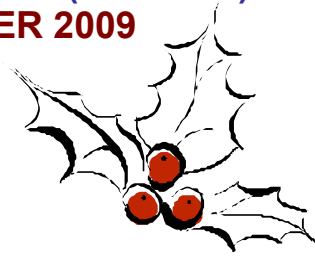


**OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY
RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA)
INFORMATION UPDATE DECEMBER 2009**

**WISHING EVERYONE
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A SAFE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**



The Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association (OPSRRA) is a registered non-profit society with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of its members to local government. OPSRRA was founded in 1992 and has a membership of about **375**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley and Otter Point is eligible for membership.

Lifetime memberships cost \$5.00 per person and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site (www.opsrra.ca) for further information and on-line registration. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley or Otter Point, but who wish to support the Association.

The purpose of our society is to:

- Ensure that the development of the two communities of Shirley and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
- Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
- Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
- Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
- Promote community spirit and sense of identity by organizing or supporting appropriate activities.

Are you an OPSRRA member? Do you want to receive the OPSRRA newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? OPSRRA now e-mails this newsletter to over **245** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: d.acampbell@shaw.ca if you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Arnie Campbell President
Phone: 250-642-3113
Email: d.acampbell@shaw.ca

Wayne Fritz Vice-President
Phone: 250-642-0440
Email: wlfritz@shaw.ca

Bob Philips Treasurer
Phone: 250-642-3297
Email: bother@telus.net

Sandy Barta Director
Email: sbarta@shaw.ca
Erik James Director
Phone: 250-642-6368
Email: mekjames@telus.net

John Charles Director
Phone: 250-642-0382
Brenda Mark Director
Phone: 250-646-2598
Email dexmar@horizon.bc.ca

Fiona McDannold Director
Phone: 250-646-2730
Email: fmcdannold@xplornet.com

IN THIS ISSUE

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS.....	3
2. OTTER POINT VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION CANDY CANE RUN.....	6
3. SHIRLEY LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE.....	7
4. METCHOSIN NOT PROCEEDING WITH EAST SOOKE BOUNDARY RESTRUCTURE; GOVERNANCE STUDY FOR SHIRLEY AND OTTER POINT POSSIBLE.....	8
5. APPOINTMENTS TO JDFEA BOARD OF VARIANCE.....	9
6. RURAL RESOURCE LANDS PUBLIC HEARING.....	9
7. PUBLIC HEARING: DETACHED SECONDARY SUITES.....	10
8. JDFEA PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REQUESTING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONERS.....	10
9. ARE YOU GETTING YOUR \$5.00 WORTH?.....	10
10. DID YOU KNOW THAT	13
11. FREE SMALL BUSINESS LISTING ON OPSRRA'S WEB SITE.....	14
12. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER.....	15

1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Arnie Campbell at: d.acampbell@shaw.ca or 642-3113 to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

Wednesday
December 2 **Sooke & Electoral Area Recreation Commission (SEAPARC) Monthly Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Saturday
December 5 **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike Silver Spray to Iron Mine Bay in East Sooke**
9:30 a.m.

Drive out to the end of East Sooke Road and on to meet at the gate at the end of Silver Spray Drive.

This is a 2 to 3 hour hike on forest trails. Dress for the weather and carry a snack.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Sunday
December 6 **Sooke Region Museum Moss Cottage Christmas**

Free family event

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Snowman building, hot beverages, roasted nuts, entertainment and more!

Call the Museum for more information: 250.642.6351



Sunday
December 6 **Celtic Reflections**
return to **Ocean Wilderness Inn:**
a concert of classical guitar and harp



Join us for music celebrating
the magic of our winter season

5:30 to 6:45 p.m. pre-concert pot luck supper
Bring a dish to share and your own choice of beverage for the evening.

Music starts 7:00 p.m.

Limited space. Please call or email (and remind your friends to call or email) for tickets soon:

250.646.2116

stay@oceanwildernessinn.com

Cost: \$15

Sunday
December 6 **Beach Clean up at Jordan River**
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Organized by the Vancouver Island Surfriders,
Vancouver Island Chapter.
Information:
www.surfrider.org/vancouverisland

Monday
December 7 **Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission (APC)
meeting**
7:00 p.m.
Otter Point Fire Hall
Agenda: application for ammendment—Orveas Bay Estates

Tuesday
December 8 **Otter Point Fire Trustees
Annual General Meeting**
7:30 p.m.
Otter Point Fire Hall

Wednesday
December 9 **OPSRRA Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting**
Members welcome!
7:30 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Tuesday
November 17 **JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)
Monthly Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
District of Sooke Council Chambers
2225 Otter Point Road
Sooke BC
You can obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting on
the CRD website at: www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm
Click on “Agenda” at the top of the page.

Tuesday
December 15 **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission**
Monthly Meeting
5:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Services Office
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

**Saturday
December 19 Otter Point Fire Department
Candy Cane Run**
See route details in item number 2 and
advertised in the Sooke News Mirror
and on Sooke Food Bank collection bags
provided by Western Foods.



2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Friday
January 1

Polar Bear Swim
Sponsored by the Otter
Point Firefighters
Association



Register by 11:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m. start
Whiffin Spit Park, Sooke BC

Saturday
January 2

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Sooke Potholes Campground to the Leech River

9:30 a.m.

Meet at the upper parking lot No. 2 and convoy to the
campground.

In case the road is closed because of extreme weather, we
will meet before the closure, hike another section of the
Goose and reschedule for Saturday, February 6.

The Galloping Goose has reopened to the Kapoor Park
Reserve at Leechtown.

The Land Conservancy has kindly given us permission to park
in their campground beyond the Sooke Regional Potholes
Park.

We request that you make a donation to The Land
Conservancy as a thank you.

Parking at the campground makes this a gentle eight
kilometre round trip on level ground with a unique opportunity
to see the wild nature of the Sooke River in winter.

Dress for the weather and bring a snack.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email
sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Wednesday
January 6

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission
(SEAPARC) Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Mondays

Karate for all ages

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Tuesdays

Yoga

6:30 p.m.




















Shirley Community Hall

Thursdays **Shirley Quilters and Crafters**
 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Shirley Community Hall
 Everyone welcome
 Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

2. OTTER POINT VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION CANDY CANE RUN

The Otter Point Volunteer Fire Firefighters Association sponsors an annual trip through Otter Point with Santa Claus atop their decorated fire truck. Donations for the Sooke Food Bank welcomed. Walk to the end of your driveway and enjoy for 10 to 15 minutes!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

TIME	ROUTE
START 5:00 p.m.	 Sarah Drive, Helen Place, Patricia Marie Place
	 2900 block Otter Point Road to Young's Lake Road
	 Up Young's Lake Road to Poirier Road and back to Otter Point Road
	 Otter Point Road to Robinson Road, to Tugwell Road
	 Tugwell Road to Michelson Road (entire length)
	 Tugwell Road to Goudie Road (entire length)
5:45 p.m. approximately	 Otter Point Road to and up Amanda Road and back to Otter Point Road
	 Otter Point Road to end of King Road (entire length) to Corby Ridge (entire length) and back to Otter Point Road
	 Otter Point Road to end of Otter Point Place (entire length) and back to Otter Point Road and down to West Coast Road
6:30 p.m. approximately	 West Coast Road towards Sooke to Olympic Place (entire length)
	 Through Well O'Veary mobile home park (entire park) at 8177 West Coast Road
	 Up Otter Ridge Drive (entire length) to Taylor Place (entire length) and back to West Coast Road
	 Otter Point Road to Robinson Road, to Tugwell Road
	 West Coast Road to Olympic View mobile home park (entire park)
	 West Coast Road to Carpenter Road
	 Carpenter Road (entire length) to Delrae (entire length)
	 Back to West Coast Road to Kemp Lake Road
7:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. approximately	 Kemp Lake Road to Milligan (entire length) and back to Kemp Lake Road
	 Kemp Lake Road to Otter Point Road and back to the Fire Hall



3. SHIRLEY LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE

Ender Ilkay, the owner of Sheringham Estates has erected a private communications tower on his property on Sheringham Road in Shirley. The tower will be used to bring high-speed internet service to his development. He is also pursuing getting one of the cell phone companies to place their equipment on the tower too. If that happens then there would be a case for a tower being erected in Otter Point so that the west end of Otter Point could be on cell phone service without going to roam. All of this is consistent with one of the recommendations in the [Otter Point, Shirley & Jordan River Strategic Vision](#) report.

With the pending introduction of high-speed internet to one part of Shirley there is a local initiative to have the company doing the installation extend the service to other parts of that community. OPSRRA was asked to support this effort. We sent the following information to ComTech which is seeking provincial government assistance to off-set some of the installation cost. ComTech recently brought internet service to Port Renfrew with Provincial financial help.

The Otter Point, Shirley & Jordan River Developing a Strategic Vision project identified the need to improve telecommunications infrastructure. This problem was most acute in the communities of Shirley and Jordan River where access to the internet is limited and often unreliable. Many rural residents operate home-based businesses which depend on access to the internet. Cell phone coverage in the area west of Sooke is random and usually depends on towers in Washington State for coverage: an expensive and frustrating option. Marine businesses operating on the Strait of Juan de Fuca and travellers attracted to the remote areas of the community for hiking, camping or fishing depend on cell phone service as a convenience and for safety.

Shirley residents have identified the following problems:

- High speed internet is not available west of Otter Point and Shaw has no plans to extend their service.
- Dial-up service is the most common internet access and is available through Telus. It is slow and frequently out of service during the winter because of storm damage.
- Telus equipment in use in Shirley and Jordan River is too old to accommodate some of the newer and quicker internet technology.
- A satellite service is available and is used by about 20 residences but it is expensive and can be slow and unreliable due to weather conditions and other satellite "problems".
- Difficulties occur with both the dial-up and satellite services when uploading and downloading large files and in accessing more complex web sites. Interactive web sites are very difficult if not impossible to use.
- The present system is not just inconvenient. Many internet users work from home and several have to be on-line for overseas and inter-Canadian projects. The local internet often slows them down and breaks in service and slow speeds can mean multiple attempts to successfully complete uploads and downloads.
- Often users can't make contact or lose important on-line discussions. For example, Skype is often impossible to use and joint internet discussion with

business colleagues often breaks down when viewing demonstrations and the like on line.

- Keeping-up email contacts for social and family needs is difficult.
- The Shirley Fire Department needs dependable and affordable internet access to keep them connected to the 9-1-1 Dispatch Centre in Langford so that when the volunteer crews arrive at the fire hall there will be a map print-out, available through the internet, of where the 9-1-1 call originated. This service requires a static IP address which is not available using Xplornet Satellite services. The cost of maintaining an alternate 24/7 service would be prohibitive for a small, volunteer fire department.
- Having a dependable and affordable emergency communications system in Shirley and Jordan River would also enhance communications between other emergency services and the fire department.
- Access to the internet has become a standard part of the school curriculum for both children and adults.

4. METCHOSIN NOT PROCEEDING WITH EAST SOOKE BOUNDARY RESTRUCTURE; GOVERNANCE STUDY FOR SHIRLEY AND OTTER POINT POSSIBLE

The District of Metchosin recently decided not to proceed with Phase 2 of the Metchosin/East Sooke boundary restructure study, at this time. The reason they have given is that Provincial treaty negotiations with the Beecher Bay First Nations should be concluded first.

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director Mike Hicks has followed-up on this announcement by writing the Minister of Community and Rural Development requesting that the money already allocated to Phase 2 of the Metchosin/ East Sooke study be redirected to either the Salt Spring Island incorporation study or an Otter Point and Shirley governance options study. Funding for an Otter Point and Shirley governance options study was tentatively agreed to by the Province last winter but the offer was withdrawn following the May 2009 elections because of province-wide budget restrictions. The Salt Spring Island incorporation study has priority within the CRD but it is unlikely that it could take place within the current municipal/regional director election cycle—a Provincial requirement for such studies. In the meantime the Metchosin/East Sooke Boundary Restructure Committee hasn't been disbanded.

Last month's OPSRRA newsletter contained a commentary on the Provincial **Regional District Task Force** report. This document is being worked on by a joint provincial/regional district committee under the auspices of the Union of B.C. Municipalities and includes suggestions for some new approaches to governance in electoral areas. The opportunity to have a governance study happen in 2010 which could consider these additional options would be welcomed.

The **Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River Developing a Strategic Vision** project had previously identified the following governance options:

- Allowing voters in an electoral area being able to elect both the regional director and the alternate (presently appointed by the elected regional director after the election).
- Allowing more populated (5,000+) electoral areas to elect two regional directors.

- For larger electoral areas with more complex land use issues, electing an Electoral Body (EA) of 3 to 5 members who would in turn elect the regional director and alternate from amongst their members. The EA would replace the Advisory Planning Commissions and Land Use Committee and would be delegated some land use decision authority by the CRD Board.

5. APPOINTMENTS TO JDFEA BOARD OF VARIANCE

Under Section 899 of the Provincial Local Government Act a local government that has adopted a zoning bylaw or a rural land use bylaw must establish a Board of Variance. The CRD Board appoints three residents of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area to a Board of Variance for East Sooke, Shirley and Otter Point. The purpose of the Board is to hear appeals of hardship as described under Section 901 of the Act and to consider granting exemption to the relevant zoning or land use bylaw.

The CRD Board made appointments to the East Sooke, Shirley and Otter Point Board of Variance at its October 2009 meeting to fill expired positions. Local residents Paul Clarkston, Axel Joosting and Greg Whincup were appointed until September 2012.

6. RURAL RESOURCE LANDS PUBLIC HEARING

The JDFEA Land Use Committee (LUC) voted on November 17 to recommend to the CRD Board that the proposed Rural Resource Land Use Bylaw and Rural Resource Land Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw, with the amendments discussed at the November 17 meeting, be given second reading by the CRD Board. The CRD Board is scheduled to vote on the proposed bylaws at their December 9 meeting. At the moment, only the CRD directors who sit on the JDFEA Land Use Committee A are entitled to vote on these bylaws. However, a decision may be made at the December 2 meeting as to whether all CRD directors will be allowed to vote on the bylaws.

These two proposed bylaws have been the subject of extensive consultations with the community over the past two years and have been repeatedly changed in response to public comment. Information about the proposed bylaws is available on the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area web site: www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm. Detailed maps and other information are also available on this site. The bylaws can also be obtained from the JDFEA Planning Services Office (2-6868 West Coast Road) in Sooke. Once given second reading, the bylaws will go to public hearing. No date had been set for the public hearings but they are expected to happen later in January.

The public hearings are an opportunity for those regional directors who will be voting on the bylaws to hear final comment. Anyone who considers themselves affected by the proposed bylaws has to be given a reasonable chance to present their comments at the public hearings. However the public hearings are not intended to further debate or otherwise engage in discussion of the bylaws.

OPSRRA has requested that all of the regional directors who will be voting on the two bylaws be in attendance at the public hearings. Regional Director Hicks has agreed to this request and will extend the invitation.

OPSRRA directors will be deciding at their December 9 directors' meeting whether OPSRRA should be speaking to the bylaws (or not) at the public hearings. OPSRRA members will be informed of the nature of any comment prior to the scheduled public hearings.

Unless the public hearing indicates substantial changes are still required, the bylaws will then be given third reading and be sent for review and approval by the

Ministry of Community Development. After the Ministry approves them, the bylaws will be adopted by the CRD and may then take effect.

7. PUBLIC HEARING: DETACHED SECONDARY SUITES

The JDFEA Land Use Committee (LUC) recommended amendments to the proposed bylaw to amend Bylaw 2040, the Sooke Land Use Bylaw 1992 to accommodate having a detached accessory suite on some properties in some zones in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. Changes from the original proposal include allowing both a B&B and a detached secondary suite, greater maximum height of the accessory building and removal of the need to register a covenant acknowledging that having a secondary suite would in no way confer a right to subdivide.

Details of the proposed amendments are available on the JDFEA web site: www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm. The bylaw can also be obtained from the JDFEA Planning Services Office (2-6868 West Coast Road) in Sooke. Once given second reading by the CRD the bylaw will go to public hearing. No date had been set for the public hearings but it is expected to happen later in January.

OPSRRA directors will be deciding at their December 9 directors' meeting whether OPSRRA should be speaking to the bylaw (or not) at the public hearing. OPSRRA members will be informed of the nature of any comment prior to the scheduled public hearings.

8. JDFEA PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REQUESTING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONERS

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission requires local residents willing to volunteer to be commissioners. Commissioners are appointed from each community in the electoral area for a two year period. When an appointment expires there is a requirement to advertise for expressions of interest even though the incumbent might wish to be re-appointed. The JDFEA Parks & Recreation Commission has submitted the following to the OPSRRA newsletter.

9. ARE YOU GETTING YOUR \$5.00 WORTH?

There has been a very sparse response to the questionnaires sent to all members asking their opinion on some possible future changes with OPSRRA. At the moment there are some good suggestions but not enough responses to consider taking any action. There is still time to submit your comments; if enough are received the directors will consider bringing some recommendations to the March 2010 Annual General Meeting.

Here is a summary of the responses received as of November 30:

Consolidated replies: 9 responses; only two responses with comments.

1. Should we consider adding or deleting activities?

Yes: 3 No: 3 No comment: 3

Suggestions:

In case of controversial issues consult members before voicing opinion.

As we are small in numbers to govern ourselves, continue to fight disorganized development such as private forest lands.

Providing membership and others with updates on the situation with Emergency Preparedness within the areas

No more “in camera meetings”
[Note: All directors' meetings are open to the membership and dates are advertised in this newsletter.]

You're doing great – thank you for all the good work.

2. Are there different ways we should be going about our business?

Yes: 2 No: 4 No comment: 3

Suggestions:

- Holding more membership meetings?
- Holding meetings at a different time of the day or week?

Have more meetings on specific topics.

Hold forums to ensure community understands issues (i.e. zoning, 4 on 10).

Consider renewing memberships dues each year to ensure membership is up-to-date and accurate and more involved.

Membership cost be \$5.00 each year.

Need more money to advertise.

Somehow encourage others to become active, through tasks and activities, perhaps recreational, community clean-ups etc.

Meetings Mondays to Fridays, between 8 AM and 5 PM

3. Should we ask members to volunteer to help the elected directors manage the day-to-day affairs of the association through committees?

Yes: 6 No: 2 Maybe: 1

Comments:

Members should be active in voting for directors and vote their opinion.

You could try asking.

Maybe, but it is always hard to get volunteers.

It would encourage participation and awareness.

4. Should we set up membership committees to review OPSRRA's participation at the upcoming public hearings for the Rural Resource Lands OCP and Land Use Bylaws, the Otter Point and Shirley/Jordan River OCPs and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Zoning Bylaw?

Yes: 4 No: 3 Maybe: 1 No comment: 1

Comments:

Yes, it would help OPSRRA gain a political stance on issues instead of being so inconclusive that they have no real vision/direction.

OPSRRA should be a united voice contrary to the BCLA.

Maybe, but it is always hard to get volunteers.

Could this not be done at membership meetings?

Most definitely.

5. Should we host an annual community event such as a festival or community picnic?

Yes: 7 No: 1 No comment: 1

Comments:

Only if new volunteers come forward.

Idea of yearly festival is good. Could focus on local businesses, but should not compete with local events such as Shirley Days. Perhaps a focus on Muir Creek?

It was well attended when held in the past.

Perhaps a potluck picnic.

6. Should the association expand its geographic area to include Jordan River?

Yes: 4 No: 3 No comment: 2

Comments:

Yes, if residents of Jordan River are interested.

A good idea if the people there would like to join.

7. How can we expand our membership?

Please list your suggestions:

More town hall meetings. More consultation regarding controversial issues. More "middle of the road" approach instead of being notorious "naysayers". This turns-off existing members and helps keep away new members. Be positive and try to find solutions instead of always being against something.

Local community beach clean-ups

Community picnic day.

Consider having annual membership dues to allow for more resources to facilitate events, meetings, picnics, etc.

The directors have done very well indeed, selflessly working many hours. We appreciate what you have done and suggest only that you plough ahead.

Have info tables at community events such as craft fairs, fall fair, etc.

Develop means of getting more community members involved through tasks and activities such as recreational and community cleanups. I am not sure how the organization can maintain itself without some kind of minimal annual fee ... and it would regularly provide a real indication of the degree of support of OPSRRA within the community. Like any volunteer organization, expanding membership and encouraging greater participation is important to help take the workload off the few really dedicated folks.

Deny special interest groups to wrongfully be in charge on issues that negatively affect Residents and Ratepayers adjacent to all developments/parks, et al, that may be detrimental to their right to enjoy peace and harmony without having to seek legal action to protect their rights.

Comments received that were not in questionnaire.

As a non resident (and associate member) who skims your newsletter mainly for upcoming events, I don't have any constructive comments. But I would like to congratulate you and the others involved in producing this professional and informative newsletter. It puts to shame what is available in many larger places. Keep up the good work!!

Got the questionnaire and have to say we are DEFINITELY getting our \$5.00 worth. I would say more like our \$5000 or maybe even \$50,000 worth!

If it weren't for you and the rest of the dedicated OPSRRA executive, the future of our wonderful rural life in this area would be in jeopardy. It is so good to know that you are keeping your eyes and ears on the politicians and bureaucrats, as well as developers, to ensure that plans for this area are known and can be channeled in as positive a way as possible.

We believe that your proactive actions, especially re: the WFP sale of forest lands, and the strategic planning you initiated, have made a huge difference in protecting our treasured "Wild West Coast".

With regard to the questionnaire, we are still quite new to the area and I don't feel I can add much in terms of detailed recommendations about the OPSRRA process. All I can say is "keep up the good work!"

10. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The Shirley Women's Institute obtained two oak seedlings from England which they planted locally on May 12, 1937 to commemorate the coronation of King George VI? The seedlings were grown from acorns taken from the Great Windsor Park in London. One tree was planted in front of the old Sooke Legion, which used to be an army hut located at the corner of Shields and Eustace Road. When the new Legion building was erected on the same site in 1976 the tree was protected and now has a commemorative plaque placed next to it. The opening procession for the Sooke Fall Fair has begun at this location. The other Coronation Oak is growing on the west side of the Shirley Community Hall. It was provided with a heritage tree designation in 1976 by the Victoria Horticultural Society. According to the Heritage Tree certificate, which hangs on the wall at the Shirley Hall, it is classified as a historical tree belonging to a heritage group and notes that it is one of the Coronation Oaks distributed through-out the British Empire to commemorate the coronation.

King Creek, King Lagoon and King Road in Otter Point are all named after Jane and Charles King who homesteaded 100 acres in the vicinity of the present day King Road? Charles King arrived from England in 1898, cleared his land planted fruit trees and built a cabin and animal shelters for pigs, hens and rabbits. Some years later Jane came from London to meet John for the first time. They married and had one daughter called Margaret. Jane passed away from complications related to rheumatic fever when Margaret was only three years of age. Margaret was raised by the John Murray family in Sooke.

Located to the west of Kemp Stream, King Creek is one of several major creeks in Otter Point. It drains an area of approximately 6.4 square kilometres both north and south of Otter Point Road and discharges an average of 192 litres of water per second into Sooke Bay just west of Kemp Lake Road. A portion of King Creek is located on Crown Land and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society has

permission from the Province to develop and maintain a horse and walking trail through part of the area.

Information for this month's **Did You Know That?** was prepared with the help of information in *The Sooke Story: The History and the Heartbeat* written and published by the Sooke Region Museum, *The Pot and Spiller* published by the Sooke Region Historical Society to commemorate the opening of the Sooke Region Museum In July, 1977, and information provided by Chuck and Colleen Minten of Shirley and Elida Peers, Sooke Historical Society Archivist.

Do you have local historical information that you would like to share, or questions that you would like answered? If so, let us know and we'll try to help. Contact us at d.acampbell@shaw.ca

11. FREE SMALL BUSINESS LISTING ON OPSRRA'S WEB SITE

Do you operate a small business? Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA is offering a free business listing service for members, on its web site: www.opsrra.ca We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We anticipate having listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture-making, fishing charters, eco-tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing, spas and more. More information, businesses already listed, and an on-line registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site (www.opsrra.ca) under **Business Listings**.

Note: OPSRRA does not accept responsibility for the services provided. Always check references and ask for confirmation of Work Safe B.C. Registration if applicable.

The OPSRRA web site has more information about the following business listings

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair

Accent in Grooming

A Point of View B & B

ALM Organic Farm

Beaches West B & B

Bear Home Remodelling

Birds Edge Press

Bridge over Troubled Water Autism Intervention & Respite Service

DanCyn Kioti Excavation

Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suite

Fancy That Esthetics & Body Care

Full Circle Seeds

Heron's Rest B & B
Jambo Pet Sitting Service
Kemp Lake Store
Kirsten Sykes, Realtor
Knotty Beds by Nature
Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
Ocean Wilderness Inn
Otter Point Beach House
Otter Point Electrical
Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop
Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd
Smiling Goat Farm Sitting Service
Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm
Tugwell Creek Meadery
Wood Visions

12. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site.

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the directors of OPSRRA. It is available to members by e-mail and to others on our web site: www.opsrra.ca. To have an item you would like to have considered for placement in the newsletter, or make a comment about the newsletter, contact an OPSRRA director. OPSRRA tries to verify the correctness of the information in this newsletter; if we got it wrong we will acknowledge that and make a correction as quickly as possible.
