



# the POINTER

May '98

## IT'S COMING!!!

The Willis Point



### RELAY TEAMS NEEDED

Enclosed in this issue of the pointer is a flyer for the Up, Chuck & Ride relay race - please post this at your work, health club etc. Encourage friends & athletes alike to take part in this first annual event. See you at the start line.

### 4 Person TEAM RELAY RACE

## WILLIS POINT DART NIGHT 1998

April 18, 1998 was a night to remember, (or to forget for the losers). Yes, this was the **Eighth Annual**, Willis Point International Dart Night!!! A sterling field of 34 teams vied for dart supremacy. A total of eight rounds of darts were held, in which 58 individual games were played to determine the winning team of Fuzz Cracknell, (again) and his excellent partner Jean, (BULLSEYE), Cunningham.

The runners up and gracious losers were Dianne Mulhohn and Vic Hornsby. The final game was hard fought and literally down to the last dart. Congratulations to the winners and to all competitors. Thank you to all that turned out, both dart players and spectators, (we call them "Happy Hour Participants"). A special thank you to the "Senior Teens" that came out and played so well. Your support was very much appreciated especially at the 50/50 Dart Board.

This time the organization was easy as setup and cleanup were a breeze

due to a great turnout Friday and Sunday, (these things tend to take up the whole weekend). It was rewarding to see some new people turning out to be a part of what we feel makes Willis Point a special place to live. Thanks to Dean for his food expertise. The **Ninth Annual** is already in the planning stages. Watch for the signs and sharpen those darts!! **Fuzz and Jean, BEWARE there are people after your crown**

R. Scott.

## TO THE POINT

What a wonderful spring it's been out here at the Point! I am feeling very virtuous, having done all my summer planting and can just sit back and watch them grow. But then I walk along Mark Lane and peer over at Lorne and Lyn Walker's property and am green with envy. They have the most beautiful moss, rock garden, studded with spring flowers. The rich, bright green of the moss is simply gorgeous and it looks like velvet, almost inviting you to touch it. The whole area seems serene, calm and welcoming. I know you must have put a tremendous amount of work into it, Lorne and Lyn, and I thank you, because it gives me and I'm sure everybody else, such pleasure to see it.

We have many things going on at the Point right now, which you can read about in the following pages and I thank all my contributors for their sterling efforts. I hope you enjoy the new buy and sell ads and feel free to phone me before the next issue to get your ad in.

I hope we have a big turnout for the Up...Chuck....and Ride event, I'm sure it will be a ton of fun. So, hopefully we'll see you on the 28th of June!

Gaybrielle Halsey

### Publishers Note:

**If you are submitting a large article and are working on computer if you could save it to disk and submit the disk with a hard copy, it would be much appreciated.**

**Either Mac or PC is Okay - We can open almost any file.**

**Thanks, Jason Funnell**

## Video Tape Missing

To the person(s) responsible for removing the small black Sony video camera from our vehicle on Thursday night, April 23rd.: we don't expect to see the camera again. The cassette tape inside has no real value to you - but is irreplaceable to us. Please, please, if you still have the tape (or if anyone finds a small dark Sony video and tape) - we would be grateful to have our memories back. Our phone #652-6466, no questions asked. Or you could drop it off in the Times Colonist box in front of our house at 7366 Mark Lane.  
*Linda Parker.*

## REMINDER!

Over the years a lot of things have disappeared from the hall. If anybody has any of the following, it would be appreciated if they could be returned: dinner plates, cutlery, stainless steel bowls, cash drawer, B.B.Q. propane tank, glasses etc. The hall is open on Wednesdays for Fire practice and Tuesdays and Thursdays for aerobics. (I personally will get my two glasses back!).  
Thanks, Pointers. Ed.

## MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

The Lower Island fire departments will again be collecting for Muscular Dystrophy the weekend of May 29th and 30th. Please support their efforts. The Willis Point V.F.D. members will be collecting donations at the Brentwood Liquor store on Friday evening May 29th and a voluntary road toll will take place on Saturday morning May 30th in front of the Firehall.

## WILLIS POINT POINTER STAFF VOLUNTEERS

### POINTER PUBLISHER

Jason Funnell

### POINTER EDITOR

Gaybrielle Halsey

### POINTER COMMITTEE

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Pat Williams

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### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ian Blaney

### RECYCLING NEWS

Janet Tombu

### WPCA NEWS

Ken Ilott

### WILLIS POINT FIRE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Brian Dallin

### WELCOME TO WILLIS POINT

Patricia Sloan

### SAANICH INLET STUDY

Patricia Sloan

### BEST OF STITCH

Pat Cracknell & Joyce Menzies

### Letters to the Editor

Comments, letters and articles should be submitted to the editor at 6872 Mark Lane, V9E 2A1. Minor editorial changes may be made. Please call me if you have any questions.

**IT'S COMING!!!**

**The Willis Point**



## **4 Person TEAM RELAY RACE**

The Willis Point Community Association will host the first  
annual  
UP...CHUCK...& RIDE... FOUR PERSON TEAM RELAY RACE  
on Sunday June 28, 1998 at 12:00 noon

The race will consist of an off road/on road mountain  
bike leg, a two person canoe leg around Tod Inlet,  
and a final running leg, in and around beautiful  
Willis Point, just 25 minutes north of Victoria.

Team entry fee is \$80.00 which includes a COOL "T"  
shirt and free beverage for participants. Open to men  
and women 15 years and up. Food & beverage tents  
for racers, families, and friends...

INFORMATION AVAILABLE by calling BRIAN @ 6523656  
JOEL @ 6522039 or KATHY @ 6526033

## BABY-SITTING REGISTRY

**Brendan Pause**, is a 13 year old who has completed the Red Cross Babysitting Course and is happy to baby sit in the Pointer Area.

His phone number is 652-4076.

### Call Karissa Crawley.

She is 16 years old and has successfully completed her Red Cross baby sitting course and Standard First Aid. She is experienced with young and older kids.

Her phone no. is 652-0360

### Call Lacey for all your Baby- sitting needs!



Lacey is 14 years old successfully completed the Red Cross baby sitting course. She is experienced with young kids and loves children. Her number is 652-0360

### Tanis Herriot will baby-sit for you!

*Call her at 652- 5478. Tanis is 15 years old and has her St. John's Baby-sitting, CPR, and Red Cross Lifesaving II certificates. She has experience minding children from babies to 10 year olds.*

### Need a babysitter?

Do you need responsible and trustworthy babysitters that do safe but fun activities with your child/children? If so call Jacquelyn Parker, 16 or Jennifer Parker, 14. Both have taken First Aid, Water Safety, & Babysitting courses. Experienced with children of all ages. 652-6466

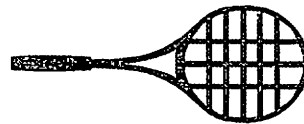
**Kaily Stevens** is a experienced babysitter, she is 16 and is in grade ten. She has completed a first aid and babysitting course  
Phone number **652-0037**

**Saija Connor** Age: 13  
Experienced babysitter. Taken Babysitting Course and is able to babysit children ages 2 and up.  
Call **652-0050**

## TENNIS PLAYERS!

Join your neighbours at the tennis court on Saturdays at 10am, (weather permitting) for informal, social games right here in our own backyard. Call us if you need information or just turn up with your racquet!

Pam Chang-kue.....652-0295 or Ursula Waite.....544-1720



## Thank You!

It is with great disappointment that we must report that Sidney Bonner is stepping down as our Coordinator of Rentals at the community hall. Sidney has unselfishly dedicated herself to this community for a long time. Sidney has been the Coordinator since the hall was built. In fact she used to rent a hall outside Willis Point so Pointers could party.

Sidney has done so much for this community that we could never repay her. People like her come by just once. Her shoes will be very difficult to fill. We would be remiss if we didn't also recognize Charlie Bonner. Although we are sure he would say that it was all Sidney, there has been many times, while passing the hall you'd see the both of them there showing the hall to people, making sure the heat is turned on and tidying up when necessary. Sidney and Charlie are what make Willis Point unique.

### Nature's One Love

by Eryn Tombu, age 12

Before...

Two turtle doves above the trees,  
Flew gently in a summer's breeze.  
A river sung as it made its way,  
And sparkled in the sunny day.

The flowers in the meadow bright,  
Act as though they were alight.  
Lilies, paintbrush, camas too,  
And many other flowers will do.

A man one day came to the sight,  
Not impressed by its beauty or light.  
I kept my distance; I stayed away,  
I ran away on that summer day.

Later, returned to the meadow side,  
I saw that nature's one love had died.  
Instead of flowers, stream and light,  
My meadow turned into a development site.

THANK YOU SIDNEY - THANK YOU CHARLIE

# RECYCLING NEWS

by Janet Tombu

It has been a while since the last newsletter, and I have lots of recycling news to pass on to you.

Long awaited, but finally here, the **Plastics Collection** day for Willis Point is Saturday, May 23 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Firehall. Chris Mowat from Planet Recycling will be there with me to collect all the plastic that you have been storing in the basement for the past year. Payment to Planet Recycling for this service will come from the recycling grant paid to the community. This drop-off is therefore for Willis Point residents only, and not open to the general public. I hope that everyone will make the effort to come out and bring whatever you have, however small or large your collection may be. The turnout at this collection will determine whether or not we will hold it in future.

We will be able to accept virtually all clean plastic on the 23rd, except Styrofoam. Some suggestions are: pop bottles, plastic bags, mouth-wash containers, bleach bottles, water jugs, broken Tupperware, plant pots, antifreeze containers, laundry baskets, margarine tubs, shrink wrap, inflatable toys, fertilizer bags, toothpaste tubes, frozen food bags, yogurt and cottage cheese containers, coat hangers, stackable chairs, plastic rulers, cereal box inner packaging, microwaveable food trays, pen and magic marker bodies, plastic rope and twine, sleeping bag and pillow fill, strapping tape and model construction kits. If it is marked with the recycle symbol and a number from 1 to 7, bring it to the Firehall. If it is plastic and un-



marked, bring that too. Food containers should be cleaned, others rinsed if required.

If you have any questions about what plastic can be recycled, please call me at 652-4097. Likewise, if you have plastic to recycle but cannot make the 23<sup>rd</sup> drop-off, call me to arrange an alternate drop-off.

As most of you are aware, the CRD Hartland Landfill ban on **mixed paper** took effect on May 1. Instead of trashing it, now mixed paper should always be deposited in the mixed paper bins at one of the depots (Red Barn Market and BFI on Keatings are most convenient for the majority of us). The ban covers all clean paper products such as: junk mail, office paper, letters, envelopes, boxboard (e.g. cereal and laundry boxes), paper bags, phone books, magazines, paper egg cartons. Excluded from the ban are contaminated fibers (e.g. pizza boxes, paper napkins, facial tissues), composite or waxed paper products (e.g. milk cartons, tetra paks, frozen juice containers, diapers), carbon paper, books, and heavy cores (e.g. newsprint or carpet rolls). The ban will be enforced and fines levied, as is the ban on cardboard, and other items currently banned from the Hartland landfill.

Many of you will by now have run into the **Eco-Fee** when purchasing kerosene, paint thinner or pesticides. Similar to the Paint Eco-Fee that started in October 1994, new Eco-

Fees for solvents and pesticides took effect on January 1, 1998. To quote from the brochure: "The eco-fee is the main funding mechanism for the Consumer Product Stewardship Program (CPSP), a non-profit, industry-run program for the safe, effective collection of leftover household paint, solvent, flammable liquids, pesticides and gasoline. It is not a government tax." The eco-fees for paints, solvents and pesticides are determined by a pre-set formula based on volume/weight; there currently is no eco-fee for gasoline. If you want to dispose of old pesticides, solvents or gasoline, the Victoria CPSP collection depots are at Alpine (Langford) and Ellice (David St.). The CPSP collection depots require substantial concrete bunkers, so there will not be as many of them as there are paint collection depots.

Where do I recycle??? I'll try and add a section for **oddball things** each newsletter. As it is spring, we are into gardening and home maintenance. Gardening: all those plastic pots for bedding plants and the empty fertilizer bags can come to the Plastics Collection day on May 23. A little home maintenance: gutters and down pipes, old swing sets, rusted out bicycles and barbecues can all go to the appropriate metals bins at the Salvage area of Hartland.

Any questions or comments? Call Janet at 652-4097.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## WPCA

Greetings Pointers,

### The Willis Point Community Association, Executive

CRD Director:	Larry West	478-5332
Chair:	Ken Illot	652-6033
Vice Chair:	Gillian Jackson	652-0472
Treasurer:	Dave Carley	652-3207
Recording Secretary:	Lois Lovo	652-9612
Corresponding Secretary:	Sam Young	652-3859
Membership Secretary:	Ursula Waite	544-1720
Member-at-Large:	Ida Von Schuchman	652-0050
Member-at-Large:	Joel Cotter	652-2039

Please phone any of the above people to determine when the monthly meetings are held. Any member of the Willis Point Community Association is welcome to attend.

Since the last issue of the Pointer your Community Association has been dealing with an ongoing list of issues.

Roads; The road continues to be an issue of note . There are concerns about the deterioration and general state of the road . It appears in these times of restraint the budget for our road has been slashed. We are lobbying to try to maintain a reasonable level of condition. We have been promised the completion of the centre line as soon as funds and weather conditions allow.

Tennis Court; At long last the tennis court will be completed. I would like all tennis players and users to contact me to set up a work party to complete the backboard. I'm thinking the 24<sup>th</sup> of May . 652-6033

Up-Chuck & Ride; Mark the 28th of June on the calendar as a day to be at the Point for the first annual Up Chuck & Ride relay race and event day. As before with the Hilltopper there will be lots of volunteers needed . You can contact Brian McCandless at 652- 3656 to sign up.

Local Area Plan; The Local Area Planning Committee has been working diligently to create a made in Willis Point Community Plan. This document when completed will allow the CRD Planning Department and Local Representatives to deal with development and land use issues with a clear sense of our values and concerns. In order to gather this information every household and land owner will receive a questionnaire in the mail . Its sole purpose being to gather information and assess the philosophy of the

### Other Willis Point Contacts:

Aerobics Instructor:	Katie Cotter	652-2039
WPCA Advisory Committee:	Larry Resnick	652-8278
Fire Chief	Ian Blaney	652-2677
Fire Committee/Recreation Commission - Chair:	Brian Dallin	652-7630
Hall Custodian:	Sydney Bonner	652-1588
Pointer Editor:	Gaybrielle Halsey	652-4195
Pointer Publisher:	Jason Funnell	475-3423
	Jason - work	480-1067
Commonwealth Nature Legacy Park Committee Chair	Sam Young	652-3859
Trails Assessment	Gill Jackson	652-0472
	Ida Von Schuchman	652-0050
Saanich Inlet Study	Patricia Sloan	652-0226

community. I would urge you all to take the time to complete this questionnaire as the success of the L.O.C. information gathering depends upon it. This is by no means the end of the process. After a summer recess the planning committee will resume sitting in September at which time there will begin a series of public meetings.

### **JUNE 8, 1998-Andrew Petter.**

On June 8<sup>th</sup> Andrew Petter your local MLA for Saanich will be attending our Community Association Meeting 7:30 P.M. at the hall. He will be making a presentation on the Greenways Project and will be available for questions.

On behalf of the Community Association I would invite you to attend and participate.

Hats Off to the Halseys, Scotts and Co. for another successful Dart Night. This annual event continues to be a Willis Point favourite. The proceeds raised are going to help fund concrete picnic tables. Well Done!

Thanks to Joan Wright, Santa and the Elves for a wonderful Christmas Party.

Feel free to contact the Community Association with any ideas for Happy Hours. We're always looking for new themes and groups to organise.

Ken Ilott

## **VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED**

The Willis Point Fire and Recreation Commission is looking for an individual to coordinate the rental of our Community Hall.

This person would be responsible for the scheduling, viewing and ensuring the premises are left in a satisfactory condition. Cleaning of the Hall is not required.

This is a Volunteer Position that does require some time but is not overly difficult. At present there is no remuneration for this position except the satisfaction of supporting your community.

Because this community is so small, we must rely on volunteers to make it work. If you have some time and are looking for a way to help Willis Point, please think about this position.

Person's interested can contact Brian Dallin at 652-7630.

## **WILLIS POINT FIRE COMMITTEE AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT**

In the first 4 months of 1998 the Willis Point Fire Committee and Recreation Commission has been very active. We have finalized our Budget, made plans for the maintenance of the Community Hall, began discussions on joint projects with the Willis Point Community Assn. and coordinated the involvement with Microcell Inc.

1. Budget 1998 - The process used by the CRD can seem long and confusing. We began our Budget work back in the fall of 1997. CRD requires that Provisional Budget be set by late Nov. for the next year. A Provisional Budget is simply a Budget to give you the authority to spend starting Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> of the new year. Without it we would not be able to pay any bill. Hydro. telephone or even purchase fuel for the Fire Trucks. In the new year more

discussion take place with the final budget presented to the CRD Board in late March. The Province is then sent all information by mid April. In fact, there is only 1 month each year when someone, somewhere is not working towards the next budget.

The Willis Point Fire Committee and Recreation Commission was able, for the 1998 Budget, to increase the Fire Dept. Budget by 12.6%, increase the funds we put away for Fire Truck replacement by 25% and still increase our Capital Reserve Fund (savings account).

We were able to do all this while only increasing the requisition by \$1.66 per \$100,000 of Assessment. Considering the excellent Fire Service we enjoy and the great Community Hall we have available to us, we feel comfortable with the 1998 Willis Point Fire Committee and Recreation Commission Budget.

2, Microcell - As of May 1, we have held one community meeting and conducted a community survey. The input from these two sources plus other information will help us make a decision on this project. What ever decision is made, it is our hope that the community has had all the information available and that they were given an opportunity to express their opinion.

The Willis Point Fire Committee and Recreation Commission is here to serve you. If there is anything we can do or you have an idea for the community, please call us.

Brian Dallin, Chairman  
Willis Point Fire Committee and  
Recreation Commission 652-7630

# Willis Point Fire Department

Established 1977

The community of Willis Point is fortunate indeed to have individuals who make up the ranks of our local Fire Department and provide residents and visitors with fire protection and first responder services. We are now entering "Fire season" and that means everyone must use **EXTREME CAUTION** with fire of any kind - in all seriousness, we live in a flammable neighbourhood. The forest floor is already very dry, and with rising temperatures and warm breezes, the area requires proper behaviour and residents to be aware. If you see or smell smoke, investigate and when required report the emergency directly to 911.

April 27, 11am the Dept. responded to a small fire on the side of Willis Pt. Rd. The smoke was detected by an alert resident and dealt with swiftly. The fire was suspicious and the R.C.M.P. are investigating. May 2, 4am another fire was spotted by vigilant residents, and a 911 call made. Members responded to an area south of the "boulder" where a couple were encountered that admitted to having a fire (prohibited within park boundaries). They were asked if the fire was extinguished - they replied by saying "pretty well". Members found a campfire ablaze upon arrival with westerly winds of 20 to 25 m.p.h. The fire was quickly put out. This was a very serious situation given the drying condition of the forest floor, shedding arbutus trees and the brisk winds. B.C.Parks and the R.C.M.P. are investigating.

The past few months have been active at the department with members taking C.P.R. courses; training exercises at D.N.D. Colwood Fire School; lectures at our Firehall by B.C. Forestry, Coastal Fire Unit and the Military Fleet Dive Unit (Bomb Squad). These lectures were attended by our members and the Highlands, Central Saanich, Sidney,

Langford, East Sooke, Metchosin and Coycuse Fire Depts. Captain Darren Pine attended a day, hands on seminar at the Nanaimo Fire School. Deputy Chief Bill Wright and myself, attended a Media course at the Langford Fire Hall.

Thank you Dan and Lee Anne Houston, of Houston Signs, for donating your time and materials to reletter truck 101 to match the other trucks. Bruce Story recently assisted the Dept. in altering the 103 shed. Bob Halsey is making a new tarp cover for truck 101. Don Lovo is making alterations to trucks 101, 102, and 103. This helpful and generous support is greatly and sincerely appreciated.

Proper house numbers are a necessity and are a C.R.D. bylaw requirement. Please ensure house/lot numbers are readily visible for emergency response by B.C. Ambulance, R.C.M.P. and your Fire Dept.

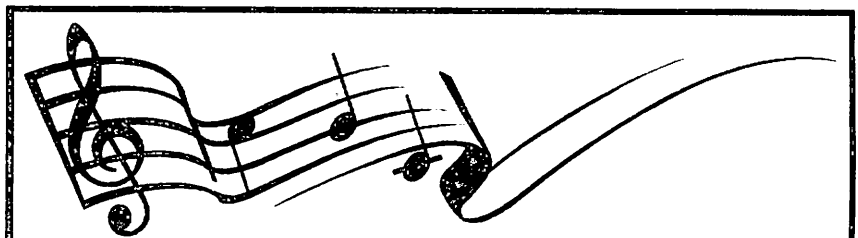
Firefighter Uwe Pause (No. 39) has now completed 15yrs. of service - congratulations, Uwe. Our Dept. still has three members with more than 20 yrs. of service - Bill Wright (no.3), Vern McConnell (no.5), and myself (no. 7). We have two new members - Jason Kirkwood (no.88), and Gord Hawkes (no.89). Congratulations and welcome. Our numbers now total 21. Bob Halsey has recently retired from the Dept.. Bob, who was no.8, (one of the founding members) will always be respected, remembered

and missed. Bob, a sincere thankyou for more than 20 years of excellent service. Another long term member has also slipped into retirement status and that is Brian McCandless (no. 29). Brian contributed a great deal of practical support to the Dept. and many years of faithful service - thank you Brian and you too, will always be respected and remembered.

Due to the unusually dry conditions of our area, Fire Permits will not be issued until further notice for the safety of our rural wildland urban interface community. All residents are requested to have operational garden hoses ready and in visible areas around your homes - they could be used by yourselves or your neighbours prior to the Fire Dept. arrival. Check your smoke alarms frequently. Ensure approved life vests are used when boating and when children are playing around water. When an emergency occurs, call 911. Contact the R.C.M.P. when you witness unacceptable behaviour at Durrance Lake, Tod Inlet or MacKenzie Bay.

Have a safe and happy summer.

W. Ian Blaney  
Fire Chief, W.P.V.F.D.



*Piano lessons for young children*

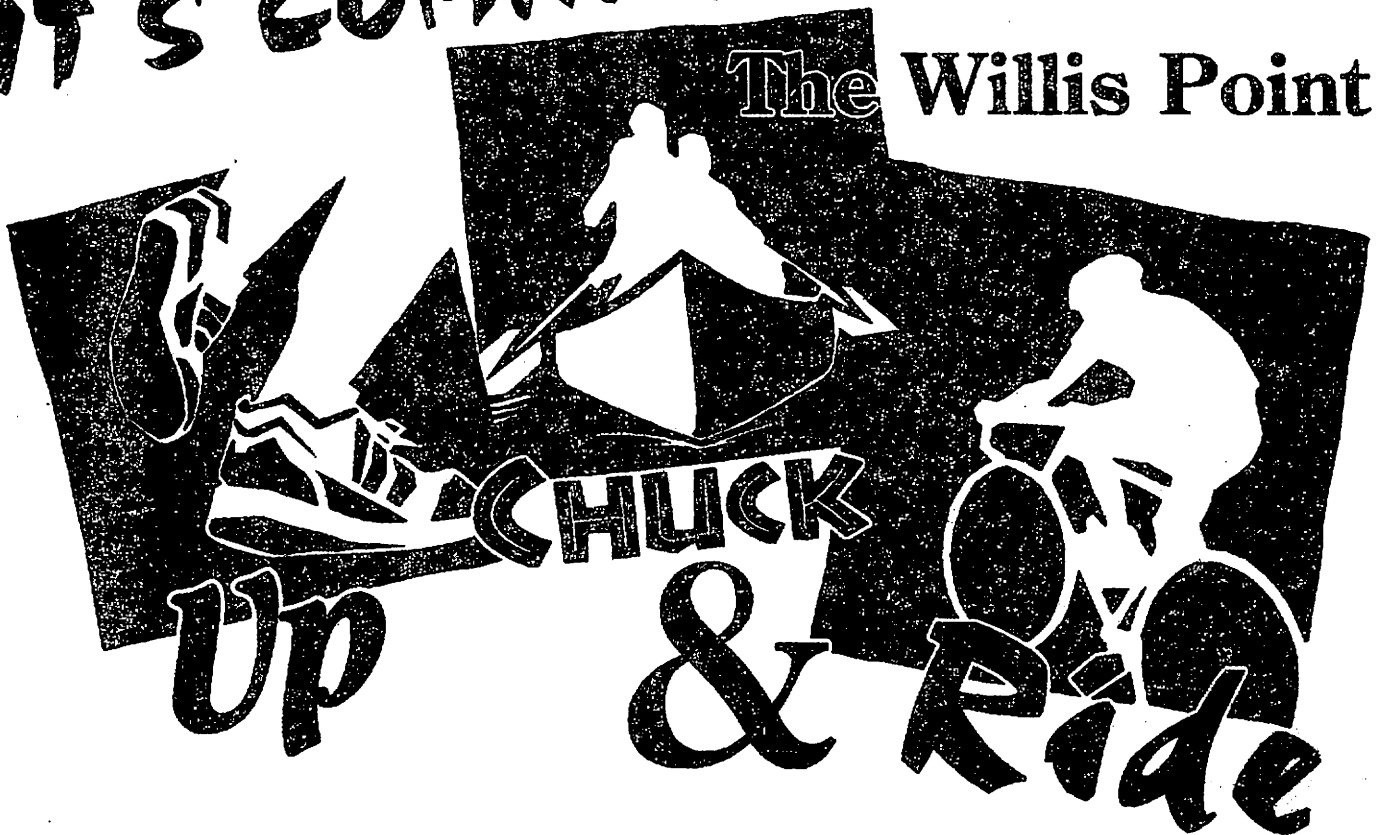
*Kendra Tombu*

652-4097

*Willis Point*

# IT'S COMING!!!

## The Willis Point



## 4 Person TEAM RELAY RACE

Get ready Willis Point... Sunday June 28, 1998 at 12 noon

Willis Point will host the first annual UP...CHUCK...& RIDE, 4 Person team relay race.

Beginning at the Community Hall, teams consisting of a mountain biker, two canoeists, and one runner, will negotiate a course led by the cyclist who will carry the team armband, upon completion passing it on to one of the canoeists, who will paddle a course in Tod Inlet, they will in turn pass on the team armband to the final team member who will run to the finish line at the community hall.

The race is open to participants 15 years and older and will consist of a number of categories. Open to both men and women the course will prove to be a challenge to intermediate and advanced contestants alike. A team entry fee of \$80.00 gets you into the race, each team member gets a COOL "T" shirt, and each participant gets one free beverage ticket.

This is sure to be a popular event and in order to create a successful launch, please tell your friends, neighbours, coworkers, and school buds about the race and encourage them to enter.

As this is a community event we are looking for volunteers to help make this event a success. We will be looking for race marshalls, race timers, cooking, and beverage assistants, etc. Remember the money raised goes back into your community for recreation and improvements.

Race information, entry forms and volunteer requirements can be obtained by contacting Brian @ 6523656 Joel @ 6522039 Kathy @ 6526033

SEE YOU AT THE RACE!!!

## BEST OF STITCH

For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing of birds is come and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. No, it is not I who wax lyrically! These words are taken from the Song of Solomon (Old Testament, written many hundreds of years ago) so it's rather a cheering thought that not much has changed, at least as far as the seasons go, and it seemed fitting to start our seasonal contribution with them - apart from the "voice of the turtle". Not being familiar with the voice of the turtle - how many of us are? - I suppose we could change to the "voice of the frog" which at least has been heard in this section of our land as he/she hops between our house and Margaret's (co-stitcher) and also more than one voice has been heard in the swampy area off Willis Point Road.

While on the subject of animals (not necessarily amphibian) and having read Joyce's Memories of Stitch which follow, it gives me an opportunity to enlighten you on yet another facet of our stitch group's accomplishments - lovers of pets. We all have a dog or cat(s) - in some cases both - so should you see one of the devoted Stitch pet owners on the road, you may in some cases recognize her by her pet. Beth is in the process of nurturing a wild cat (toward domesticity?) though she tells me she only sees him when he is hungry, so while you may see her walking on the road, don't expect to see her walking the cat. Dianne has a magnificent black cat appropriately named Blackie, who's canine friend for many years was a very special yellow labrador, Amber, who spent time at Grandma Beth's when her family was on holiday. Joan has a Springer spaniel, Freckles, and a ginger cat, Mickey. Both pets consider us their second home and Mickey honours us by doing rodent patrol from time to time. Jane has a black and white cat, Lovey, who appears to be on exceptional terms

with the local racoons. Joyce, while no longer a pet owner, dogsits from time to time for their daughter's two spaniels, Tabu and Zulu and their son's friendly pitbull, Hammer. Jean has a Sheltie, Beau, and four cats - named in order of seniority Harrison, Caspar Serbus Icecream (!!!), Aristotle and Odessa. Margaret's pets are a Black labrador/Golden Retriever by the name of Jake who shares his home with a feline friend Carie and having attended puppy school passes along knowledge acquired to his doggy pals on their daily walk. Donna's pride and joy is Sooke - three guesses where she came from! Sooke is a Ridgeback/Labrador mix, and like Jake has a feline friend, Rocket. There was an incident where Donna decided to have a few goldfish in a small pond, but later as they all appeared to be moribund, she cleared out the pond and in throwing out the water, threw out a surviving fish with it and ran down the bank to rescue it. It truly must have had a zest for life as it did weather it's extraordinary experience for a week, then sadly, expired. And last, but certainly not least, there is Casey, our Golden Retriever who is the patrician of the dog walking group and at the end of the walk bears no resemblance to his noble breed, having covered himself in glorious mud at every opportunity. We are completely ruled by our pets, who find it totally unacceptable to be told "Not today" or "perhaps later" and so it is that with very few exceptions Margaret, Donna and I, can be

seen on the trail on a daily basis, come rain or come shine, bowing to the wishes of our canine companions, Jake, Sooke and Casey. There is no doubty in my mind, that all Stitch members are similarly "under the paw" of their pets. And now, over to you Joyce.

## Memories of Stitch

Colin and I have had our property here since 1964, but didn't live at Mark Lane full time until 1983. I started attending "Stitch" during March, 1990. Now that I have enjoyed so many interesting and yet relaxing "Stitch" evenings, I wish I had not waited so long to join the group. Not only do you learn about all the different types of handiwork - knitting, crotcheting, crossstitching, quilting, but at the end of the evening you sample many different desserts and therefore your recipe file increases greatly. I recall one evening when we had just settled in with our glass of wine and getting our serious business of the evening started when the mother of our hostess entered the room and in a startled manner said "oh, you really do do hand work". Stitch has given me lots of happy memories and the opportunity to meet so many interesting neighbours. An added plus is all the gardeners in the group, as my major interest is in gardening. It is so much fun meeting and getting to know the people in the area. The community spirit at Willis Point make it such a great place to live.

### DATE LOAF

1 cup of brown sugar	Margarine, size of a walnut
1 beaten egg	1 cup of sour milk
1 tsp. soda	2 cups of flour
1 cup chopped walnuts	2 cups of chopped dates

You dissolve the baking soda in the sour milk jiuust as you are ready to mix it in the batter. If you don't have sour milk, 1 Tbsp. of vinegar into a cup of milk will do the trick. Combine all the ingredients, adding the dates and walnuts last. I use 2 loaf pans, 8"x 4", lined with margarine paper. Bake at 350 for 40 to 50 minutes. Enjoy!

## **WELCOME to WILLIS POINT PAM & VICTOR CHANG- KUE**

When Victor and Pam Chang-Kue decided to move to Victoria from Toronto, they carefully packed their industrial-strength snow shovel. Their friends laughed. "You're going off to lotus land, you know. You'll never need that thing again." That was almost two years ago, and guess what - their first winter here was surviving the Great Blizzard of '96 and that snow shovel sure came in handy. I mention this because it is indicative of the Chang-Kue's thoughtful preparation in everything they do.

Pam and Victor were both born in South Africa, where they met, married and had two children, Gem and Martin. Because of the apartheid policies governing the area then, and affecting their lives, they decided for the sake of a better life for their children, then ages two and five, to relocate to Canada. Relocation however, was done en route via London and Europe. For several months they toured Europe in a motor home and Pam assures me that after that experience they definitely needed a house and settled in busy Toronto in 1967.

Victor had studied architecture in South Africa, and continued his specialty practice in Toronto, designing custom homes and residential renovations. He became well-known and respected for his work. Pam had her own business as a floral designer, with such prestigious corporate clients as CBC, Global TV and other large businesses.

The decision to move to the West Coast was finally made in order to be close to their grandchildren. Their daughter Gem, had settled on Gabriola Island with her husband and two daughters aged five and two, devoting time to her pottery and sailing with her family. Pam and Victor's son Martin, a systems analyst, lives in Toronto.

At first, the move from suburban, noisy Toronto to retirement (well, semi-retirement) to the sleepy laid-back West Coast and leaving behind many friends seemed traumatic, but for Pam and Victor, not for long. They both loved Willis Point at first sight, and describe it as "an oasis, a haven, away from suburbia but close enough to the amenities of a city". For six months they lived in the basement suite of their house on Willis Point Road, while Victor completely renovated the main part of the house. I hardly recognized it. Their combined exquisite taste has produced a home full of light, surprises, a sense of calmness and serenity, yet humming with Pam and Victor's creativity and energy, that words cannot justify. Their house is full of an eclectic range of art pieces; everywhere are tapestries, Chinese scroll paintings, Pam's silk flower arrangements, whimsical pottery pieces, a five-foot-high carved wooden giraffe, mobiles, beautiful rugs, photographs, well-cared for plants, wall hangings...all wonderfully displayed or lighted. Many of these pieces were collected on Victor and Pam's extensive travels - they recently returned from a two-month trip to Australia, Taipei, Singapore, Thailand and Malasia where they visited some of their many friends. Many of the Chinese and Japanese works were acquired during a trip to the Orient in the 1980s, while the African pieces were brought over in their original move.

It did not take either Pam or Victor very long to form new friendships. Both of them are avowed tennis "fanatics" and it's Pam's enthusiasm and organization that brings the Willis Point tennis crowd up to the court on Saturday mornings at 10:00. ("All are welcome!" says Pam.) Victor continues to undertake custom projects but honestly I don't know where he finds the time - he has done almost all of the work in their own house, including a spectacular new kitchen, plumbing and electrical work, and is planning, with a mischievous twinkle in his eye, "a surprise" for their parking area. Pam sings in the heritage church Our Lady of the Assumption choir, is involved with several tennis groups in Victoria, enjoys the friendship of the Willis Point aerobic classes, and is, I am told, an expert in traditional Chinese cooking.

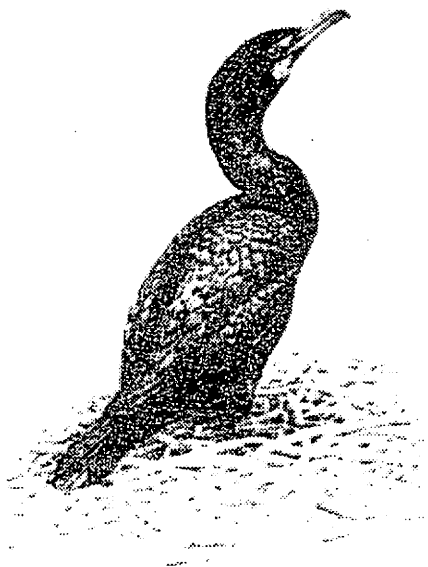
Victor and Pam love Willis Point, and the special community spirit we are so lucky to have here. One of their best memories, that they will never forget, is of that first snowy winter they were here, when out of the darkness, all the way up that steep driveway, came forty Christmas carollers to welcome them to the Point. The Point welcomes both of you.

Patricia Sloan

# THE SAANICH INLET STUDY

In 1994, as a direct reaction to approximately 14 development applications around Saanich Inlet, including the mega-proposal of Bamberton, the Provincial Government undertook a major environmental study of all aspects of Saanich Inlet. The Saanich Inlet Study (SIS) was comprised of scientists, oceanographers, government officials, native groups, environmental consultants and a large range of specific interest groups such as the Saanich Inlet Protection Society, various salmon enhancement organizations, the Steering Committee to Save Saanich Inlet, Friends of South Cowichan, the Georgia Strait Alliance, and more. It was the first time in the history of the province that such a diverse group had met in an Environmental Assessment Process, which was to define the obvious problems of Saanich Inlet and to attempt workable solutions. Several public open houses were well attended and comments taken into consideration.

The following is a very brief summary of the SIS major findings and recommendations.



## CONCLUSIONS

### **1. Saanich Inlet is a highly valued place.**

Overwhelming participation rates at public open houses confirmed the high level of interest in Saanich Inlet. Public response at the open houses indicated that the characteristics most highly valued were the natural beauty and scenery, plant and animal life, recreational opportunities, cultural/spiritual qualities, peace and solitude. The high value placed on the characteristics is reflected in the resolutions of many surrounding municipal councils and Official Community plans. These documents spell out the need to protect various qualities of the area such as natural and scenic features, water quality, open space, wildlife resources, rural character, and outdoor recreational areas. Communities have also called for the designation of the area as a marine park or some form of "protected area". This suggestion was strongly supported by open house participants. Another indication of high value is the strong public resistance to siting an outfall in the Inlet.

### **2. Highly valued characteristics of Saanich Inlet, including aesthetic, cultural, spiritual and environmental attributes, have been degraded or diminished.**

The very characteristics that make the Inlet such a highly valued place attract the human use and development that threaten its appeal. Open house participants expressed the belief that their enjoyment of the Inlet has reduced over time. They were particularly distressed over reductions in the scenic beauty resulting from increased development. Also noted was a reduction in

the peace and solitude related to increased noise. Other changes noted were loss of fishing, loss of plant and animal life and a decrease in water quality.

### **3. Human uses of Saanich Inlet have been degraded or diminished.**

12 out of 15 shellfish beds are closed because of bacterial contamination. There are also dramatic reductions in the abundance and quality of many marine species such as salmon, herring, lingcod and rockfish. Recreational fishing for coho and chinook has declined consistently, for instance from 15,000-25,000 chinook taken in the early 1980s to less than 200 in 1994.

### **4. Water circulation in Saanich Inlet is slower than adjacent waters.**

Because tidal currents and flushing are weak, the Inlet does not have the capacity to assimilate contaminants.

### **5. For fecal contamination, and in some cases, chemical contamination, the assimilative capacity of the Inlet has already been exceeded.**

### **6. Many marine species are sensitive to disturbance and contamination.**

### **7. Declines in fish populations are due to causes both outside and within Saanich Inlet.**

Larger scale factors (El Nino, potential global warming, fisheries management practices) are considered the primary causes of reductions of herring, chinook and coho.



**8. Non-point sources (NPS) are at present the primary source of contaminants to the Inlet.**

NPS are stormwater, ineffective septic systems, runoff from residential and agricultural lands, spills and leaks from boats and marinas, etc.

**9. Saanich Inlet has been subject to cumulative impacts which result from individually minor - but collectively significant - damage over time.**

If the trend of incremental degradation continues, the environmental quality of the Inlet will worsen.

**10. Fecal contamination in stormwater and runoff flowing over beach areas during and following heavy rainfall raises potential health concerns for beach users during these periods.**

**11. Embayments and isolated reaches such as Mill Bay, Finlayson Arm, Tod Inlet, Brentwood Bay, Coles Bay, Patricia Bay and Deep Cove are most vulnerable to environmental degradation.**

**12. Saanich Inlet is a threatened but still largely viable ecological system.**

The uses and values of the Inlet can be maintained and/or improved by implementing the SIS Recommendations. There is an opportunity here to halt the degradation and restore the environmental quality of the Inlet.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The level of protection afforded to Saanich Inlet must be based on the most sensitive human or ecological use and must be consistent with human values. The Precautionary Principle must apply where there is uncertainty or missing information. The concept of "assimilative capacity" must not be viewed as a "pol-lute-up-to-level", but rather as a tool to effectively direct protection and remediation efforts.

2. Within the Saanich Inlet watershed, all levels of government must coordinate and clarify their environmental responsibilities with a view to protecting and enhancing the health of Saanich Inlet. Ecosystems are not bounded by jurisdictional lines. Points of reference must focus on the Inlet, not jurisdictional compartments. All levels of governments need to work together in implementing SIS recommendations.

3. The environmental issues identified in Saanich Inlet must be ranked from a watershed perspective relative to the risk they pose, and solutions should be applied in order of priority.

4. The theme of Conservation, Protection and Restoration must be applied when considering remedial action.

5. Management of Saanich Inlet

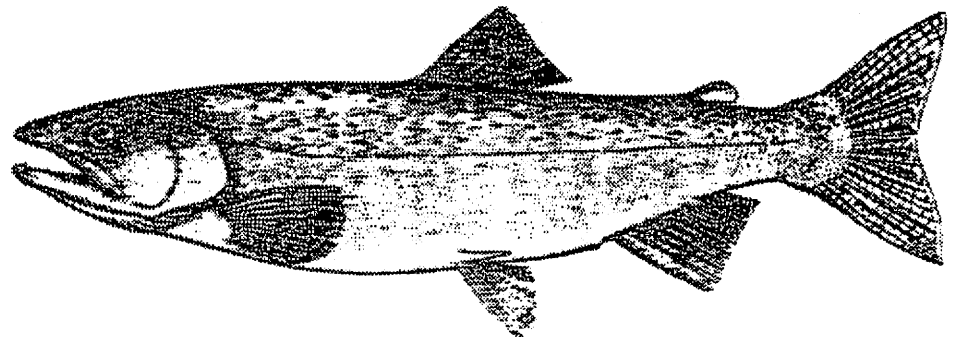
must be directed towards maintaining and improving biodiversity and preventing further environmental degradation.

6. Source control actions for non-point sources must be implemented using an integrated approach to address chemical contaminants, bacterial contaminants as well as sediment loading.

7. Comprehensive legislative policy and technological tools are needed to assist all levels of governments to adequately manage non-point source contaminants issues related to land and water use. Currently, regulations, policies and technologies are not well developed.

8. Education programs and community stewardship initiatives should be supported to ensure local residents are involved. Education programs should reach residents, farmers and developers. Source control cannot be effective without public participation.

9. The link between the land and the water cannot be broken. To effectively address environmental issues in the Saanich Inlet, the CVRD and the CRD's Regional Growth Strategies need to be linked. These initiatives must utilize the findings of the SIS and guidance from these initiatives should be applied to land and water use decisions made by all jurisdictions bordering on Saanich Inlet.



10. The relative merits and disadvantages of various technologies (ie on site treatment/disposal, community treatment plants, regional treatment plants) need rational examination in the context of the Study findings, local liquid waste management plans and the planned regional growth management initiatives. Present practices with respect to conventional septic disposal system design, siting, monitoring, enforcement and operation are not sufficient.

11. More emphasis must be placed on habitat protection and restoration for aquatic ecosystems.

13. Habitat buffer zones guidelines for stream and foreshore environments need to be implemented to protect aquatic systems.

14. Land development practices must minimize sedimentation and runoff; for example, avoidance of steep areas, use of retention ponds and constructed wetlands, appropriate surface drainage systems and post-development planting.

14. First Nations values and uses must be considered in context of their long term historical presence in the Saanich Inlet area.

15. For harvested marine species, including those traditionally used by First Nations, fishing policies for commercial, First Nations and recreational groups should be reexamined, with a renewed interest in conservation, protection and restoration.

16. Further investigation is needed of chemical concentrations where the sampling has indicated a problem.

17. Development proposals in the vicinity of Saanich Inlet must be assessed in terms of their impact on the environment, and the following should apply:

a) All environmental impacts related

to a given proposal should be considered, and not confined only to those required by regulation or permit. Attention to non-point source contaminants is a high priority.

b) For any proposed discharge into Saanich Inlet, the suitability of discharge locations or treatment technologies must be based on site-specific studies to assess impact and reduce uncertainty.

c) A cumulative effect approach, in which Saanich Inlet is considered in its entirety, should guide the evaluation of developments, land use, and water use.

d) The Inlet should also be viewed as an important part of a larger system, encompassing the Georgia Basin, particularly with respect to fisheries issues.

**The Saanich Inlet Protection Society, which participated in the Saanich Inlet Study, was formed in 1989 with the specific goal of achieving either marine park designation, or some sort of protected status for Saanich Inlet. The Society endorses all the Recommendations of the Saanich Inlet Study. If you would like to become involved, please call Patricia Sloan at 652-0226.**

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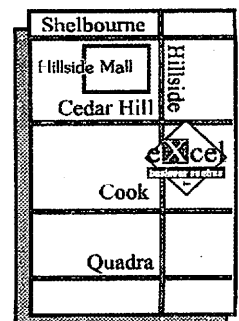
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