



Belcarra Barnacle

October 2023

Belcarra's Community Newspaper

Volume 44 Issue 8





**Published ten times yearly
by
THE BELCARRA BARNACLE**

Our purpose is to inform and involve.

The Barnacle welcomes all contributions about our local community.

If you would like to submit an article to the Editor, please be advised that your name will be listed as the author.

We also reserve the right to edit for brevity, accuracy, clarity or taste.

Photos and original art will be returned if requested.

SUBMISSIONS:

E-Mail: belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com
for electronic submissions.

Paper submissions can be placed in the Barnacle Box outside the Village Office or sent by mail to:

The Belcarra Barnacle,
4084 Bedwell Bay Road,
Belcarra, B.C. V3H 4P8.

DEADLINE: The 20th of each month.

Out of Town Delivery of The Belcarra Barnacle is available by mail at \$20.00 per year to cover mailing expenses.

Please send cheque and mailing information.

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Deborah Struk
Bonni Marshall
Michele Babineau
Deneige Davis
Mayling Stubbs

www.belcarra.ca

Words from the Editor:

Welcome to your Community Newspaper!

Klaus, Farley, and I are still on our road trip to Ontario. It's been a fun challenge preparing the Barnacle between travel days, family days, and Farley fun time.

Thank you for your continuing support of your local newspaper. Please keep sending us your photographs and articles.

Thank you to the residents who contribute, to the residents who proofread, and to everyone who reads the Barnacle!

Dayna Fitz, Editor
belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES:

Classified ads (3-5 lines) are free for Belcarra Residents.

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Belcarra Village Hall	604 937 4100
www.belcarra.ca	
CRAB (Penny Moen)	604-727-2510
c.r.a.b.4084@gmail.com	
SVFD (Jay Sharpe)	604 765 2944
jay.sharpe@anmore.com	
RCMP - Non-Emergency	604 945 1550 or 604 469 1599
Village Roadways, Water & WARD Emergencies	604 917 0113
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COUNCIL MEETINGS 2023

Council meetings at the Village Hall.

Livestream is available at:

[Village of Belcarra YouTube Channel](#).

Please email questions during the meeting to
prichardson@belcarra.ca and they will be read at
 the appropriate time.

Please check the Village website for more
 information www.belcarra.ca.

IMPORTANT DATES
OCTOBER 2023

- 9 Thanksgiving
- 10 Regular Council Meeting
- 11 OCP Public Hearing
- 14 New Moon and
Annular Solar Eclipse
- 16 Garden Club Meeting
- 23 Regular Council Meeting
- 26 SVFD Board of Trustees Meeting
- 28 Full Moon (Hunter Moon)
- 29 CRAB Kids' Hallowe'en Party
- 31 Hallowe'en (CRAB Fireworks in
the park)



COVER - Barred Owl

Peter Boekhout saw three marvelous owls on Belcarra Bay Rd. He reached for his phone and... oops! Left it at home. He scurried home and back and caught this lovely photo of the one remaining barred owl! Still, a lucky shot!

Do send your favourite local photos
 and artwork to the Barnacle. It is a
 pleasure to share them.
belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com



Mayor's Report

In September, while our children returned to school, your Council returned to very important work.

Here are the Council highlights since my last update.

Council Meeting, September 11, 2023

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation presented on oil spill readiness.

WSP engineers provided a preliminary costing of a chlorination system for the Tatlow tank. Council requested a more detailed cost estimate.

The Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 615, 2023 received first reading and was forwarded for public hearing.

The Village of Belcarra Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw No. 616, 2023 was given first and second reading.

Stuart Novak provided information for a future pipeline inspection of our water supply line from North Vancouver.

Council approved applications for Translink grant funding available through Major Road Network and Bike Cost Share (MRNB), Bicycle Infrastructure and Capital Cost Sharing (BICCS), Walking Infrastructure to Transit (WITT), and Structures grant funding.

Council expressed concern that applying for specific grant funding will commit the Village of Belcarra to building a multi-use path. Staff advised on the type of work that can be addressed through grant funding and indicated that Council will have the final decision on how the funding is used.

Council Meeting, September 25, 2023

Metro Vancouver, Emergency Alert and Emergency Management Resources presented on their use of a user-friendly, no fee, emergency alerts system.

A Senkler road resident presented on a Marine Avenue right-of-way use application.

BA Blackwell presented their final draft proposal of the Interface Wildfire Development Permit Area. Bruce Blackwell indicated that the decision to register hazard assessment reports on title is a Council decision. Council directed staff to prepare a final report for approval which includes two options for Council consideration: to either include the hazard assessment on title or not.

Ken Bjorgaard presented, and Council accepted, the 2024 Budget Process and Timeline report.

Ken Bjorgaard recommended, and Council accepted, an application to the Province of BC's Active Transportation Planning grant. The Village's 50 percent cost share of the funding application comes from our Climate Action Plan funds.

The Village's recently adopted Strategic Priorities Workplan has a specific initiative to "create a plan for the incremental build out of a Multi-Use Path, Trail and Road Shoulder (MTRS) Network including budget requirements". The Active Transportation Network Planning grant will allow the Village to accomplish this goal with 50 percent grant funding. The Active Transportation Network Planning grant will also fulfill Policy M8 within the draft OCP.

Ken Bjorgaard and Paula Richardson presented, and Council accepted, the report titled Status of Strategic Priorities Workplan Initiative.

Council accepted the recommendations made by Stuart Novak for the costing of the water chlorination system and related water report. Council accepted Council Meeting Minute-Taking Standards Corporate Policy No. 226 as presented by Amanda Seibert.

Village of Belcarra Council Procedure Bylaw No. 617, 2023 received first reading.

Mayor's Report cont. on pg. 5

Mayor's Report cont. from pg. 4

This bylaw reflects current legislative procedures regarding governance and efficiency at Council meetings.

The Village of Belcarra Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw No. 616, 2023 received third reading.

Council proclaimed October 2, 2023, as Wrongful Conviction Day.

More details, and a recording of these meetings, are available on the Village website [www.belcarra.ca].

September 30 is our National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - a time for all of us to reflect on our collective history, our community, and our unity. We wear orange shirts on September 30 to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to honour the survivors of residential schools.

Happy to chat,
Jamie

Dr. Isabelle Côté

By Liisa Wilder

Thought I would pass on this info about our Belcarra resident Dr. Isabelle Côté, SFU marine biologist, who has been recognized and elected as a new Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. This is such a wonderful acknowledgment of all of her accomplishments!

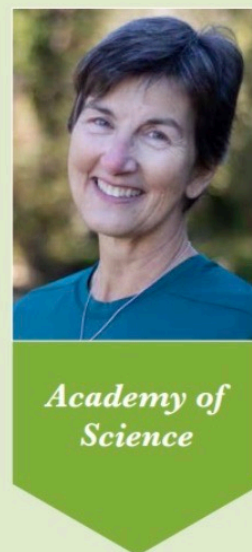
Also, in December, Isabelle, together with three other marine biologists, team Salty Science, will be rowing across the Atlantic Ocean on their 28' ocean row boat raising funds for ocean conservation.

Here is a link to the story and video. <https://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2023/02/sfu-marine-biologist-rowing-across-the-atlantic-to-raise-funds-f.html>

She is quite a remarkable woman!

CÔTÉ, Isabelle | Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University

Isabelle Côté transformed the understanding and conservation of marine ecosystems over three decades of pathbreaking research and science leadership. She laid the groundwork for rigorous empirical studies and overturned dominant assumptions through contributions to theory and methodology. Her findings present a comprehensive view of ecological change in these species-rich habitats. A skilled science communicator, she influences policy and practice for more effective management of tropical and temperate coastal ecosystems.



Royal Society of Canada, Class of 2023

https://rsc-src.ca/sites/default/files/2023%20New%20Members_EN_1.pdf



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
October 11, 2023
6:00 pm



Proposed Bylaw:
Village of Belcarra Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 615, 2023

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Village of Belcarra will hold a Public Hearing at the Village of Belcarra Municipal Hall, 4084 Bedwell Bay Road, Belcarra, BC at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 in accordance with the *Local Government Act* to consider the following bylaw:

Bylaw: Village of Belcarra Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 615, 2023
Purpose To adopt the Official Community Plan

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that a copy of the proposed bylaw and the associated reports will be available for public inspection at the front counter of the Village Hall, between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm from September 28, 2023 to October 11, 2023 excluding weekends and Statutory Holidays. For viewing only and access to the agenda and full report introducing the bylaw access the link at: <https://belcarra.ca/2023-official-community-plan/>

The Public Hearing agenda with the full report will be also available at the Village's website at www.belcarra.ca closer to the meeting date. Further details may also be obtained from the Village of Belcarra by contacting 604-937-4100 or prichardson@belcarra.ca. To view the meeting click: [Village of Belcarra - YouTube](#)

ALL PERSONS who deem themselves affected by the bylaw presented shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard at the Public Hearing before Council on the matter contained in the bylaw by making a written statement to the attention of the Corporate Officer or by sending an email to aseibert@belcarra.ca by 4:00 pm, Wednesday, October 11, 2023. Please note that all written submissions provided in response to this consultation will become part of the public record which includes the submissions being made available for public inspection. Council shall not receive any further submissions from the public or interested persons concerning the bylaw after the Public Hearing has concluded.

Submissions may be mailed, faxed, emailed or hand delivered to:

Village of Belcarra
4084 Bedwell Bay Road
Belcarra BC V3H 4P8

Fax: 604-939-5034

Email: aseibert@belcarra.ca (please add the text "Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 615-2023 in the subject line)

Dated this 21st day of September, 2023

Paula Richardson
Chief Administrative Officer

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Stories From The Archives

First Inland Expedition between the
Fraser River and Burrard Inlet

Researched By: Ralph Drew, Belcarra, BC, April 2012

When the *Colony of British Columbia* was proclaimed on the 19th November 1858, few Europeans had set foot beyond the Fraser River delta. The first inland expedition between the Fraser River and Burrard Inlet took place, in part, up the Brunette River to Burnaby Lake and along a three-mile stretch of Still Creek. The expedition served to determine the closest approach between Queensborough (New Westminster) and Burrard Inlet, as well as the most suitable overland route from Queensborough to Burrard Inlet. Documentation of this journey is outlined in the letter below from Lt. G.S. Blake, R.M.A. (Royal Marine Artillery), to Colonel R.C. Moody, R.E.:

Royal Marine Camp, Queensborough [*sic.* - this was the spelling of the day]

25 April, 1859

To His Excellency
Colonel Moody
Commanding
Royal Engineers

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that according to your order, I proceeded last Monday [18th April 1859] in charge of an exploration expedition consisting of Captain [George] Bazalgette, R.M. [Royal Marine], one Private, R.M., and three Indians with rations for five days for the purpose of ascertaining the relative position of Burrard Inlet with regard to Queensborough [*sic.*].

The route I pursued for the purpose of affecting this was by the small River Brunette to Burnaby Lake, making the latter my Head Quarters.

The distance from Queensborough to the lake [Burnaby Lake] I ascertained to be by the River [Brunette River] about 6 miles [9.6 km]. The river is exceedingly tortuous in its course, and its stage at the time that I proceeded up it was very low, but perfectly navigable for small canoes; the portages, owing to the fallen timber, are numerous; but these obstacles might easily be removed.

The Lake is two miles and a half in length [4 km] by one in breadth [1.6 km] and the deepest part that I could find, I sounded at two fathoms [12 ft. = 3.6 metres], its entire shores are also very swampy — its bearing is N.70 W. from where the Brunette running to the Fraser flows out of it — and is about N.70 W. of Queensborough. On the second day I despatched [*sic.*] Captain Bazalgette, R.M., to reconnoiter the head of the lake [Burnaby Lake] and he discovered a river [Still Creek] which he followed-up on a Westerly course for 3 miles [4.8 km].

This river [Still Creek] runs into a lake [Burnaby Lake] but with an almost imperceptible motion, it is also much deeper than any other part of the latter that I sounded. Its average depth being three fathoms [18 ft. = 5.5 metres], it also winds in small turns of every fifty or sixty yards [45–55 metres] but its general bearing is West, its shores are swampy and covered with alder, its general appearance might be likened to a Canal.

On the same day [19th April 1859] I started with an Indian and two days provisions and took a course due North from the eastern point of the lake over a Mountain [Burnaby Mountain] 600 feet [183 metres] above the level of the sea — covered with dense forest — on reaching the summit I found Burrard's Inlet to be immediately beneath it on the opposite side branching-off into two arms the Southern-most one of which bore to the eastward [Port Moody Arm] and appeared to terminate within a short distance. The Northern most one [Indian Arm] hugging the base of the opposite high range of mountains was shut-out from any observation.

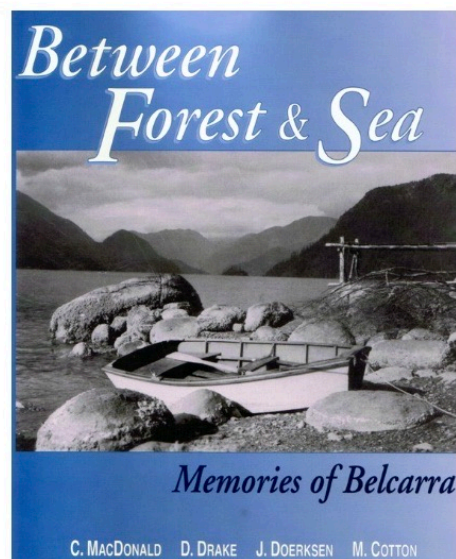
Letter to Colonel Moody cont. on pg. 9

Letter to Colonel Moody cont. from pg. 8

The mountain [Burnaby Mountain] I ascended had an exceedingly steep descent to the Northward the breadth of the inlet was at the broadest part two miles [3.2 km]: observing on this occasion that the mountain a short distance from where I had crossed it terminated abruptly to the Eastward and that a comparatively cleared valley about a mile in width [1.6 km] skirted it in the direction of the Inlet [Burrard Inlet], I devoted my third day to endeavouring to find out the nearest and most direct point from the latter to Queenborough and by returning about a mile and a quarter [2 km] down the river Brunette from the Lake [Burnaby Lake], I entered the valley and found it lead over a perfectly level and nearly cleared country direct to the termination of the Southernmost branch of the inlet [Port Moody Arm] the distance from River [Brunette River] to the latter being about two and a half miles [4 km] and I compute the distance that exists between that part of the river [Brunette River] and Queenborough to be about three miles [4.8 km] in a direct line this would make the nearest point of the Inlet [Burrard Inlet] five and a half miles [8.8 km] from Queenborough.

On the fourth day I tried to get up the River [Still Creek] at the head of the Lake [Burnaby Lake] further than Captain Bazalgette had been but after three miles [4.8 km] the snags were so numerous from the fallen trees that I found the labour of getting the canoe over too great to proceed much further than he had already been, the depth of the River [Still Creek] continued the same at this point — it also flows through a perfectly unbroken valley which heads due West to Burrard Inlet. From the head of the Lake [Burnaby Lake] and the distance across the former I should say to be about eight miles [12.9 km].

I have the Honour to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
G.S. Blake
Lt., R.M.A. [Royal Marine Artillery]



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Down by the Bay

by Clive Evans

Where the birds all sing and the flowers bloom. What have you seen in your garden lately?

The culprits that have been eating all my bean leaves turned out to be a magnificent doe and a well-antlered buck who are using my yard like it is Starbucks with their daily visits. Even when they are encouraged to move on, they are not abashed to make another call later in the day. On the other end of the size scale are the Douglas squirrels prancing up and down the balcony railing chasing off the feeding birds and on occasion each other. A recent encounter of what I thought was a very small dead squirrel on the grass area just turned out to be a squirrel that was having an afternoon nap in the sunshine.

Phlox, Japanese anemones, yellow wax bells, honeysuckle, and buddleia are still in bloom but the conical hydrangea flowers and foliage of the quince are turning to pink. The standard rose is sporting new flower buds.

The wisteria and weigelia flowered for a third time this year, but the agapanthus and acanthus have called it a day. Apples are still in abundance even after supplying neighbours and taking 40 gallons to the food bank.

Doing a bird count each day provides some amusement, watching the pecking order of our feathered friends with the raucous Steller's jays being the most offensive. After a couple of times witnessing a dozen or so group of jays, it had me wondering if there was a particular name for them and it turns out it is a "band of jays", but their collective sounds make lousy music. The hummers are still buzzing about, especially at the few remaining runner bean flowers.

With fall approaching, our furry friends are stocking up for their long hibernation and the chances are you will see a bear in its underwear.

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Thunder Bay

By Klaus Bever

We always spend time in Thunder Bay. In part, this is a willing requirement given to family living there and some of it is simply reverie from having lived there. We prefer staying in Historic Fort William, a reconstruction of a fur trading post still on the Kaministiquia River, but moved to the rural west of the city. The original fort site is noted by a brass plaque in the south east end of Thunder Bay, in front of the original CPR yards and largely undiscoverable to most tourists.

My family had connection to that original site. It was fertile ground to immigrants from post-war Europe, immigrants like us. The East End, as it was known, was old, poorly-maintained, and largely isolated on the other side of the CPR tracks. It was an area with lower property values. As immigrants moved in, the area became densely populated. Housing was on narrow shallow rectangular lots with lanes behind. Houses were three stories high and filled as much of the property as possible, allowing for side paths and backyards. These spare backyards were orderly, fenced, and in summer, completely filled by vegetable gardens and raspberry canes. Dogs and cats were out front and street smart. There were very few cars. Horse drawn dairy and bread carts appeared daily during the week and the streets were filled with families, on foot, going to church for Saturday masses and Sunday services. It was a vibrant atmosphere where you were cheerily and often greeted in Italian, Polish, Ukrainian, Portuguese, and German. Occasionally, in English.

There was a richness of spirit and experience in the East End that could not easily endure.

Most of those who lived there were ambitious new or near-new Canadians who, as quickly as possible, learned that their effort was amply rewarded with access to a life rarely accessible in their former European homes. With their growing young families, most left this historic site in the East End to find larger plots in the bustle on the other, newer side, of the tracks. Here, where Fort William began, the churches remained. They were kept company by converted or boarded storefronts where butchers, bakers, and hard-working folks made their lives and futures. Some remained and later some returned.

My father, a doctor, had built much of his early family practice from this area and many of our friends lived there. In winter, with snow piled high, my father made house calls to many in that neighbourhood. And our dinner table was given over to the handiwork and food that came from that place. Inevitably, as the years and decades moved forward, the folks from that era, like mine, found other places to rest.

As Dayna and I leave Thunder Bay, we always see family and share a breakfast of Finnish pancakes, eggs, coffee, and much love.

Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, October 26
at 7 PM

Location TBA

costume party!



HEY KIDS!

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THE HAUNTED HALL IN
YOUR SPOOKIEST
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SUN

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VILLAGE NEWS

The Belcarra Garden Club

By Les Bramley



Finn, Stevie & Cedar - Photo by Deneige Davis

Our last meeting for 2023 will be held on Monday October 16th at 2pm at the Belcarra Picnic Shelters.

We will do our annual plant and seed exchange.

Our two trips this year worked out well. We all learned quite a bit from the four different businesses we toured; the owners certainly knew their fields of expertise.

Our enthusiastic members at the September meeting chose three trips for 2024. We will publish where and when in our trusty Barnacle next year.

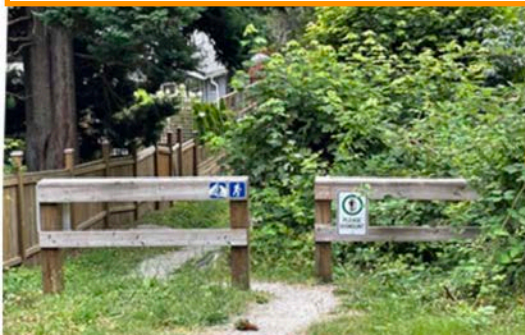
We will take the winter off and resume our BGC meetings in April.

HAPPY GARDENING !

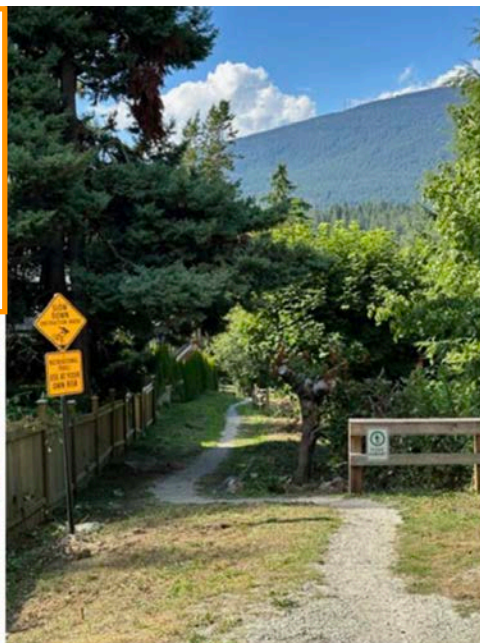
To become a member, please contact us at
604-937-7103 or
email: lesbramley@shaw.ca
Membership is free.

Watson Trail Gate Update By Colleen MacDonald

At the top of the Watson Trail, connecting Bedwell Bay Road to Marine Avenue, the restrictive gate has been removed. This improves accessibility for many.



BEFORE



NOW

hello
FALL



CRAB Corner

Well done Villagers! What a great Potluck Picnic in the park. Thank you Deborah Struk for hosting and all the folks who helped out and made the day a success. Special thanks to Irene Vanderspek, Steve and Ian Marchese, Fraser and Cathy MacDonald, and Michael and Alyson Wall for your help with set-up and clean-up. Thank you Lynn Jagger for your cute 'love bugs'. A bug loved by both kids and adults! Thank you to our MC, Dan Greenwood, and to Andrea Jauck for leading us in a crowd breaker activity. This was our fifth time hosting and it continues to be a great casual gathering of friends and neighbours. With so many good cooks in our wee Village, we will have to start a collection of famous (and delicious) Belcarra picnic recipes.

This month, CRAB is hosting a Hallowe'en and Costume party for kids. It is on Sunday, the 29th from 1 to 3 pm. There will be games, candy, baked treats, and (hopefully!) pumpkin carving. Please bring your wee ones out for some fun. Costumes required! We are looking for volunteers to help with the party. We need folks to decorate, supervise the games, give out treats, carve some pumpkins, and help with clean up.

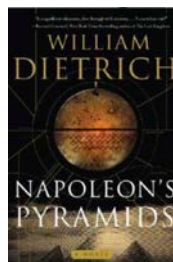
Fireworks in the park are planned for Hallowe'en night (fire conditions permitting). Watch Belcarra Together (Facebook) and your email for further information.

Thank you to those who have reserved space at our Market and Art Fair. The fair is to be held on Sunday, November 12. There is still space and time to reserve a spot. Come out and share your work and help your neighbours with their holiday shopping.



Napoleon's Pyramids by William Dietrich

Think "Indiana Jones with Napoleon as he invades Egypt". Early in his career, Napoleon invaded Egypt with scientists as well as soldiers. Against this backdrop, the book is full of improbable adventures and last minute escapes. A rollicking read. (cscape)



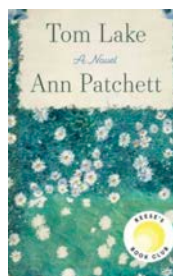
Homecoming by Kate Morton

A great read. Set in Australia, the author weaves a fantastic story with a very intriguing ending. (CM)



Tom Lake by Ann Patchett

While cherry picking in Michigan, her daughters beg to hear their mother's life story. From actress to seamstress, from New Hampshire to New York, from relationships with the famous to living with her grandmother, until finally she settles down with the man of her dreams. You'll laugh; you'll cry; and above all, you'll love Lara Nelson. (CG)





Kidz Zone



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Some Fun Facts about Thanksgiving!

*(Not actually fact
checked!)*

Did you know that turkey wasn't on the menu for the first Thanksgiving?

Pumpkins and cranberries were served at the first dinner (but not pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce!)

The first American Thanksgiving feast was three days long!

In Canada, the first Thanksgiving was originally celebrated to give blessing and thanks for the harvest from the preceding year.

Canada has celebrated Thanksgiving as a national holiday since 1879.

The United States celebrates their Thanksgiving in November. Canada celebrates in October.

In Québec, Thanksgiving is called 'action de grâce'.



Annular Solar Eclipse

Quoted from the
Government of Canada Space Agency (CSA)

Very important! Looking directly at the sun, without appropriate protection, can lead to serious problems such as partial or complete loss of eyesight.

There are four to seven solar or lunar eclipses per year, but only those people along the path of an eclipse are able to see it.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon comes between the earth and the sun, casting a shadow on earth.

For an annular eclipse: the moon is closer to the sun; hence the moon appears smaller than the sun. A ring of light from the sun is always visible.

On October 14, 2023, an annular solar eclipse will be visible in Western Canada.

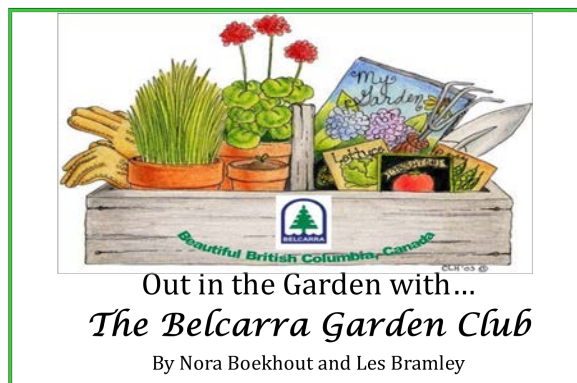
During any solar eclipse, it is imperative to wear special glasses with filters designed for eclipse watching (ISO 12312-2 international standard) to prevent eye damage. Regular sunglasses will not protect your eyes sufficiently.

For more information visit:

<https://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/astronomy/eclipses/solar-eclipses.asp#>



Artist's rendition of an annular solar eclipse. (Credit: CSA)



Fruits and Shoots Plant Farm

Jack Oostenbrink, a lifelong grower, really knows which plants do well in the Fraser Valley! A big difference is that his nursery's focus is on the home gardener. Large commercial growers often use hormones and fertilizers to produce fast-growing, early blooming plants. The buyer then wonders why their purchases don't perform as well in the home garden. Jack likes to bring in different, sometimes unusual, plants as bare roots or seeds, often from Holland or Europe. It may take years before the plants are ready for sale. Instead of chemicals, he uses the no-till method for his veggies, along with nutrient rich compost. We were amazed when he proudly showed off his huge onions, garlic, and the "red torpedo onion". Jack finished off our visit with some useful tips for fruit trees. The key to a great fruit tree is to summer prune in June! It was a great look "behind the scenes" of a nursery and we could tell how dedicated Jack is to bringing harmony, art, and nature into the garden.

The Local Harvest Market

Dan Oostenbrink lives and breathes "sustainable farming" on his 37 acres! This family business prides itself on intensive food production with a 100% local base. They are a "no-till, no spray, carbon-sequestering, soil-regenerative farm."

High end restaurants look for his uncommon and truly organic products. Dan shared five important keynotes.

1. Incorporate all the biodiversity of the wilderness.
2. Cover the ground with decomposing, decaying plant material.
3. Cover the ground with living plants all the time.
4. Do succession planting.
5. Water frequently and in short bursts.



We saw greenhouses with 10,000 sweet potatoes, Peruvian ginger, giant tomato plants, chickens, and turkeys! One problem in North America, Dan said, is that food has to look perfect so a lot of his produce goes to alternate venues. Cantaloupes, for example, are best when they have a little crack in the skin! We saw huge fields of sunflowers, melons, herbs, sorrel, Uchiki Kuri, Kabocha and Delicata squash, cabbages, broccoli, and so much more! His compost piles were enormous! (He sells compost and also red wriggler worms.) Dan finished our visit with a special treat... getting to see his magnificent Scottish Highland cattle! Barefoot Dan and his biodiverse, bountiful farm are amazing! Dan also co-teaches an organic gardening course with his brother, Jack. ~ Jack and Dan are in Chilliwack.

Hammerhead Flatworm

Be on the lookout for this nasty guy! It has appeared in the USA and eastern Canada. It lives in cool, moist, dark soil. It is toxic, so do not touch it!



Contact BC invasives
1-877-952-7277

Full articles and links are on our webpage:
<http://tinyurl.com/rwcf9b85>



Belcarra Blessings

Deborah Struk

October and Thanksgiving, it is time to be thankful! That being said, should we not continually be thankful? What are you thankful for?

I am thankful for:

- the rain after a dry summer
- sunshine on a cloudy day
- living in a community where we can smile, say hello, encourage one another, have intelligent conversation, and be ourselves
- the ability to see, touch, smell, hear, and 'sometimes' taste the wonderfulness of living in a place with a bounty of creation. Isn't it powerful and refreshing to experience the sights and sounds of the forest and the ocean? Are we not blessed to be able to grab a paddle, a bike, or walking shoes and hit the trails or water in a matter of minutes!
- the freedom to choose where to hike, shop, have coffee, travel, and which books to read
- the ability to phone, Facetime, or otherwise communicate with those far away
- being able to help those in need at food banks, on the streets, or at a shelter; there is always someone to help somewhere
- the amazing gifted and talented people in Belcarra
- the spectacular and diverse views and scenery from people's yards in Belcarra.

It truly is amazing how different and beautiful each property is

- the Bible, the words of life that fill one's soul, a constant source of treasure, speaking of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, in the flesh. He is our living hope in this crazy world.
- the Belcarra Garden Club: the laughter, the sharing of gardening tips, seeds, seedlings, and so much more (Thank you Les and Kathy)
- the many friends and acquaintances in Belcarra and beyond
- the short 15 minute drive to a sports facility, grocery shopping, coffee shops, church, library, and so much more
- being so close to many hikes, the ocean, and two fresh water lakes
- music and colour! Imagine a world without music or colour!
- gatherings like the Belcarra Potluck Picnic, Belcarra Day, Pub Nights, Kid's Hallowe'en, Carol Ships, and more
- our ability to see, experience, and question the world about us. I often think about how horrible it is in war-torn countries or those living under dictatorships
- driving home, you get to the 'Y', hang left and leave the busyness behind
- leaving the village: the fabulous, amazing view driving northeast down the Evans/Foster/Van Staaldunin/Lewendon hill (the hill probably has a different name)

Many blessings to be thankful for.

Have an amazing Thanksgiving.



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abledrain@shaw.ca

Grandpa Ian Devlin Abroad!

By Ian Devlin

Grandpa Ian Devlin has survived a 20-day tour of Scotland, London, and Paris; desperately trying to keep up with a frantic pace set by his daughter, Christina, and grandchildren. I was fortunate to be included in the Scotland tour of Highland Games along with the 16 parents and grandparents who accompanied the 11 dancers from Medicine Hat Diamond V Highland Dance Academy. The dancers' levels ranged from beginners to premiers and many of them returned with awards.

Signing on for this family trip resulted in several unexpected challenges to overcome.

- Hostel close living and sleeping in a bunk bed.

- Walking an average of 20,000 steps per day (apart from travel days which were often over 10,000 steps). The most active day on the whole trip began with the train to visit the Falkirk Wheel, then off to visit the Edinburgh Castle, and then attend the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in the evening. This was the daily maximum of 30,000 steps in one day.

- Using virtual tickets for all my travel as I was responsible for transportation. My phone seemed to get me onto planes, trains, and busses without any trouble. Just had to make sure the battery was charged.

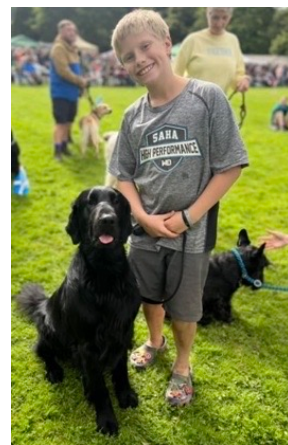
I am very proud of my Granddaughter, Madelynn Reesor, as one of the eleven dancers.



She placed top three in various dances in three of the four Highland Games and I watched while she placed second in the sword in both Aberlour and Keith Games. She placed top three in Skye as well.

The dancers attended four competitions and three workshops with world class instructors. The trip was a chance to show the kids where their form of dance comes from, explained their Dance Teacher, Lee Vossler. They learned about the history of Scotland, in addition to the history of highland dancing.

My Grandson, James, made friends with a local dog at the Aberlour Games and together they won first prize in the dog show. He also won the 11 to 15 year old foot race wearing only his Crocs for shoes.



Three of our dancers returned as trophy winners. Scout Knapik won two overall awards and Katelynn Sheppard and Macey Marchand also won overall winner awards. All of the students came home with many impressive finishes. "They all won just so many placings that I can't even count," recalls the dance teacher. "They showed their best side."



Continued on pg. 21

Ian Devlin cont. from pg. 20

Our group visited three Scottish Castles - Sterling, Edinburgh, and Dunvegan. Dunvegan Castle is the home of the 27th MacLeod of MacLeod (a traditional name for a clan chief).

We also stopped to visit the Culloden Battlefield - site of the Culloden Moor where the Jacobite uprising on April 16, 1746, led by Bonnie Prince Charlie, was a poignant moment in Scottish history. Our dancers performed a dance on the lawn for the entertainment of the tourists. The small building behind the dancers was the "hospital" for 200 wounded Government troops during the battle.

Making sure that everyone had enough steps, some adventurous folks hiked the stunning 2.4km walk uphill from the car park to the Fairy Pools via the gravel path bordered with grass, heather, peat, and rocks up towards the largest waterfall.

The water of the Fairy Pools is crystal-clear, perfect for any adventurous swimmers brave enough to enter the icy waters (like my daughter Christina and her son James).

Leaving the group in Stirling, our family took the bullet train from Edinburgh to London to join my son Aaron and his family. Everyone enjoyed the sights in London, where we used the Thames River Hop-on Hop-off cruise to save steps and still see all the various historical locations, including Buckingham Palace.



Think FireSmart! Fall Tips for your Home By Colleen MacDonald

Tip #1: Move or remove plants away from the house, especially junipers, yew, and cedar hedges which are highly flammable. Safety Officer Jeff Pont says, "It is a lot of work to remove them. However, it is also a lot of work to rebuild a burnt home."



Tip #2: Replace bark mulch with pea gravel or stone to create a non-flammable perimeter surface.

Tip #3: Plant fire smart plants 1.5 metres (5 feet) or further from any structure.

For more information on how to protect your home and neighbourhood, visit <https://firesmartbc.ca/>





Letter to the Editor

Overly Impressed Or Distressed

By Dave Warren

Recently, about a dozen Belcarrians including myself attended a Fire Trustees meeting at our Village Hall. We all had different perspectives and interpretations and maybe insights resulting from our observations. The following comments are only my personal thoughts of the dramatic proceedings.

A few remarks mentioned impressed me to write this brief. The chair indicated a decision would be reached at the meeting. The Trustees unanimously agreed to purchase jackets for the fire department and a generator for the Anmore fire hall. If a larger financial decision was made, it was resolved in camera after the general public was dismissed.

I was impressed with the mayor of Anmore's statement how their Village hall was being rebuilt with grants from the provincial government.

And I was most impressed that it appears he expects Belcarrians to pay 50 percent of the funding of Anmore's planned grandiose fire hall before they might modify the Volunteer Fire Department to house full-time paid fire fighters.

The point of this rant is to remind folks that when the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department was commissioned, both Anmore and Belcarra were villages. Now the tiny Village of Belcarra is no longer in the same league as the growing town of Anmore. I believe the courts would recognize that the spirit of the original SVFD contract became redundant with the evolution of time and modification of Anmore.

It might be time for the Village of Belcarra to host town hall meetings and possibly a referendum prior to committing millions of dollars to finance any fire halls, especially one in Anmore.

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ALTERATIONS

I've yet to meet a challenge too difficult, so don't be afraid to drop by to see if I can help with fitting or stylistic details that need a revamp!

I'm usually in the studio from 9-5, and can be available evenings and weekends. Just let me know what time is best for you!

Call Barbara
604-936-8495
or email: bshelly@shaw.ca



RALPH DREW: HISTORY TALK AND BOOK RELEASE

Wednesday, October 11, 2023
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

POMO Museum
2734 Murray Street, Port Moody, BC,

Register at:
<https://ralphdrewpomo.eventbrite.ca>

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My constituency office is here to address the needs of the community and I encourage you to reach out if you require assistance.

BONITA ZARRILLO

Member of Parliament | Députée
Port Moody-Coquitlam, Anmore, Belcarra

What my Community Office can help you with:

- Address issues you may be having with federal ministries or agencies
- Provide information on locating government services and contact information
- Assist in understanding government policies and services
- Receive information to attend community events
- Advocate on behalf of the community to government
- Provide congratulatory and greeting messages
- Provide government documents and other web-based forms if you don't have internet access

Contact

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