bull for a little while longer, agreed that we all needed this needle, maybe two needles, and who knew if it wouldn't become an annual ritual. "Some won't," of course. Fred said, and as the March sun set, and the snow still clung to the Beaufort Hills across the water, we wondered about that, about them, those who did, those who didn't, what that might mean down the road, down that long yellow brick COVID-19 road with all its terpsichorean twists and turns. 🍷

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Dates

COMMUNITY NOTICE

By Island Health

Please help us get seniors immunized against COVID-19.

As Denman and Hornby are small communities, the entire adult population age 18+ will be invited to participate in a vaccine clinic at a future date that will be determined.

We are working to get the senior population immunized as quickly as possible. We are encouraging all seniors age 80+ and Indigenous seniors age 65+ to book now for a vaccination clinic that will take place on Denman Island on Wednesday, March 24 and on Hornby Island on Thurs, Mar 25.

All seniors 80 years of age and older (born 1941 or earlier), Indigenous seniors 65 years of age and older (born in 1956 or earlier) and Indigenous Elders:

Please call the Island Health COVID-19 immunization booking phone line 1-833-348-4787 between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM, 7 days/week. *continued on P.10...*

DENMAN ISLAND: LOCAL VACCINE CLINIC

Age 80+ and Indigenous age 65+ can call to register

1-833-348-4787
 7am - 7pm
 Mon - Sun

You or the person calling for you will need your **personal health number** to register.

Clinic Date (by appointment only):
Wednesday, March 24

islandhealth.ca/covid19vaccine

HORNBY ISLAND: LOCAL VACCINE CLINIC
Seniors aged 80 or older and Indigenous people age 65 and older can get their COVID-19 vaccination

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOURS!
 **1-833-348-4787**  **7am - 7pm**  **Mon - Sun**

You or the person calling for you will need your **Personal Health Number** to register.



Clinic Date:
Thursday, March 25

Can't make the clinic on these dates? You can attend a regularly scheduled clinic in another community, or wait until Island Health visits your community again soon.

 www.islandhealth.ca/covid19vaccine

...continued from P.9 The booking agent will let you know when and where your clinic will take place.

You may also ask a friend or relative to book this on your behalf. You will be asked for your full name, date of birth, postal code, your personal health number and a phone number that you can receive text messages on, or an email address that you or your family check often, in case we need to send you important information.

Please note: This special vaccination clinic is for first dose vaccine appointments, and is only available for Denman and Hornby Island residents age 80+ and Indigenous people age 65+.

If you have general questions about COVID-19, please visit islandhealth.ca/covid19vaccine.

Please help Island Health get the word out to the community through your networks. 🍷

Letters to the Editor

- This is Part 2 of a Letter to the Editor (Part 1 published in issue 1472 February 25th, 2021) addressing an article published in issue 1471 February 18th, 2021 by Charmaine Enns

Dear editor,

Let's start by reiterating that this is not a "vaccine" because it has not been shown to prevent the spread of Covid from person to person. It is an experimental gene modification product that has been dubbed a "vaccine" in order to get emergency use authorization. It has not been officially approved by Health Canada or the FDA. The Pfizer trial for humans was barely 2 months long before declaring they had enough info to go to market, but Phase 3 of the trial is ongoing. Since inadequate animal testing preceded these trials and we will not have the full ingredient list until late 2022, true informed consent is not possible. However, reading the "vaccine" package insert can be very informative about the possible side-effects, which are severe and extensive. Furthermore,

1. The manufacturers are not liable for any "vaccine" adverse event or harm to your health, short or long term. The government does not currently have a compensation programme in place.
2. This product has never been used on a large scale in humans. It consists of a nanoparticle "delivery" envelope incorporating polyethylene glycol (PEG) surrounding a piece of messenger RNA (mRNA) which is synthetic.
3. PEG allergy is very common and we are already seeing anaphylactic reactions to the shots, which could be related to this ingredient. That is why medical stations with adrenalin are at each site and ambulances, if available, are standing by.
4. The "vaccine" mRNA is transferred into your own cells to usurp their machinery and create proteins that are very similar to the SARS-CoV-2 virus spike proteins. This puts your immune system on constant alert and, theoretically, when you are exposed to the real-life wild virus later, your antibodies recognise it and fight off infection. But it is not that simple.

5. These imitation spike proteins created by the shot will stimulate antibody production with no OFF switch. A study looking at 55 SARS-Cov-2 virus proteins showed them to be almost identical to and cross-react with 26 proteins that already exist in the human body. These vaccine can potentially make your immune system attack these similar proteins in your own organ systems creating uncontrolled inflammation. (Vojdani et al. Reaction of Human Monoclonal Antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 Proteins with Tissue Antigens: Implications for Autoimmune Diseases. Front. Immunol. Jan 2021.)

6. Despite mortality rates below that of influenza in people under the age of 40, some young people are still lining up for a shot. Pregnant women were not in any of the trials and yet the CDC is advertising that pregnant women can get the shot “if they want to”, without consulting their doctor. On the advice of the CDC, pregnant women, who stop smoking and abstain from alcohol to protect their fetuses during pregnancy, are being encouraged to take an experimental gene modification drug that has no safety data in this population. As of Feb 26, 180 pregnant women in the US have reported adverse reactions to the Covid “vaccines”, including 56 reports of miscarriage and premature birth.

7. One of the spike proteins created by the mRNA shot is syncytin-1. Since this protein is found in placenta and sperm, the immune system will be turned on to attack placental and sperm tissue. According to Dr. Michael Yeadon, former top scientist at Pfizer, it is likely that these targeted tissues will not be allowed to develop properly. This will lead to infertility. Furthermore, genetic damage from either partial injury due to autoimmunity or the disruption caused by incorporation of mRNA into sperm DNA will possibly lead to birth defects.

8. We have been assured that the “vaccine” material does not last long in the body and does not affect our own genes; however, there is no research supporting this assumption. In fact, foreign RNA has often been incorporated into our own cells’ DNA via reverse transcriptase, a cell enzyme whose purpose is to do just that.

Therefore, if a vaccine mRNA mistake is made, it can be transmitted via your own DNA to future generations, including the autoimmune diseases that these shots can potentially create.

9. In previous attempts to develop vaccines for coronaviruses, RSV and Dengue Fever, a peculiar phenomenon was observed called antibody dependent enhancement (ADE) or pathogenic priming. In a study in the late 1960’s, a vaccine for RSV, a respiratory virus like coronavirus, was developed that showed promise by creating high antibody levels in the 35 children in the trial. However, when these children were exposed to the real RSV, they developed a hyper-reaction of their immune systems with bradykinin storms and generalized inflammation. Eighty percent of the children were hospitalized and 2 children died.

Very similar events occurred in humans with the Dengue Fever vaccine and in previous coronavirus vaccine animal trials. All these programmes were abandoned as too dangerous, but coronavirus vaccines were suddenly resurrected and rushed to market when Covid came along.

10. What do healthcare personnel think about these “vaccines”? A survey in Los Angeles found that 66.5% of healthcare workers “intend to delay vaccination,” meaning they do not intend to get the Covid vaccine when it becomes available.

11. This list goes on much further and includes suppression of M2 pulmonary macrophages and Trojan horse antibody production that allows viruses to pass cell membranes more easily, but I will leave you with this reference to help start your own research file.

What did the Pfizer and Moderna trials really show about safety and efficacy?

<https://off-guardian.org/2021/02/22/synthetic-mrna-covid-vaccines-a-risk-benefit-analysis/>

It will require effort to get past the mainstream media and “expert” opinion, and I recommend The Highwire with Del Bigtree, Children’s Health Defence, and Dr. Sherri Tenpenny as reliable resources and good places to start digging for information.

Dr. Stephen Malthouse, MD 🍷

Special to the Manchester Guardian

By Dr. Marjorie Goldsmith-Jones

Special to the Manchester Guardian

Sociology Section January 2021

Doctor Marjorie Goldsmith-Jones

University of Manchester UK

Whilst doing other research in British Columbia, on the culture of the Gulf Islands of the Salish Sea we came upon a curious custom, in fact we nearly missed the one annual event that takes place on the Full Moon closest to the Spring Equinox.

At this time, on the high tide and in the full moonlight, the denizens of Hornby and Denman Islands gather on the tide water of Lambert Channel to sing a chorus in the nude, and, ostensibly, to the moon.

At first we had surmised this was a First Nations custom but after much investigation we found it actually came from the original settlers on Denman who for a great part came from the Orkney Islands. This is why it has not shown up as much on other islands of the region. A century ago this event took place all around Denman Island but the waters of Baynes Sound to the west are now too polluted for such an event. The throat singers do so in a form of gargling of the sea water as they sing in unison.

This harkens back to the days on Orkney where drink was forbidden for the most part but the annual event of bride and groom exchange with the Scots to the west and the Vikings, now the Norwegians happen at the equinox every year. Of course this event carries on with much consumption of whiskey from the Scots and Aquavit from the Norwegians. To counteract the drink and as further homage to the sea, and to emphasis the medicinal value of the ritual, the custom is to consume live oysters with the drink and to cleanse the breath, to gargle with the clam and sea water while singing what might be called a sea chanty in a loud chorus. It is hard to sing and gargle.

This is what we came upon one moonlit night on a sandstone cliff, where we were welcomed to join the ceremony but they had run out of the drink and we were left with the sea water. The gargling singing takes a lot of practice we found out. Also at this time of year, without the alcohol, there is a strong flavour to the sea from the herring run and Sea Lion effluent. This ritual is now dying out we were told because the new migrants to the island come too fast to assimilate and they do not understand the importance of such ritual. There is still much support from the half dozen conservation groups on Denman and the three conservationists on Hornby Island.

We look forward to doing this again this spring, and we will keep our lay readers up to date on the lifestyles of the West Coast Islands of Canada. 🍷

Call for Design and Building Proposal

DICES invites interested parties to submit a complete design and building proposal for the Denman Island Covered Recreation Space. The space will be situated on the existing concrete pad outside the Community Hall to the west of the soccer field.

Proposals need to meet the following criteria;

- Wooden Structure covering playing area of 50'x64' with a minimum 18' ceiling height
- Metal Roof
- Proposals must include expansion of existing concrete pad and drainage

**To receive an information package with detailed proposal requirements please contact dices.director@gmail.com.
Submission deadline March 28.**

Pariahs

by Thomas Provençal

*We've all become pariahs
in the covid socialscape,
suspicious hosts of viral death,
a danger worse than rape!
This nervous social attitude
permeates our mood.
Keep a social distance
or be considered rude.
Especially hugs and shaking hands
are buried in the past.
Long forgotten smiles
are hidden 'neath a mask.
It weakens our connections,
unravels friendly bonds.
You want to throw a party
but nobody responds.
With everybody so concerned
with staying in their bubble
I foresee an aftermath
of imploded social rubble.*



250-335-9143

theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

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• THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE •

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Grapevine is dedicated to fostering a sense of community on Denman and Hornby by covering events, issues, and the creativity of the many gifted people amongst us. The following is our policy on content:

- Profiles of individuals, history, reviews and op ed are published free of charge.
- Literary content including poetry, stories, belle lettres is published free of charge.
- Promotional content for products, services, programs, and events will be published at going advertising rates.
- Public service announcements, notices of meetings, and news releases will be published for a fee. Exceptions will be made for emergencies where the public is immediately endangered.
- With regret, no exceptions can be made for non-profit status.

Please keep in mind that Hornby and Denman are a very small market for newspaper publication. We do our best to provide quality content at no cost to our readers but we ask you to understand that this depends on financial viability. Paper, ink, postage, equipment, and rent all add up. As it is, the Grapevine can only be brought to you with considerable subsidy of time and energy by our team which is very willingly given. The Grapevine would like to accept more content free of charge, particularly around community news, and is working on plans to expand its reach and revenue base to move towards that goal.

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



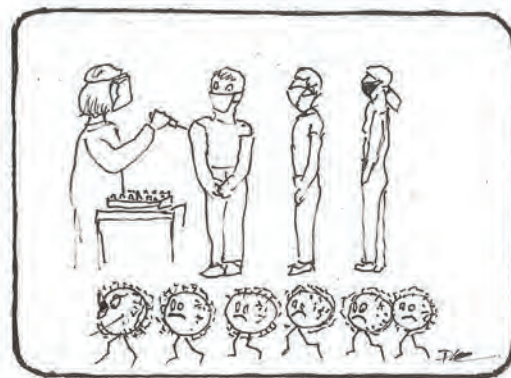
• ACROSS •

1. Dog paddled
5. Barker and Bell
8. Hip mocking
14. Supernatural power, in Polynesia
15. Aardvark fodder
16. Chopping sport
17. Deeds
18. Any person
19. Insight
20. Aspen gear
21. Ear affliction
23. Day off
26. ABC, for short
27. Young newt
30. Little pocket
31. Swanson product
33. Common pronoun
36. Ankara dollar
38. Without much effort
39. Big lunch
41. Chopin creation
43. No ifs, ands, or ----
44. 2-D measure
45. Drifting
46. Approx.
47. Halite, e.g.
50. Big argument
53. Banned substance

54. Luau wear
55. In transit
59. Battle yell
61. Caesar's eggs
62. Mouth moistener
65. Bauxite bonanza
67. Foolish
68. Evergreen hedge
69. By means of
70. Fizz flavor
71. Current measure
72. Always, in verse
73. Dry goods unit

• DOWN •

1. Big Broadway success
2. Looney
3. Up to a time that
4. Mountainous area
5. Chinese chairman
6. Heckle
7. Cancel a dele
8. Enjoyed the rink
9. Elk
10. Burns one up
11. Vietnam region
12. Catchall abbr.
13. Romanian money
22. Overruns
24. Pull off
25. Competent
27. Provide with a trait
28. Hat fabrics
29. Appointed meeting
31. Have confidence
32. Bird beak
33. Piece of broken glass
34. Biblical king
35. Not on all fours
37. Inclined to be stressful
40. Acorn bearer
42. Get a paycheck
48. Drool
49. Fill with oxygen
51. If not
52. Reminiscent of the forest
55. Lofty nest, var.
56. Lobe in the mouth
57. Abnormal tissue mass
58. Fix securely
59. Take a mate a la Patruccio
60. Emulate Sinbad
62. Bath, for one
63. Biceps site
64. Cup's rim
66. Antony's loan request



Keep walking - waste of time here!

COVID-19 - by Peter Karsten

THE ISLANDS
Grapevine

The Monthly Calendar is on hold for now.

Instead we offer a 2 week summary of upcoming events on the Back Page. Email us with your event to be listed in "The Weeks' Events".
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

A	G	E	S		F	R	E	E	R		C	A	R	E
P	E	R	T		R	E	E	V	E		A	D	O	S
R	A	G	E		O	L	L	A	S		N	E	S	T
	R	O	A	D	W	A	Y		E	B	O	N	Y	
				M	A	N	Y		A	R	E			
S	P	L	I	T	S		L	I	R	A		S	A	Y
N	A	U	R	U		S	Y	N	C		R	O	S	E
A	C	C	O	M	P	L	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	S
K	E	R	N		H	U	N	T		O	L	D	I	E
E	R	E		Y	E	G	G		B	R	I	E	R	S
				L	E	A			T	A	N	G		
	C	R	A	S	S		B	O	S	S	I	N	G	
A	L	A	S		A	G	A	M	A		O	O	H	S
D	U	K	E		N	O	B	E	L		U	R	E	A
D	E	E	R		T	O	A	S	T		S	M	E	W

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• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

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ANITA H. LYNARD



1928 - 2021

Anita (nee Piercy)

February 09, 1928 - February 18, 2021 passed away peacefully at Mt. St. Mary Hospital in Victoria. Born in Victoria, grew up on Denman Island. Predeceased by parents, John and Isa Piercy, brothers Michael and Alexander. Also in 1980 by husband of 31 years, Joseph Nelson Charpentier; second husband, Albert Lyngard in 1997; and grandson, Matthew.

She is survived by sons Patrick (Paulette), Grant (Carol) and Larry; daughters Jan (Francis) and Marlene (Richard); by nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Anita was a homemaker and military wife who raised her family in Comox, Germany and Saskatoon before settling in Moose Jaw until 'Nels' retired. In 1974 they returned to Victoria where she became an active member of the ladies auxillary at the Royal Canadian Legion. Anita loved to play crib and continued to play with her family until the end. Mom loved to garden, make jams, wine, canned produce, bread and pies! She enjoyed camping and square dancing.

Anita was a tough gal, surviving a debilitating stroke in 2007. A grateful thank you to the staff at MSM for all the compassionate care provided to her over the past 13 years.

There will be no service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our Sympathy Store. Published in Victoria Times Colonist from Mar. 6 to Mar. 8, 2021.

(From The Times Colonist)

• BUSINESS DIRECTORY •

• (H) Hornby • (D) Denman • (UB) Union Bay •
• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

• ACCOMMODATIONS & RENTALS •

- Denman Activity Centre (Seniors) Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
- Denman Community Hall Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
2 halls, commercial kitchen, new sound system
suitable for concerts, plays, meetings, weddings, etc.

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- Donna & Janessa Tuele • Royal LePage Hornby 335-1720 (D/H)
- Sylvie Schroeder • Royal LePage Denman Island 335-2551 (D/U)
- Katarina Meglic • Pemberton Holmes Realty 778-557-7429 (D/H)

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- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoepfner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Bobcat & Compact Excavator • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (D/H)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake 613-447-8873 (D/H)
- Dean's Digger • Mini Excavator & Small Haul 218-4534 (D/H)
- Denman Electric, Licensed, Fully Insured & Bonded 335-3122 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather 703-6512 (All)
• John Isbister 335-2565 (D)
- Kinetic Electric, licenced, bonded & insured 335-1741 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec-Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation 335-3145 (D/H)
- Denman Renaissance • tile & stone installation 334-6644 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • Licenced, Bonded & Insured 702-0570 (D/H)
- Tandem gravel truck & transfer trailer • Grant Morrison 335-0702 (D/H)
- Water Tanks & Cisterns • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (All)

• SERVICES •

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac 778-992-0165 (D/H)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- DB Excavations & Clearing • Dorianbaker56@gmail.com • call or text
465-1889 (D)
- Denman Works! • Tony Gregson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Edwardsen Tree Service • Jered 250-580-7127 (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Physiotherapy • Christopher Mainella • 514-605-9398 (D/H)
- Physiotherapy & Acupuncture • Carmen B-Gautrais RPT, RTCMP
335-2260 (D/H)
- Trees Service • Chipping • Certified faller • Antoine 207-3884 (D)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Trueview Treecare, seniors' discount • Wildbill 898-7246 (D/H)
- Music Lessons & Piano Tuning • Scott Knight 604-779-9335 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)



THE WEEKS' EVENTS

THURSDAY 18

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm

FRIDAY 19

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 20

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-dark

SUNDAY 21

MONDAY 22

TUESDAY 23

WEDNESDAY 24

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- DENMAN COVID VACCINE CLINIC
see article on Page 9

THURSDAY 25

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- HORNBY COVID VACCINE CLINIC
see article on Page 9

FRIDAY 26

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 27

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-dark

SUNDAY 28

MONDAY 29

TUESDAY 30

WEDNESDAY 31

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm



THURSDAY 1

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm