

# *Discovery Islander*

**Community News and Events from Quadra, Cortes and the Outer Islands**

[www.discoveryislands.ca/news](http://www.discoveryislands.ca/news)

**ISSUE #329**  
**OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2004**  
**FREE**

## **Halloween**

**Fun Night Fireworks**

**Blenkin Park 8:30 pm**

**October 31st**

*Be Scared!!!*



**Dunham.**

PRESENT THE 2004/2005

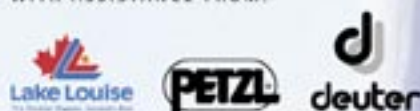
# Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

A PROGRAM OF THE BANFF CENTRE

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WITH ASSISTANCE FROM:



[www.banffmountainfestivals.ca](http://www.banffmountainfestivals.ca)

Photo credit: Daniel Dulac on the mixed climb Musash, Banff National Park. © Sara Rainford ([www.rainfoto.com](http://www.rainfoto.com))

## Yes they will be 2 different shows!

❖ **CAMPBELL RIVER** ❖  
**TIDEMARK THEATRE**

**Friday, November 26th at 7:00 pm**

free shuttle by Heriot Bay Inn from 6:15 ferry and back for the 11pm sailing

**Island Mountain Sports**  
Campbell River



❖ **QUADRA ISLAND** ❖  
**COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Saturday, November 27th at 7:00 pm**

films start after arrival of 7pm ferry passengers (7:20pm at latest)



**Tickets for both shows On Sale from  
Tidemark Box Office 287-7465**





# Island Calendar

## Submit your event:

eMail: [news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca)

drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

fax: 285-2236

### The Regulars

- **1st and 3rd Wednesday** -Food Bank 1-2:30 Community Centre
- **Every Tuesday** - Kalina Folkdancers -Community Centre, 7:30 to 9:30 pm  
- Joseph Campbell "On Mysticism" QI Community Centre 7 pm thru Nov.
- **Every Wednesday** -Community Lunch 12-1:30pm Community Centre
- **Every Thursday** -Parent and Tots 10 am Community Centre  
-Motorcycle Club meet 5pm Heriot Bay Inn Pub  
-Prayer Meeting, 7:30pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
- **Every Friday** -Live dance music 8:30 pm Heriot Bay Inn Pub  
-Seafood Dinner Special with Jazz pianist- Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge 6-9:30pm  
-Youth Group - Quadra Island Bible Church 7:30 pm
- **Every Saturday** -Meat Draw 5-6:30 pm Quadra Legion (members & guests welcome)
- **Last Saturday** - Bonus \$50 cash draw. Quadra Legion 6:30pm (members & guests welcome)
- **Every Sunday** -Sunday School - Quadra Island Bible Church 9:45 am  
- Silent prayer and meditation QI United Church (downstairs) 10:00 am  
- Sunday Service QI United Church 10:30 am  
- Positive Living Service, 10:30am Community Centre  
- Worship Service 11:00am Quadra Island Bible Church  
- Buddhist Meditation Upper Realm, Q.Cove Plaza 10 am.  
- Jazz nights in the Heriot Bay Inn Pub every Sunday 6-9 pm 285-3539
- **Every 2nd Sunday** - Praise and Worship Time, Q.I. Bible Church 7:00 pm

**Next Deadline: Monday, November 8th 2004**



### Day by day

#### October 31, Sunday

-Halloween Fun Night  
Kids fun starts at 7pm Fireworks at 8:30pm

QI Community Centre

#### November 1, Monday

-Smile Makers Kidz Klub Kick Off  
2:45-4:30 pm

Q.I. Bible Church

#### November 4, Thursday

-Pre-retirement seminar with Marco Costa of HRDC. QI Community Centre  
Learn about the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security.  
\$2, 7 pm

#### November 5, Friday

-Goodbye, Lenin - Friday Flicks  
7:45pm

QI Community Centre

#### November 6, Saturday

-Quadra Sailblazers presents: Berserk in the Antarctic  
7:30 p.m.

QI Community Centre

#### November 9, Tuesday

-Quadra Island Quilt Guild  
9 am - 2 pm

QI Community Centre

#### November 20, Saturday

-Mitlenatch Field Naturalist Society  
7.30 pm  
-Xmas Craft and Bake Fair  
10 am to 2 pm

QI Community Centre

Quadra Legion Hall

#### November 21, Sunday

McDades Celtic Band  
7:00 pm

QI Community Centre

#### November 26, Friday

-Best of Banff Mtn Film Festival  
7pm (show starts on arrival of 7pm Quadra ferry passengers)

CR Tidemark Theatre

#### November 27, Saturday

-Best of Banff Mtn Film Festival

QI Community Centre

**Island Calendar online: [www.discoveryislands.ca/news](http://www.discoveryislands.ca/news)**

## Tanya Storr

B.A. English

Freelance Writing  
& Editing

285-3937

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## On the cover



Halloween Fun Night Fireworks  
Photo: Philip Stone

Next deadline for the  
**Discovery  
Islander**

**Nov. 8th**

**701 Cape Mudge Rd  
Monday-Thursday 10-4**  
use drop box after hours please



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Call 250 285-2234 for details

**Submission Guidelines**

Items for publication are welcomed on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community. **Please help us by following these guidelines:**

- Please print handwritten material clearly.
- Electronic items sent by email or on disk must be saved as **Word** or **rtf** formats. Please spell check in Canadian English.
- **No MS Publisher, WordPerfect** files or graphics in Word files please. Send imported graphics separately.
- **Please** use the title of the item as email subject & send multiple items in separate emails.
- Please don't send original irreplaceable material, make a trip to a copier first!!
- Please remember to caption & credit photos and artwork. Don't write on the back of photos use labels or Postits™.

*While every effort is made to include all items submitted, errors and accidental omissions do occur and the Discovery Islander should be only one part of your publicity efforts.*

**Next Deadline**

7 pm. Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>



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**Cortes Office**

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# News & Events

## Community Kitchen

The Community Lunch opens again Wednesday, Sept. 8/04. Lunch is served from 12 to 1:30 pm.

All are welcome to come and share delicious soups, breads and desserts prepared and served by our volunteers.

Speaking of volunteers, we are looking for more generous souls to make desserts or the occasional soup. Soup making is done at the centre amid the camaraderie of others who are also making a soup or preparing food for the Wednesday lunch contact: Sherrie McGlenister 285-2660

## 1st Ever Quadra Island Clown Festival

On November 06/04 the First Annual Island Clown Fest will be held at the Community Center on Quadra Island from 9AM - 5 PM.

Learn about clown make-up, costuming, developing clown character, balloon art, pocket magic, juggling, puppet basics, clowning with dogs, and more.

The featured clowns are Big Foot, Razzberry, and Obee. Big Foot and Razzberry have traveled to Russia with Patch Adams visiting hospitals, orphanages, and seniors homes. Obee has been involved with parades, fairs, and children's festivals as well as Gospel clowning. Together they have more than 30 years of clowning experience.

This workshop will appeal to established clowns as well as to all clown wannabes so don't miss this fun filled day.

Cost is \$50.00 (includes lunch)

For more information contact:

Cupcake 250-334-8169

Miss Judi 250-285-2150

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## Book Table Now For Xmas Craft Fair

Craftspeople! Book your table now for the Christmas Craft Fair at the Quadra Community Centre, November 26 and 27. Phone Gordon James at 285-3101 for details and to book.

## Christmas is coming thanks to Ladies Auxiliary

Christmas Craft and Bake Fair is on Sat. Nov. 20 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Quadra Legion Hall. "Pictures with Santa" from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Concessions will be open.

Book your table now. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary. For tables please call Denise 285-2601 or Chris 285-2207.

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Fax: 285-3701

## What is Glutathione?

Immunotec Research, represented by independent distributor Penny Repstock, is presenting a free Information night on Glutathione and your health. If you have concerns about your health, this information on what glutathione is, how your body makes it and what effect it has on your health is important to you. Meeting held at Quadra Community Centre on Nov. 1 at 7:15pm to 8:30 pm To reserve your seat call 923-1962

## Chamber Notes

The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce has reconvened after the summer break and have drafted an action plan for the 2004-05 session. Four projects to be pursued in order of priority are:

- 1) Promotion & marketing - directed at potential tourists and relocating families.
- 2) Visitor Info Centre - ideas include expanding and relocating to include chamber offices and gallery space.
- 3) Membership - increasing enrollment and improving services.
- 4) Crusie-ship Readiness - what impact will cruise ship traffic in CR have on the islands? How will this be managed?

The Chamber's first priority, promotion & marketing has got off to a great start with members and the Regional District contributing a total of nearly \$4000 that will go toward the placement of magazine ads encouraging tourists to visit and families to relocate to Quadra and neighbouring islands.

The future economic and demographic makeup of Quadra Island in particular is a frequent topic at the Chamber table. Encouraging economic diversification and sustainable practices in existing sectors is seen as essential if Quadra is to offer a livelihood and home to young families. Declining enrollment at Quadra Elementary is just one bell weather that the trend is against this vital part of our community.

The Chamber has written a letter requesting a dialogue with TimberWest concerning harvesting rates on Quadra Island. The return to local contractors and the style and rate of harvest are some of the points the Chamber would like to address with our corporate neighbour.

Next meeting Monday, November 1 at the Yak Shack Heriot Bay. Members in good standing welcome.

## Quadra Quilt Guild

The guild will have its last meeting before the Quilt Marathon on Tuesday, November 9 from 9.00am to 2.00pm. Most of the preparations for the marathon, November 13 and 14, have been completed but if you have not yet signed up to make a particular quilt, this is your chance. If you are not a member of the guild but would still like to sew or contribute in some other way, contact Marg McQuade at 285 2627. If you would just like to drop by and see what we are doing, please feel free to do so. Due to safety concerns (hot irons and power cords) we request that visitors be a minimum of 14 years of age. Our November afternoon programme will be making baskets so bring your supplies with you. New members and members of other guilds are always welcome.

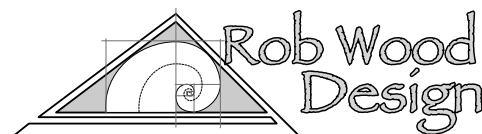
## Quadra Recreation Update

Check out the Halloween Fireworks display, Sunday, Oct. 31 at 8:30 on Blenkin Field at the Community Centre. Appreciations to Phoenix Firesigns who volunteer their services, in the persons of Doug Edwards and Ron Miller and their assistants, Rod McLean, Mike Stoughton, Arne Thomlinson, Shawn Sjöholm and Andrew McCall who produce the show for you, the community. Money is donated from local businesses and individuals. When the list is complete, we will publish the names of all the wonderful donors and other helpers, next edition.

If Halloween is come, is Christmas far behind? We are looking for people to decorate and help out with the Community Centre Christmas Craft Fair this year, November 26 and 27. Phone QCC 285 3243 to assist.

Got a yen to teach a class or do a workshop? Planning a fundraiser? Want to start a club or render a service? The next session starts in January, but scheduling is happening now, so please think about it and give a call or drop into the office between 8-2 Monday-Friday. (Your spark of initiative could start into motion great good works, never before dreamed of, in our community....go for it!)

Sandy Spearing, Coordinator



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## 2005 Calendar of Events

Each year the Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce compiles a calendar of events which is distributed to interested agencies and publications. BC Ferries, Tourism Vancouver Island and Tourism North Central Island are some of the organizations who help promote events Vancouver Island-wide.

The calendar also appears in the annual visitor guide "Guide to the Discovery Islands" and is posted online at [www.quadraisland.ca](http://www.quadraisland.ca) and [www.discoveryislands.ca](http://www.discoveryislands.ca)

There is no fee for inclusion in the calendar. If you are planning an event in 2005 submit your event information before November 30th 2004. Send listings by email to: [chamber@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:chamber@discoveryislands.ca) or fax your info to 285-2236 if you prefer mail then drop us a line to DICC c/o Box 190 Quathiaski Cove BC V0P 1N0

Event information can be sent anytime but by submitting before the recommended deadline of November 30th your event will reach a much wider audience than anytime after this date.

## Quadra Seniors

Prov. Pres. Martin Amiabel, visited Cumberland Br. and presented them with their 50 yr. certificate of their founding Charter. He also visited Texada Island Br. where they received, a 25 yr. certificate, and two founding members were in attendance. Quadra's next meeting is on Wed. Nov. 3rd @10:30 a.m. Judy Hagen North Island, Crime Prevention Rep. will talk to us about scams on phone and through the mail, also sales scams.

The Health Nurse will be there after the meeting 12:30p.m-2:30, to administer flu shots to Seniors, and Islanders. She will also be at the Community Hall Nov. 10th, see Posters placed around the Island. Our Seniors are traveling to Fanny Bay Club for a Regional meet and a luncheon, on Oct 27th. Our Christmas Luncheon will be at the Discovery Inn, Mon. Dec. 6th. At 11:30 am. We continue to have Tai-Chi and Carpet Bowling, on most Wed. @ 10am And 10:30— And walk on the Spit Sundays 11am some from launch ramp, others from parking lot. For membership phone Ruth 285-3801

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## Best of Banff Mountain Film Festival Returns



From "The Women of K2" courtesy Banff Mountain Film Festival

Action-packed films come to the big screen in Campbell River and on Quadra Island as the best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival makes its annual stop in our area **Friday, November 26th at the Campbell River Tidemark Theatre and Saturday, November 27th at the Quadra Island Community Centre.**

These two shows will screen different films each night selected from the very best of this year's Banff Mountain Film Festival. Details of the available films are not usually known until a few days before the event but enthusiastic adventurers can get a taste of what's in store by checking in at the Banff Centre's tour web site: [www.banffmountainfestivals.ca](http://www.banffmountainfestivals.ca) for details of films that have screened this year at the main festival in Banff.

Each show is scheduled to start at 7pm but Quadra Islanders are assured that the films won't start playing at the Campbell River

Tidemark show until foot passengers have arrived off the 7pm ferry sailing (if foul weather delays the sailing we'll have to start by 7:20). As always, adventure-seekers are assured a wide variety of shorts and sub-feature length films in a 2.5 hour movie marathon.

Let your friends & family coming over from Campbell River know that the Heriot Bay Inn will run a free shuttle, picking up from the 6:15pm sailing up to the Community Centre and back for the 11:00 pm sailing after the Quadra show.

Event sponsors will have an exciting variety of door prizes up for grabs along with a concession and intermission time for socializing makes this the adventure community event of the year. Admission is \$20 for adults \$15 for youth students and seniors. **Tickets for both shows available from the Tidemark box office 287-7465 or at the door if you want to try your luck!**

### Berserk in the Antarctic – Dandy in Drew Harbour.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Q.C.C.Doors – 7:30 Showtime: 8:00 Adm: Adults \$5.00, Students/exhibitors \$3.00, under 14 free.**

Quadra Sailblazers' night of entertainment is gaining momentum. Don't miss this lively family event. Everyone from outdoor adventurers to armchair enthusiasts will enjoy the antics of sailors of all ages and stages. Play "Spot your neighbour" in a short film of Quadra Sailblazers Club members in action. Sign up early for next spring's course. Get inspired by slides of small boat building projects of Nymphs, a virtually untippable 8 ft rowing pram, and Dandy's, a 13 foot plywood planing dinghy with a laser-type rig.

Calling all home boatbuilders! Boats will be on display, as will a photos and plans table. Bring your photo albums and plans, or drop them off with Frank or Shirley Wallace – 285-2297.

The evening's feature event is, *Berserk in the Antarctic* – winner at the 2001 Banff Mountain Film Festival.

*Berserk in the Antarctic* is the story of three young men aboard their aging little yacht, the *Berserk* – aptly named after "wild Norse warriors who fought with frenzied fury" (Oxford). They chart a course from the tip of Chile to the tip of Antarctica. The captain is 21-year-old Jarle Andhøj from Norway, and the crew consists of two chance adventurers who've never sailed before. Many people said the voyage was doomed, and they were almost right. From day one, the voyage is a fight for life in the teeth of hurricanes and ice floes. Not only did the three young men survive, they captured the whole voyage on video. Seeing is believing.

Refreshments and home baked goodies at the concession.

Questions? Frank or Shirley at 285-2297.

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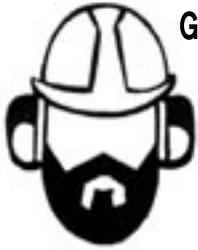
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## ISLAND MINDWORKS HYPNOTHERAPY

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## Heriot Bay Inn



### Upcoming Music

Duffy Live! Friday Oct 29

Mike Lynch

Rocka' billy Music Oct 30

### Halloween Night:

DJ spinning lounge & funk, martinis, & 1st annual Burning Woman Festival.

*Don't miss it!*

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- or drop by our office

Real Estate specialists on Quadra and the neighbouring Discovery Islands. Full real estate services including property management. Our office is conveniently located across from the school on Quadra Island.

## The McDades Come to Quadra



From Edmonton Alberta comes the exciting McDades Celtic Band. The group: two brothers and a sister, and two honorary McDades who originate from Montreal, perform everything from modern bluegrass to Tuvan Throat Singing in a style that has developed somewhere between modern Celtic, traditional French Canadian and jazz. Add vocal harmonies that can only come from a family band, and you have a band has found a unique place in Canadian music.

It's impossible to attend a performance by the McDades without having your feet gain a life of their own, dancing you uncontrollably to an energetic set. When the beat slows down, the band can lace into a ballad with such musical clarity that it brings as many tears to your eyes as if you had imbibed a mickey of well-cured Irish whiskey. Perhaps that's because "the marriage of world rhythms, jazz accents and lyrical ballads creates songs that blow a nostalgic kiss at times gone past while looking clearly ahead to the blending of cultures in the modern world". So said Mary-Lynn

McEwan, CEO of the Calgary Folk Festival, after the McDades appeared there. Tom Nelligan of Dirty Linen says, "The McDades are one of the most innovative Celtic rooted bands I've heard lately. They're both adventurous and mischievous as they play with tempos and experiment with unconventional but very successful arrangements. ...It's hot stuff and very entertaining". And Doug Cox, Artistic Director of the Vancouver Island Music Fest, says that the group's stage presentation consists of living room warmth with excellent musicianship. With a nice mix of accessible instrumentals, vocal songs and more adventurous pieces...the McDades perform in both French and English and are a concert programmer's dream.

We invite you to make your own toe-tapping assessment when you attend the McDades Celtic Band concert at the Quadra Community Centre at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 21st. Tickets are \$12 advance at Quadra Crafts in Heriot Bay and Hummingbird Stationery in Q.Cove, and \$15 at the door. Youth tickets are \$10.

## On Root Greenhouse CLEAR THE DECKS!



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## Calling all Girl Guides!

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## So Much More

by Rev. Jill Brocklehurst

I forget sometimes. I get caught in my small world perspective and I forget. I forget that there is so much more to life, so much more than the way I see it, so much more than my puny perspective.

Did you ever see the movie "Groundhog Day" with Bill Murray? The base line story is simple. Bill Murray is caught in a time loop. He gets to live the same 24 hours over and over again. Whether intended or not, this story has a profound lesson. What each day of life presents could remain the same but how we choose to live it is what counts.

Bill Murray worked his way through countless approaches to the same day. The loop was broken only when he lived his day from a place of true unconditional love. Bill's complaining, sarcasm, suicide attempts and criticism weren't getting him anywhere but his own gutter of self misery.

I choose to continue to develop the art of seeing the opportunity of love in every situation. If I find myself criticizing or wallowing in self pity I remember to ask, "How can I be more loving in this situation?" There is so much more to living my life and I believe it comes from an attitude of love.

On November 7, the Centre for Positive Living opens its doors to welcome Wendy Terral sharing Siddha Yoga practices of chanting and meditation. Chanting stills the mind and opens the heart. Siddha master Bade Baba said, "The Heart is the hub of all sacred places. Go there and roam." When the heart is open, the inner realms of meditation are more easily accessible to us.

We will share a short program of call and response chanting followed by meditation, using the help of the mantra OM NAMA SHIVAYA. This mantra means: Om. I welcome God who dwells within me, as me. When we go within, we can deepen the awareness of the divinity within ourselves and in everything. Namaste.

The Centre for Positive Living doors are always open to you. Come and join us to celebrate life, Sundays, 10:30 AM at the Quadra Community Centre.

## Yahoo! For all Interested People.

A climbing wall designed by M.M. Johnson has officially been approved for the Quadra Island Community Centre. Construction will commence in the new year. Look for updates in future Discovery Islanders

## Friday Flicks

### Goodbye, Lenin

**November 5th, 2004 at QCC Doors 7:30 - Showtime 7:45 Admission: \$4.50-\$3.50 stu/snr**

Hailed as Best European Film at the 2003 Berlin Film Festival, "Good Bye Lenin!" seems destined to become one of Germany's biggest international hits.

It's 1989 and Berlin is in turmoil. East Berliners are heading west in droves. Christiane is loyal to the virtues of socialism, her activist fervor fueled years ago by her defecting husband. When she sees her son Alex marching in an anti-government protest, she suffers a heart attack and ends up in a coma. It's mid-1990 before she awakens and the Wall is down. "Mother slept through the relentless triumph of capitalism," says Alex.

Christiane has a weak heart and her doctor warns that any shock could kill her. In order to save his mother, Alex decides to hide the fall of the Wall from her. He creates a fictional world for her benefit and the deeper he delves into this fiction, the more uneasy he, and complicit others, become. Is Alex betraying his mother's trust? What will happen when she is well enough to get out of bed and explore the world outside of her room? Her life hangs in the balance, and so may the viewer's attitudes about socialism and capitalism.

All this is fodder for the pointed satire of opposing 'isms.' Taking potshots at the monolithic ideologies of Communism and Capitalism, *Goodbye, Lenin* turns a family's crisis into a symbol of Germany's attempt to heal old wounds and rebuild. Writer/director Wolfgang Becker's film about one man's attempt to make history stand still is a tragicomic journey into political upheaval within personal lives. He aims his satire not only at Germany, but at the entire world of change.

Review credits: ReelViews, Toronto Star, BBC Films, Film Journal International

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# Poppy Campaign, Remembrance Day and Other Legion News

Our annual **Poppy Campaign** begins this Fri Oct. 29 and will run until Wed. Nov. 10. We remind you that your donations are used firstly to assist needy veterans and thier dependents in the community. The funds are held in a special tust account and thier use is strictly regulated in accordance with the Dominion By-laws of the Legion. We are also able to use the funds for the cash prizes we award in connection with the Remembrance Day Poster and Literaray contest participated in by our school children. Other approved uses include community medical appliances, meals on wheels, bursaries to students who are children or grandchildren of Canaddian ex-service persons who are in need of this assistance, donations for relief of disaster declared by federal and provincial governments and, of course, the purchase of wreaths, poppies and other supplies required for the campaign. So please give generously folks – the bulk of these funds does stay within our own community. Thank You.

**Remembrance Day Service** will be on Thurs. Nov. 11 in the Legion Hall. We ask

that you be seated by 10:45 a.m. Cliff Hand will again be conducting the service which will be followed by a luncheon prepared by our Ladies Auziliary. We will have on display the children's winning entries from the Poster & Literary Contest for you all to see and enjoy.

**Nov. 11 Pot Luck Dinner.** This is a family affair and is open to all – everbody bring something. There will be a social hour from 6-7 p.m., dinner 7-8 p.m., then the presentation of our Branch's Honours and Awards 8-9 p.m. We will see you there!

**Help! Help! Help!** Poppy Taggers still needed – phone Don McDonald at 295-2258 if you can spare a couple of hours. Donations of Baked Goods are needed for the Nov. 11 luncheon – phone Marie Brown at 285-2345 if you can help out. A Kitchen Crew is needed for the evening of Nov. 11 – please call Barb McDonald at 285-2258. This is the one time Barb has other duties to perform and cannot help with clean-up. So please, folks, step up to the plate and lend a hand. Thank You.

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by Steven Halliday

While on a recent trip to Victoria, my wife and I stopped at a non-government liquor outlet to purchase some items. During the transaction the clerk divided his time between ringing up the sale, chatting with us and watching a television show. When paying using my debit card, I was distracted and simply punched the keys, paying no attention to the total. After we returned to our hotel room, a nagging doubt made me check the slip. Sure enough, our purchase was processed at the wrong price, to our benefit in an amount of over \$50. Now, some people might view this as a fortuitous event for us – after all, had I not looked at the slip we would have never realized the error. But my conscience is strong enough that I cannot enjoy any satisfaction from such an event. Further, my wife used to manage a hotel with a liquor outlet, and I knew that the clerks generally make little better than minimum wage, and cash shortages usually come out of their own pockets. Consequently, this \$50 shortage would have wiped out the poor kid's pay net pay for the day. I went back to the store, announced to the young man that "I'm here to make your day", and explained the situation. He was flummoxed to say the least, and after checking his tape found he had indeed messed up. That was one grateful clerk when I paid him the difference, and I felt good about it for the rest of the day. The event also certainly set me thinking about how tough life must be on minimum wage.

In the US election race one issue is receiving little attention, but each candidate has firmly staked out a position. The minimum wage in the USA is US\$5.15 per hour, and has been stuck at that level since 1997. John Kerry is in favour of increasing it to \$7.00 per hour, while George W. Bush opposes the change. According to the Economic Policy Institute, 7.4 million American's earn minimum wage, and that large of a voting block could swing the election results towards Kerry, but only if they vote, which historically they do not. In British Columbia, we have the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest minimum wage in Canada at \$8.00 per hour (behind Nunavut at \$8.50 and the NWT at \$8.25).

# A Living Wage?

So the US minimum of \$5.15 is worth \$6.55 Canadian, which is higher than the minimum wage in Alberta (\$5.90), Newfoundland (\$6.00), New Brunswick (\$6.20) and Nova Scotia/PEL, both at \$6.50 per hour. But setting aside all of the differences, the simple fact is a person is expected to clothe, feed and house themselves on about \$260 Canadian per week. Canada has no established "poverty line", but Statistics Canada offers a measure called the Low Income Cut-off (LICO), which in 2003 established a single person's minimum annual income needs at \$13,680 for a rural dweller to \$19,795 for a person living in the city. Therefore, someone earning the average Canadian minimum wage, which coincidentally is the same as the US equivalent at CDN\$6.55, earns \$13,520 for a 52 week workyear, or \$160 a year less than our own government's minimum poverty level. This is a shameful statistic, and Canada has over 16% of it's population living on this much or less than are commonly called the "working poor".

Barbara Ehrenreich is an American author with a Ph.D. in Biology and 12 titles to her credit. Her most recent work is entitled "Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America" (Henry Holt & Co. – ISBN 0-8050-6389-7) and is a damning account of how we, as a society, treat our working poor. Ehrenreich was convinced by Lewis Lapham, Editor of Harper's Magazine, to pursue a project whereby she would enter the world of the working poor, and so she "moved from Florida to Maine to Minnesota, taking the cheapest lodgings available, and worked as a waitress, hotel chambermaid, house cleaner, nursing home aide and Wal-Mart salesperson. She soon discovered that even the "lowliest" occupations require exhausting mental and physical efforts. And one job is not enough; you need two if you intend to live indoors". This piece of undercover journalism is a tough read, at least if you have a modicum of sympathy for the people Ehrenreich encounters. You learn how people become trapped in a vicious circle of overwork, poor nutrition and general stress that leads to ill health, and of course these people have no access to medical care, nor can they afford the time off work to be sick.

Tips are often the only way that some service workers can make ends meet, so Ehrenreich started her project as a waitress in a small restaurant, in Key West, Florida. She started at \$2.43 per hour. Yes, that is two

dollars and forty three cents an hour! It seems that "According to the Fair Labor Standards Act, employers are not required to pay "tipped employees", such as restaurant servers, more than \$2.13 an hour in direct wages. However, if the sum of tips plus \$2.13 per hour falls below the minimum wage, or \$5.15 an hour, the employer is required to make up the difference. This fact was not mentioned by managers or otherwise publicized at either of the restaurants I worked". In her book, we meet plenty of employers who abuse their workers, most often financially, sometimes physically in some cases, and certainly mentally when it came to Wal-Mart. And unfortunately there is no end of willing bodies to fill the jobs, and recent economic indicators indicate more people will be looking for a job, any job, even one that pays less than a living wage.

On at least two occasions the Canadian government has researched the implementation of a Guaranteed Annual Income (GAI) for all Canadians, aimed at ensuring that every Canadian is able to earn at least a living wage, based upon StatCan's LICO. In 1994, Lloyd Axworthy, then Canada's Minister of Human Resources, tabled a discussion paper to completely revamp Canadian social assistance programs to a more workable single GAI, which many argued could actually save taxpayer's money while improving the lot of Canada's poor. It was ignored. In 2000, Prime Minister Chretien assembled a committee to study a national Basic Income, largely the same as 6 years prior, saying "The fact is that our prosperity is not shared by all". Nothing substantive came out of the committee. And at this moment, nothing is anywhere near being on the table. So the working poor can expect little relief other than a minimal CPI adjustment of maybe 3%, or \$0.24 per hour here in BC.

Ironically, the only country that was successful in providing it's population with a decent minimum standard of living was the former USSR, until it's economy imploded as a result of the Cold War. Some Scandinavian countries offer "cradle to grave" baskets of social services, but only with crippling high tax rates. With a recent \$8 billion budget surplus, we can do better in Canada. We have to do better, because past instances of gross imbalances between the rich and the poor always end the same way...with a messy revolution.



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By Claire Voyent

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For the past few months the IDIOTS (International Divination Including Oooooooooooooooooosary Theosophy Society) have been meeting to decide if Bertolt Brecht should be declared a saint. Brecht's dubious claim to sainthood is that some people believe that his writings predict the coming of Bush, Sadam, Campbell, and all the other politicians who think the people are there to serve them rather than the other way around. Let's take a look at some of the evidence and you can decide for yourself.

Our first piece of evidence: *These people, I saw, lived by the harm/ Which they did, not by the good.* OK, sure, it applies but he was talking about the Chicago Wheat Exchange. What he is saying applies to almost all bureaucracies. Once a group is formed it takes on a life of its own and begins to exist for itself rather than for the original reason it was created. If your group is comprised of people it will act like a person. This is not a case of prediction but a case of observation.

Our second piece of evidence: *I know you all want me to clear out/ I see I eat too much for you/ I realize you've no means of dealing with people like me/ Well, I'm not clearing out/ .....I shall come in a tank/ Talk through a gun and/ Wipe you out/ Where my tank passes/ Is a street/ What my gun says/ Is my opinion/ And of the whole lot/ I'll spare only my brother/ By just kicking him in the teeth.* Written sometime in the mid-twenties, the IDIOTS think this predicts Bush's advance into Iraq. Since

it was written, there are only a few places it doesn't apply to. My contention is that it only predicts that people will continue acting like people and governments will continue to act like governments. Brecht's not a psychic he's a realist (what people today call cynics). The fact that Bush is acting like a Roman emperor (not Marcus Aurelius or Caesar ð not a general who participates in the battles he starts...but rather one of those inbreds who spends all his time eating peeled grapes while he slaughters Christians and Jews) does not make Cato a psychic because what he says about Romans is applicable to Americans. All it means is that we haven't changed all that much since we were slaughtering the Neanderthals.

Brecht's power comes not from his ability to see forward but from his ability to see backwards. Let's take a look at a few excerpts from his *From a German War Primer* written in the 1930's and we can see that his ability to look back helps him see forward. *THE WAR WHICH IS COMING/ Is not the first one. There were/ Other wars before it./ When the last one came to an end/ There were conquerors and conquered./ Among the conquered the common people/ Starved. Among the conquerors/ The common people starved too./ .....WHEN IT COMES TO MARCHING MANY DO NOT KNOW/ That the enemy is marching at their head./ The voice which gives them their orders/ Is their enemies voice and/ The man who speaks of the enemy/ Is the enemy himself.*

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# Island Report

## Scottish Country Dancing Thrives on Quadra

Story & Photos  
by Tanya Storr

**A**re you looking for a social winter activity that will help you stay in shape? Look no further! Quadra Island's own Scottish country dancing group is seeking new members, with or without experience.

"Beginners are very welcome and will receive instruction. There are only a few simple steps to learn," said Shirley Wallace, who organizes and leads the group.

Despite her reassuring words, it was with some trepidation that I arrived for one of group's regular Saturday night sessions in the basement of the Quadra Bible Church, camera and slippery shoes in hand. The last time I did anything like this was square dancing in high school gym class.

When I arrived, Shirley was teaching some of the experienced dancers in the group an advanced dance. It wasn't long, however, until the beginners in the crowd were persuaded to come up and try a four-couple reel called 'The White Cockade.'

With the enthusiastic coaching of Shirley and the example of the experienced dancers to follow, we were soon turning our partners and joining hands in a wheel.

Although I felt like I had two left feet



*Scottish dancers fling their highland thing!*

at times during the dance, my attempt was met with warm smiles and genuine encouragement. I had to admit that this was fun!

Heart rates up, some dancers took a break on the benches to watch the others dance a Strathspey called 'The Wind on Loch Fyne.'

As I chatted with others on the sidelines, I learned that Quadra's Scottish country dancing group is very popular. In fact, our dancing group is

so highly regarded people come from Comox and Black Creek to attend the Saturday night sessions.

"This is a fun group," said Noel Lax, who has been a member since its inception approximately 15 years ago. "Shirley is a fantastic teacher and has a wonderful knowledge of so many of the dances."

Eve Phillips mentioned that Shirley composes some of the dances she teaches to the group. Shirley and Eve



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## TIMBER SUPPLY REVIEW

### Strathcona Timber Supply Area (TSA)

You are invited to review and comment on the Strathcona Analysis Report and Public Discussion Paper as part of the Ministry of Forests Timber Supply Review program.

The Strathcona timber supply area covers an area on central Vancouver Island and the adjacent mainland that includes the communities of Campbell River, Courtenay, Comox, Gold River, Tahsis, Zeballos, Sayward, Cumberland and Kyuquot.

The Timber Supply Review provides the chief forester with information to determine the allowable annual cut (AAC) - the allowable rate of timber that can be harvested from a specific area of land - for the next five years.

Public input is an important part of the Timber Supply Review. Copies of the analysis report and public discussion paper are available from the Campbell River District office or through this website:

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsa/tsa37/>

You are encouraged to review the information and send your comments to:

#### District Manager

B.C. Forest Service  
Campbell River Forest District  
370 South Dogwood Street  
Campbell River BC V9W 6Y7

Or fax to 250 286-9490

*Comments will be accepted until Dec. 13, 2004.*

There will be open houses at the district office on Wednesday, Oct. 27 and Monday, Nov. 1 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact John Andres at 250 286-9300 or by email to [John.Andres@gems3.gov.bc.ca](mailto:John.Andres@gems3.gov.bc.ca)



once composed a dance together in honour of the Queen Mum, who Scottish danced after both her hip replacement surgeries. They named it 'Hip, hip, hooray, the Queen Mum's Strathspey' and sent her the steps, receiving a letter in reply from her secretary.

Eve, who has been dancing since she was a child in Scotland, pointed out that not only is Scottish country dancing an enjoyable activity, it's also good exercise.

One member of the group, Jack Boyes from Black Creek, told me he lost 30 pounds during his first year of Scottish country dancing. He has now been dancing for five years, and attends the Quadra and Courtenay groups.

Appreciative clapping and smiles all round followed each dance. Before starting the taped music for the next one, Shirley walked the dancers through the steps each time.

"You will recognize this one as soon as we walk it," she told the group. "Set! Change places with the right hand. Set! Dancing couples ¾ turn."

"Dancing is good for your memory," pointed out Joan Sell. "It's fun too. We have a lot of laughs sometimes, especially when we end up with the wrong partner!"

Several members said they appreciate the informal atmosphere of the Quadra group. Kilts are generally only worn on special occasions, such as the annual potluck dinner dance.

"I don't spend much time panicking about technique. We're here to have a fun, social evening," Shirley told me.

A Scottish country dancer for 55 years now, Shirley has taught and performed with several groups. Her daughter and granddaughters are also Scottish country dancers.

Shirley affirmed that Scottish country dancing is a popular activity in many countries. At one time the largest amateur group was located in Tokyo, and attracted large numbers of Japanese citizens as well as expats.

Based on the court dances of France, brought over by Mary Queen of Scots, Scottish country dancing is the traditional social dancing of Scotland. Some of the dances practiced today hark back to the early 1700s, while others—like those composed by Shirley and other contemporary dancers—are new.

Although the dances are formed by interactive patterns in a group, or set, of couples, there is no need to bring a partner.

"Unlike some other types of dancing, you don't dance with one partner. We all dance together," Shirley said. "We have a good time and new dancers are always welcome."

Quadra's Scottish country dancing group meets at 7:45 pm on Saturdays, downstairs in the Quadra Bible Church. The cost is \$2 per evening. Phone Shirley at 285-2297 to register or for more information.

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## Help Wanted

### Quadra Island Recreation Society

A part time **Office Assistant** is required for the months of September through May of each year. Applicant should be available to start November 2004.

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30	0000	3.6	1.2
SA	0700	13.5	4.1
	1300	11.2	3.4
	1650	12.8	3.9
31	0020	3.6	1.1
SU	0750	13.5	4.1
	1345	11.8	3.6
	1705	12.5	3.8
1	0055	3.6	1.1
MO	0840	13.5	4.1
	1435	11.8	3.6
	1710	12.1	3.7
2	0135	3.9	1.2
TU	0935	13.5	4.1
3	0220	4.3	1.3
WE	1030	13.5	4.1
4	0305	4.9	1.5
TH	1120	13.5	4.1
5	0405	5.6	1.7
FR	1205	13.5	4.1
6	0505	6.2	1.9
SA	1245	13.5	4.1
	2055	9.2	2.8
7	0010	9.8	3.0
SU	0600	6.6	2.0
	1320	13.5	4.1
	2105	8.2	2.5
8	0125	10.2	3.1
MO	0650	7.2	2.2
	1345	13.5	4.1
	2125	7.2	2.2
9	0225	11.2	3.4
TU	0735	7.9	2.4
	1410	13.5	4.1
	2140	5.9	1.8
10	0315	11.8	3.6
WE	0810	8.9	2.7
	1435	13.8	4.2
	2140	4.6	1.4
11	0410	12.8	3.9
TH	084	9.8	3.0
	1500	14.1	4.3
	2210	3.3	1.0
12	0505	13.5	4.1
FR	0925	10.5	3.2

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**Beef** **\$3.99** lb  
**Sausages** \$8.80/kg

**\* Farmer's Best \***  
**Eye of Round**  
**Steak** **\$4.49** lb  
\$9.90/kg

**Pork Shoulder**  
**Butt** **\$2.49** lb  
**Steak** \$5.49/kg

### DELI/BAKERY ITEMS

**Smoked** **99¢** 100g  
**Chicken**

Philadelphia  
**Cream** **\$2.99** 250g  
**Cheese**

**Dempsters** **\$1.99** 680g  
**Bread**  
Sesame, White or 100% Whole Wheat



Open Every Day Until 8pm