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The Creek

Serving False Creek, Fairview Slopes and Granville Island

Vol. 17, No. 7

August, 1998

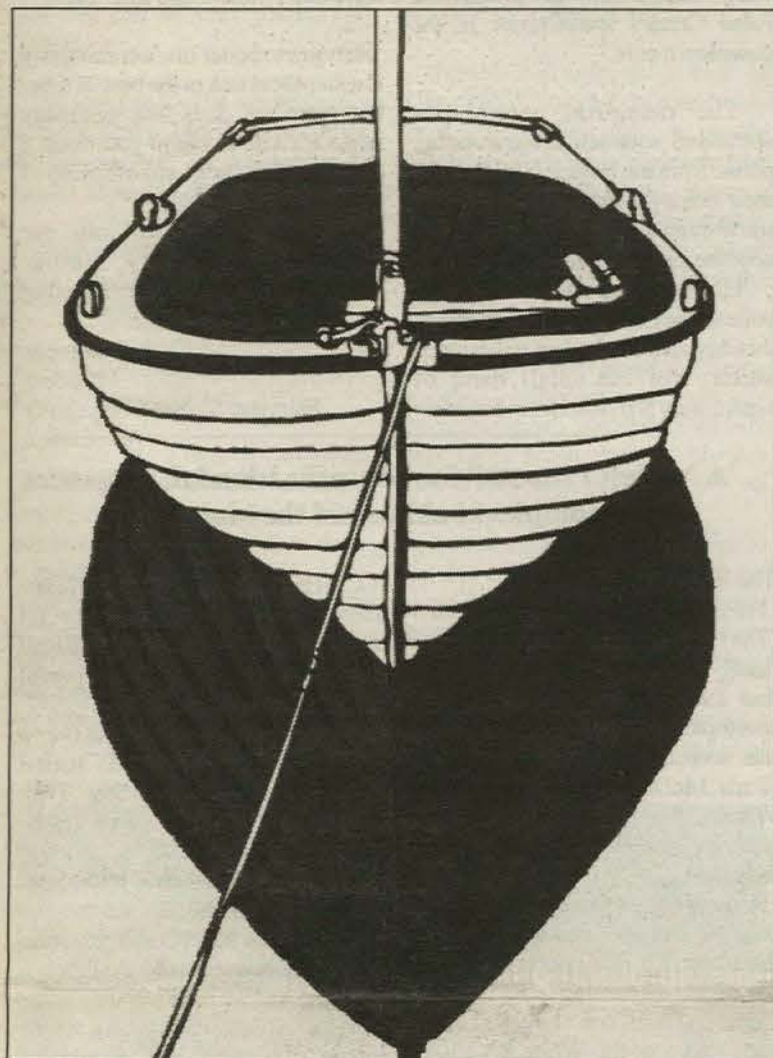


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TO STAMPS LANDING &
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Wooden Boat Festival 98 Granville Island August 27 - 30

From canoes and kayaks to cabin cruisers; small and large sailing ships to steam tugs; and fishing vessels to a replica 18th century Spanish longboat, there will be a little something for everyone at the 11th Annual Wooden Boat Festival.

Throughout the four days there will be small-boat rowing and sailing regattas, a canoe race, the Spruce Cup and Wooden Yacht Racing Association sailing races for larger boats, marine carvers, hands on demonstrations of skin-on-frame kayak building, marlinespike seamanship, oar/paddle making, a production of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* (the 25 minute version), shanty singing and more.

For more information on the Festival call Jan Bellamy at 688-9622. A detailed brochure of the events is available from the Granville Island Information Centre. Here are just a few highlights of the festival.

HIGHLIGHTS

Kids Toy Boat Building

The hit of the festival for the under 12 set! Kids design, build and launch their own boats.

Daily

1100 - 1500 hours
behind Kids' Market and Isadora's Restaurant.

Moby Dick in Song and Verse

Join Jill King, Jake Galbraith and Bryon Thompson for Herman Melville's classic *Moby Dick*.. It's hard to keep a dry eye!

August 29

Around the festival
Check the Information Booth for details.

Juanita Rowing

Try your hand at rowing in an 18th century replica Spanish longboat.

August 29

on the docks throughout the day.
FREE

Knotty Things in Public

Join Terry Ridings and his sea chest full of fancy rope work.

August 29

1030 - 1230 and 1400 - 1600 hours
Market Square.

Century Canoe Challenge

This race is for wooden canoes. This is an around-the-buoys race, new this year, and the prize is a beautiful wooden paddle.

August 29

1600 hours
Alder Bay

Locals luck-in for free trolley ride

Most of the local residents among the fair sized crowd out for the Inaugural Run of **Streetcar 1207** along the False Creek railway track on Wednesday, July 29 just happened to be passing by Moberly Road & 6th Ave. or had looked out their windows and spied the tents and handsome old 1207 out on the tracks. The reward for listening to the speech making was free juice, coffee and cake - and a free ride.

All the politicians, people involved in the project and invited guests were on the ceremonial first run and then the train buffs made two more runs to accommodate the rest of the hoi polloi.

Apart from the happy locals pictured below, one of the most cheerful looking chaps aboard was the one holding his little dog. It was probably the only time they've ever been able to travel on public transit together.

The streetcar - now called the **Downtown Historic Railway** in anticipation of its eventual extension to Science World and downtown - will be operated by volunteers until October. Chief among them is City Councillor Don Bellamy who is having the time of his life. Probably the most enthusiastic supporter for this project (being a very sentimental former streetcar driver) he drove the Inaugural Run and evidently plans to

spend the rest of his summer weekends sharing driving shifts.

You can board at Moberly Rd. (LEG-IN-BOOT STATION) or Anderson St. (GRANVILLE ISLAND STATION) from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays/Sundays & holidays. Return fares: Adult \$2:00. Under 13 & over 65: \$1:00.

Note the nice bit of blacktopping and landscaping at Anderson St. which was completed just the day before the Inaugural Run. See what the Engineering Department can accomplish with good speed and no expense spared when the boss has a pet project!



Gail Borwick and Michelle Goss were shepherding their flock of five-year olds back to the community centre after a treat trip to Pizza Hut. Wow! More treats - juice, cake and a free ride on a funky streetcar. They can walk through the park and along the seawall any day; this was heaps more exciting.

Lena Morrissette, who lives in Sitka Square, had heard the practice runs for the preceding couple of days and was tickled pink that she and son Stephen were also serendipitously in the right place at the right time.

If you care about your community and are interested in its future, get involved in its present

Mark your calendars

and plan to attend

Fairview Slopes Community Association

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 9 7:00 p.m. sharp

at the False Creek Community Centre, Granville Island

(Look for more information in the next issue of The Creek)

CITY OF VANCOUVER

Information Meeting

Boat Moorage in False Creek

The City of Vancouver is holding a public information meeting to present a development application to provide boat moorage for short-term visitors in False Creek:

**Thursday, August 20, 1998
7-9 p.m.**

**False Creek Community Centre
1318 Cartwright Street**

The development proposal would see 15 mooring buoys installed in Charleson Bay (south side of False Creek, at foot of Charleson Park). This would provide properly regulated short-term moorage for visitors, and resolve public concerns about unauthorized moorage in False Creek.

City staff will be on hand to discuss the proposal and take your comments.

For more information:

**Marco D'Agostini
Blueways
873-7853**



Website: www.city.vancouver.bc.ca

The Editor



Beryl Wilson

Enough of these smart remarks left on the answering machine saying "When you came back from yet another holiday, call me." Life should be one long holiday for me by now.

I found an attractive wooden plaque with a saying meant for me:

God put me on this earth to accomplish a certain number of things

★

Right now I'm so far behind I'll never die.

The last jaunt was to Powell River to *Kathaumixw*, a remarkable Choral Festival held every two years. Thirty choirs from ten countries and across Canada - and all of them billeted with local residents! I've often wondered how small communities can host such huge events so successfully. Now I realise it's because the entire community gets behind it. Even store clerks, realising we were visitors, would say "Are you up for *Kathaumixw*?"

Powell River has an Academy of Music which has ten choirs.

Festival holidays are lovely - when you have nothing to do but fit in as many musical events as possible between eating and sleeping.

Then it was on to Savary Island to visit ex-long-time Creek resident Rick Thaddeus whose idea of being a casual host seemed to be that he cook dinner every night, and extremely well. Maybe it was my reward for playing 28 games of Scrabble with him. One night he played all seven tiles out TWICE in one game and scored 475!

I left the next day, demoralised.

The Creek

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The Creek acknowledges the generous support of the False Creek Neighbourhood Association

Dylan Moran is Indisposed

It's not really cricket to tell people about a performance they should have seen when the opportunity has long gone. But if Dylan Moran returns to the Comedy Festival next year, go. The brochure described him as "a rambling, shambling, endlessly waffling, brilliant Irish stand-up comedian, who needs a

comb, knows joke or two, but forgets them both halfway through and so settles for an hour or so of talking rubbish."

It was rubbish that had me rolling around in my seat with laughter.

I tell this in order to share his "biographical notes" which he *must* have written himself.

Dylan was raised by a team of extremist clerics on a barge in the shoe-making district of Minsk. As a child he was forced to earn his keep by re-spraying stolen accordians in a gas-lit aquarium.

He escaped and famously founded the Minsk Triumphalist Eclipse Movement - it folded later that morning due to total lack of response. After being prosecuted for laughing in the woods in 13 countries, he stirred up a furor of excitement with his rock opera, "Stan," based on the life of a man he had once spoken to in a bus shelter.

Dylan Moran is 21/2 inches high and lives in a shoebox with the Risen Christ. His ears are false. The coming year will see the fruition of his life-long cherished and secret project. Of this little is known save that it will involve 400,000 Armenian Trombonists, a good deal of plankton and edible beards. From time to time, he performs stand-up comedy, writes things in newspapers and, when drunk, claims to be writing a novel.

Always available for fine dining

When you're 'media' (even small-time media like *The Creek*), you can never be sure whether you're invited to events for your own charming self or for the potential free publicity you can provide - and most of the time it's the latter.

I love to eat well but hate to cook, so I'm always game to 'pay my dues' with publicity in return for *splendid* meals (emphasis deliberate), but I couldn't even pretend to be a food writer.

For a couple of years I was 'on a roll.' A chap called John Crawford (a schmoozer *supreme*) used to gather a group of media types for periodic lunches at the finest restaurants. The food was superb, the company congenial, and the wine flowed freely.

They were three-hour affairs and John had strict rules. You couldn't 'eat and run.' That was an insult to the vintners and chefs who always produced their specialities and joined us to talk about them. If you couldn't spare the three hours you couldn't come.

The deal with John was a small column in *The Creek* (titled *Epicurious*) in which he wrote succinct reviews on the restaurants and his other passion, movies.

It was a great arrangement. I ate some superb meals, in good company and I didn't have to struggle with the writing. Sadly John's interest in that promotion venture waned, and then he left town.

Recently I was invited to join a group for a birthday dinner at the Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts, just 'for my own sweet self' (at least I *think* that was so!) Adults use birthday parties for themselves not to be fussed over or acquire gifts they don't need, but as the incentive to gather friends together. I don't know if David McCann would have enjoyed 'slaving over a hot kitchen stove' at his house if he had the time, but I'm glad he didn't because

meals at PICA are always a culinary adventure. (Watch for *Duck Confit Mescla in Filo Cup with Pan Fried Quail Eggs* on the menu.)

David is such a regular at PICA there's much banter between him and the owners Sue Singer and Chef Walter Messiah - and they know his likes and dislikes. He didn't choose his birthday menu; staff would decide! *Weeeell*, 'there's many a slip twixt....' etc. The Pear Sorbet dessert was served without comment from the host but when he cut the birthday cake he emitted a loud wail. "It's chocolate and pear...Walter knows I HATE PEARS."

I hope Mr. McCann makes this a habit, and I stay on the list. If anyone else is short of birthday celebrants I'm happy to oblige - at fine restaurants only please!

The only disappointing note to a delightful evening (apart from the pear in the cake!) was that David's sister Valerie wasn't there. I'm lucky that my extended family all live within a 3-mile radius of my brother's home. The times all twelve of us gather round his dinner table are very precious, so I appreciate that David misses the tribe of other siblings, neices and nephews who are all back in Ontario. Valerie is an art publisher, which is evidently a tense and frantic business at times. When the printer calls to say "We can do your run at 5:30 p.m., be here" - you are, and birthday dinners be damned.

It was Valerie who inveigled him out to Vancouver two years ago to buy the Creekhouse Gallery with her. It's been a hectic two years but he's deeply grateful she 'drug him here.' If Valerie reads this she should know she was missed and she missed a gorgeous bouquet, a *huge* hug - and delicious chocolate-pear cake!

B.W.

Miz B's B & B

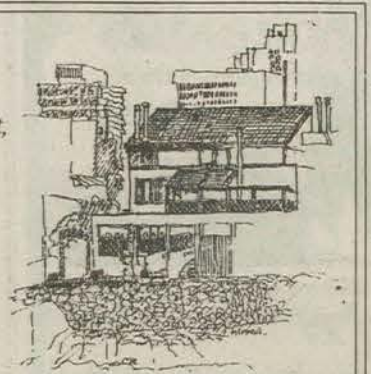
If you cannot, or would rather not, have friends or relatives at your house, Miz B. has space for two people.

Queen size bed

Private bathroom.

(and two cats, of course)

Tel. 734-3369



On the False Creek seawall

Letters

Streetcar buffs not the only ones to preserve False Creek rail track from development

July 30, 1998

The Editor:

It was good to watch the beautifully restored Streetcar 1207 ceremonially trundle its way down a short stretch of track yesterday. While still very much a toy for street car junkies, it is the precursor, albeit distant, of what promises one day to be a meaningful and pleasant transportation link from False Creek's south shore to the downtown core.

The inaugural ceremonies abounded with self-congratulatory praise from the boys at City Hall for their commitment to this project - some even deserved. So no more need be said on their behalf.

However, for those who don't believe they can make a difference, this day also marked an unheralded victory for the small band of community activists from Fairview

Slopes and False Creek who fought long and hard to save that particular stretch of track from ill-conceived development. If that one mile strip, between Cambie and Granville bridges, had been lost to development, what future for the rest of the line, and who would we have had to thank and laud then?

Striving to better one's community is a thankless task at the best of time, but there are days like yesterday when it's safe to claim you made a difference, even accomplished something worthwhile.

I urge others to join our Association, or any similar community organization. Together we do make a difference.

Lin Bompas
President

Fairview Slopes Community Association

'A Modest Proposal' for Granville Island development
A multiplex could be just the beginning!

The Editor:

I'm glad to see that David McCann (*The Granville Island Rambler*), has finally heard the disturbing news that I've been shouting from the rooftops for nearly a year now, i.e. that several major restaurant chains (Earls, McDonald's, Hooters and the White Spot) have been sniffing around Granville Island looking for locations.

I was intrigued to read (*The Creek*, July/98) that McCann would "be in the vanguard of opposing at least one of (these) coming to the Island." Come on Dave, don't be coy; *which* one? I know the White Spot isn't what it used to be when we were kids but that's no reason to stand in their way.

But seriously, I don't know how you can oppose any major chain wanting to locate on the Island when you've been leading the cheers for another: Famous Players and their proposed Granville Island movieplex.

But then maybe this has possibilities.

CMHC wants increased revenue from the Island? Fine, let's get serious. Let's lease the whole Island to Viacom, Famous Players' parent company.

Let's see, we could have a Paramount Studios movie theme park with a special "Star Trek Experience" like the one in Vegas, as well as a *Titanic* movie attraction to maintain the maritime ambience; an MTV disco and TV studio; the world's largest Blockbuster store (the Market building would do nicely), and who knows what else.

All these companies (and a whole bunch of others) are owned by Viacom, the same people who own Famous Players, so if CMHC wants to talk redevelopment, it'll be one-stop shopping.

Let's go for it. Call me Dave. We'll do lunch at Bridges. I'll call Summer Redstone, the multibillionaire chair of Viacom, in New York. We'll get together with CMHC's Mike Young, make the deal, and make major bucks.

Gordon Watson
False Creek

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Your dog may be destined for stardom

A professional photo portfolio may be the key to fame for pooch and fortune for you

Believe it or not, Spot can pose for professional photos for his publicity portfolio on **Saturday, August 8** at *Chez Woof*, which is housed in the colourful caboose outside Kids Only Market on Granville Island.

If you can't get your child into the movie or television business, maybe your dog can be your passport to fortune.

The free fun for the whole family at Kids Only Market continues through August, each Saturday & Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

As part of their Dog Day Summer Event on **August 8** there will be a **STAR SEARCH** - for dogs!

And a **DOGGIE FASHION SHOW** at 12 noon & 1:30 p.m.

I kid you not! I've seen the clothes - padded all-weather suits, raincoats, flannel coats with red satin lining, jean outfits, T-shirts. Some of them from Italian designers!

This is stuff for people whose dogs are 'kids in furcoats.'

(Apologies to the ambitious or indulgent dog parents who don't see this item in time to attend. Maybe there will be others)



Jannah Feldman, proprietor of *Chez Woof*, says that dogs are being bred as indoor dogs and some people want hairless dogs so they won't be bothered with dog hairs. Hence a dog clothing industry to provide comfort for the poor mutts when they're taken outside to face the elements.

I'll forego a rant about this being another symbol of a sick society because Jannah is a delightful lady who cares about dogs. She has two 'normal' big ones of her own, an Airedale and a sheepdog.

She wants everyone else's dogs to eat the same wholesome food her dogs have - made from natural products with no additives, preservatives or artificial colouring.

A Doggilicious Deli sounds a bit flakey and a nauseating symbol of

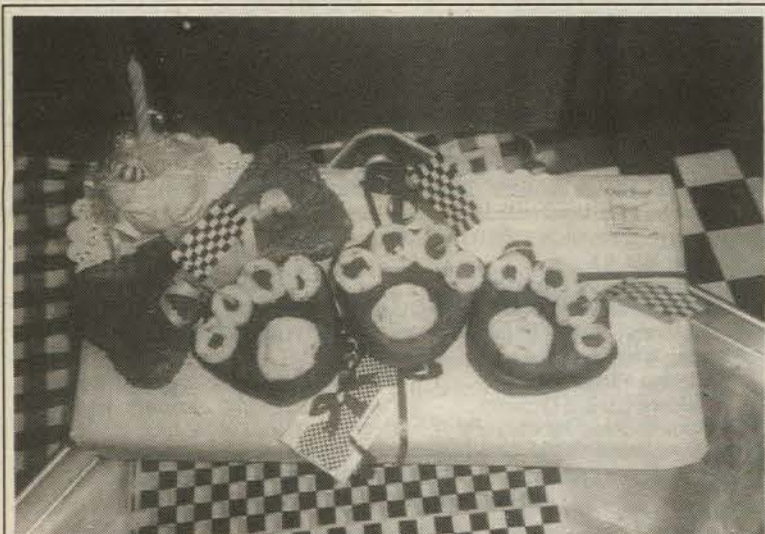
yuppiedom. But the fact is many yuppies and dinks (double-income-no-kids) are lavishing as much attention on their dogs as others do on their children. (Witness the extravagant variety of 'push chairs' seen jogged along the seawall.)

All the dogs who arrived with their owners for a tour of the Granville Island Brewery receive one of Jannah's carrot & ale cookies. Dogs love beer, apparently, so she decided to make a cookie using some of the brewery's ales and fresh carrots from the market.

Serious though she is about her health message, she delivers it with a great sense of fun. You'll find Woofles, Pupperonis, Mickey Mutts and Ginger boys amongst the pates, salamis and fresh zucchini rings.

Everything is baked right there in the caboose and the tantalizing smells no doubt have passing dogs dragging their owners in. Some have a walk/treat routine. When they arrive at Cartwright St. the dogs are let off the leash - and make a mad dash toward the magic aroma, then impatiently pant for the one with the money to catch up. Must be quite a sight.

B. Wilson



Jannah bakes nutritious birthday cakes for dogs. This is a photo of a cake for three Yorkshire terriers



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False Creek Community Mapping Project

If you've lived in False Creek for a long time and have a story to share...

If you've lived in False Creek for only a short time and want to know more about its history...

If you want to get more involved in the stewardship of your home place...

Come Join Us!

False Creek basin is a wonderful place to live, work and play. It is cherished for its:

- ◆ fascinating history
- ◆ plentiful park space
- ◆ thriving bird life
- ◆ recreational activities
- ◆ diverse housing types
- ◆ close proximity to downtown
- ◆ great sense of community

However, there are also some issues that still need to be addressed:

- ◆ poor water quality and fish habitat
- ◆ densified development
- ◆ changing land leases
- ◆ safety

Initiated this summer by long-time resident, Tana Worcester, the False Creek Mapping Project offers an opportunity for residents to meet, walk and talk together, and then to create maps (collectively or individually) that express our experiences of living in False Creek.

The False Creek Mapping Project is a grass-roots initiative to create maps showing the:

- ◆ history and ecology
- ◆ environmental and social quality
- ◆ infrastructure
- ◆ and people of False Creek

These maps will help to express our love and concern for this community, and may be used to help increase our understanding and stewardship of this urban ecosystem.

To get involved, please come to our next event: **Wednesday, August 12** from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the False Creek Community Centre, or contact Tana at 253-0101.

The hope is that these maps will be displayed within the community and used as tools to help address some of the issues that hinder this basin from reaching its full potential as a healthy thriving ecosystem - both for humans and non-humans alike.

The Ultimate Grilling BBQ



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Midsummer Night's Dream on the Mound

One of the most delightful of Granville Island's summer events is Carousel Theatre's annual production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, featuring young people enrolled in the summer acting workshop.

It will take place on the mound, outside Performance Works (opposite Granville Island Hotel) at 8:00 p.m. every night (except Sundays) from August 10 - 22. AND IT'S FREE.

Judging by the mix in the audiences it's very much a family outing. Carousel Theatre's productions are geared for young audiences and young folk (starting about age 6) come to these performances in droves. It's wonderful to see the under 12 set curled up on the ground in front of the stage.

We've lost count of how many years Carousel Theatre has presented Shakespeare on the Mound. If you haven't yet been, whether you're a Shakespeare fan or not, go this year. The freshness of the young performers is a delight to watch. Be warned, if you want seats on the bleachers, be there early. The scene becomes true theatre-in-the-round as



Poor Thisbe probably wasn't getting quite the reaction he'd hoped for from Hermia in last year's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (lt. to rt.) Rebecca Auerbach (*Hermia*), Daniel Werb (*Thisbe*) and Sarah Henriquez (*Moonshine*)

the audience spills out on either side and up onto the hill. There is a coffee/juice/snack bar in the building and usually a hot dog and/or ice cream vendor outside.

Take money; there's usually an appeal for donations.

If it rains the performance moves indoors.

7th Annual Arts Club Theatre London Theatre Tour



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For more information call: TDI, Travel Dimensions Inc.

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Continuing with the theatrical theme - a few Acting Jokes

A Hollywood film star returned to England after an absence of twelve years. She was to make a film and insisted that she be photographed by the same cameraman as before.

When she saw the rushes she was disappointed and said to the cameraman, 'These are not as good as the shots you used to take of me.'

'I know, my dear,' replied the cameraman gently, 'but you must remember I am twelve years older.'

.....

The young actor auditioned for Lord Olivier but did not get the part.

'I can't believe you didn't get the part,' said his agent. 'The Lord gave you great talent.'

'Ah,' sighed the actor, 'the Lord giveth but the Lord Olivier taketh away.'

.....

The play had not been a success and as the cast stood to take the poor applause of a curtain call a very loud

and fruity raspberry was heard throughout the theatre.

The leading lady with great aplomb stepped forward and said to the perpetrator of the noise, 'I'm glad I don't have to do your laundry.'

.....



.....

One day a resting actor returned to his home to find his wife sobbing on the floor, her dress torn and face bruised.

'What happened?' cried the actor helping his wife to a chair.

'I've been raped,' sobbed his wife. 'Who did this terrible thing to you?' yelled the actor.

'Your agent,' wept the wife.

'Did he leave a message?' asked the actor eagerly.

.....

Bert and Tom were playing the part of the horse in the local production of a pantomime. When they had volunteered for the part they had forgotten about the Saturday matinee. On Saturday afternoons they always went to see their favourite football team play.

After one Saturday matinee they went to a nearby pub to meet their football friends and discuss the match they had missed.

The drinks flowed freely and the conversation was good when Bert suddenly realized they were due on stage for the evening performance. He stumbled back to the theatre to be greeted by the stage manager who yelled, 'You're on in a minute and you're bloody well pissed!'

'You think I'm pissed?' replied Bert. 'Wait until you see the back end of the horse. He thinks he's got lines and he's trying to remember them!'

The Least Successful Secret Camera

Attempting to catch a persistent thief in 1978, Doncaster police set up a secret camera in the changing rooms of a local squash club.

When they played back the film, the police found that all they had succeeded in filming was one of their own policemen wandering around naked and looking for his clothes, which had been stolen.

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC 1998 - 99 Season

AURYN QUARTET	Tuesday, October 20
Haydn Op. 64, No. 6 * Wolf Italian Serenade	
Schubert String Quartet in G major, Op. 161	
YSAYE QUARTET	Tuesday, November 10
Beethoven Op. 18, No. 6 * Chausson Quartet No. 1	
Debussy String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10	
VIENNA PIANO TRIO	Tuesday, November 24
Haydn Piano Trio in C major * Schnittke Piano Trio	
Schubert Piano Trio in E flat, Op. 100, D.929	
TAKACS STRING QUARTET	Tuesday, January 19
Beethoven Op. 18, No. 3 in D major	
Beethoven Op. 95 in F minor * Dvorak Op. 51	
BERLIN PHILHARMONIC PIANO QUARTET	Tuesday, February 2
Mozart Piano Quartet in E flat, K. 493 * Milhaud Piano Quartet	
Schumann Piano Quartet in E flat, Op. 47	
COULL QUARTET	Tuesday, February 16
Mozart K. 465 * Elgar String Quartet in E minor, Op. 83	
Schubert Quartet in A minor, D.804	
SPOLETO FESTIVAL PLAYERS	Tuesday, March 2
Barber Piano Sonata for Four Hands	
Stravinsky L'Histoire du Soldat * Ravel Cello/Violin Sonata	
Brahms Trio for Clarinet, Piano and Cello	
ENDELLION STRING QUARTET	Tuesday, March 26
Haydn Op. 50, No. 6 * Bartok String Quartet No. 3	
Beethoven Op. 59, No. 1	
EMERSON STRING QUARTET	Tuesday, March 30
Programme to be announced	
BEAUX ARTS TRIO	Tuesday, April 20
Beethoven Op. 11 * Ravel * Dvorak Op. 65	

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Auryn String Quartet,	Tuesday, October 20
Berlin Philharmonic Piano Quartet	Tuesday, February 2
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Takacs String Quartet	Tuesday, January 19
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ALL CONCERTS ARE HELD AT 8:00 p.m. AT
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For brochure and order form contact:

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The Granville Island Rambler

by David McCann

I remember my father occasionally sharing his recollections of his childhood and I was amazed at some of the things that triggered his memories. With increasing frequency, I'm beginning to experience the same memory triggering effect.

Recently as I walked past John Keith King's beautiful Maritime/Fly Fishing Museum, the old wooden dory outside the south entrance brought back a crystal clear vision of my father taking me for a boat ride across Christie Lake, near Westport, Ontario. Dad, in his early fifties, was the camp cook at Christie Lake Boys Camp, and he had taken me, a scrawny twelve year old, with him for the summer.

I can't remember much about the trip across the lake, or even why we went. However, on the return journey the little outboard motor gave up the proverbial ghost and my dad was forced to row the boat over two thirds of the way back. I can see him still, his kind face strained with exertion, patiently stroking the oars continuously for hours in the late afternoon and early evening.

When we arrived back, his hands were covered in broken blisters and blood ran from his fingers. He never complained and when we got out of the boat, he gave me a big hug and told me that he'd enjoyed a great day with me out on the lake.

That was the last summer we spent together, just father and son 'doing stuff' in the Canadian Shield back country where he was born and raised. After that, my father had to spend his summers working in the city. Raising four kids wasn't easy. He was a quiet, unassuming man; a good provider.

Thanks for putting that old dory outside on the boardwalk John. I miss my dad and I revel in this memory of him. I wonder how many other people have found their past in the memories evoked by something in the little museum.

Last week I arrived on the Island round 7:30 a.m. and wandered into the Public Market. I picked up a bagel, some Winnipeg cream cheese, shaved smoked salmon bits, a fresh brewed coffee and some freshly squeezed orange juice and then retired to the dock next to the market. Sitting there watching the sail and power boats meander out into English Bay and the younger athletic souls practise dragon boat racing and Olympic sculling on False Creek, I realized that life doesn't get much better than this.

We fill our lives with so many things and seldom take the time to just sit back and observe those around us. In the evenings, I talk to my neighbours as I quietly walk Moses and Rachael, my two Irish Setters, in Point Grey. Sitting on the porch or lying on my back on the grassy knoll at the east end of Granville Island, I feel contented just observing the world around me. Try it some time; it really does become habit forming.

The lovely little tea shop in the back of the Walrus and the Carpenter closed recently. Apparently not enough of us wandered in to say hello and sit down for tea.

A lot of people think that just being on Granville Island is a ticket to financial freedom and a guarantee of success. As one roams around the Island talking to merchants and their staff about their business, one begins to gain a deeper appreciation of how many businesses have left the Island or changed their direction in response to changing tastes or market forces.

It's nice to have quaint little places to visit, to have great places to eat, to be entertained on the street and in live theatres, to find unique shops to buy fresh food products from around the world and art to hang on the wall. However we must realize that the shop owners have to pay rent and all the other overheads, including taxes, before they take home a paycheque.

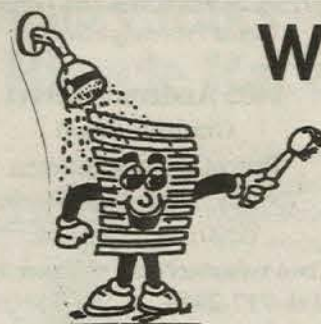
The City of Vancouver Planning

Department has forwarded report to City Council on the proposed 'Under the Bridge Project' (the retail and movie theatre proposal). The report considered the proposal to be a positive addition to Granville Island. City Council will hold a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. on September 17, 1998. The location of the meeting has yet to be determined.

I am not surprised at the recommendation in view the strong support given to the proposal by a large number of local businesses and Vancouver residents. Generally projects of this nature generate public responses that are 90% opposed and 10% in favour. So far letters to City Hall and CMHC are about evenly split on the issue, an encouraging sign for the proponents. The report notes that CMHC has maintained good balance of commercial and non-commercial uses on the Island.

The Ashwarren Building is being renovated to relocate the Information Centre and provide additional space for various arts and cultural festivals. Plans are in the works to convert two other parking garages for artists studios and other cultural troupes' practice and exhibit space. This clearly shows a strong commitment on CMHC's part to maintain a diverse and dynamic balance between cultural, industrial, commercial, community and educational uses here on Granville Island.

I believe that much of the debate around the theatre project has been taken out of context. The opponents have not considered what other proposals are currently being moved forward to maintain the unique diversity found on the Island. We must not only look at the past or the present mix; we must look at future additions to the Island mix as well. I think CMHC is doing this.



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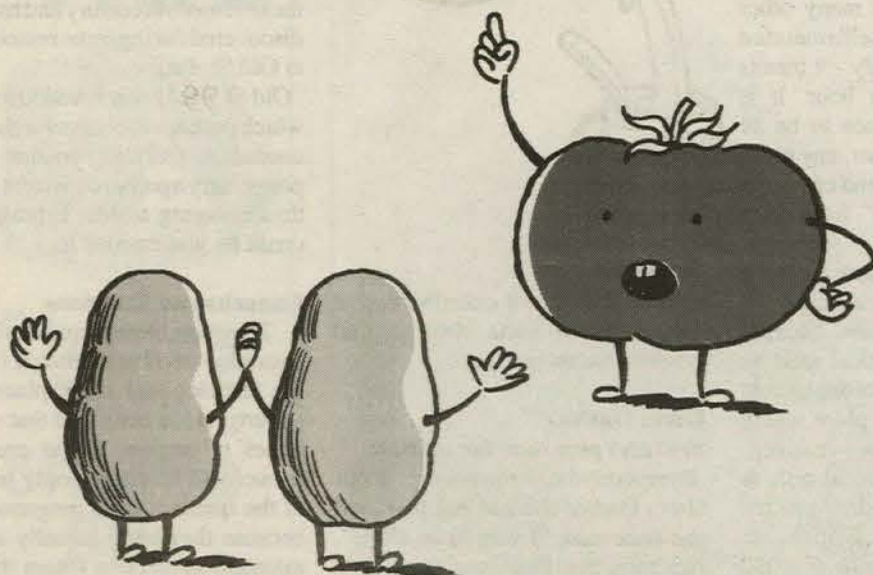
FREE PARKING

Granville Island



VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Tomato Festival '98



"The sign says 'Tomato'! Where are your eyes?"



Granville Island Public Market presents Tomato Festival '98 - Growers Competition, August 23,

10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Entry deadline is August 16. For complete rules and information at 666-6477, or fax 666-4937. There are gift baskets, craft prizes and blue ribbons to be won. (No other fruits or vegetables need apply.)

Please check proper category:

- Red, slicing tomatoes Mini tomatoes
 Plum, paste tomatoes "Heavyweight Champ"
 Specialty coloured tomatoes

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Entry fee is a non-perishable item or cash donation for the Vancouver Food Bank.



Granville Island
Public Market



Operated by the Kitsilano Community Crime Prevention Society

1405 Anderson Street
Granville Island

Present hours of operation

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(two volunteers per shift needed)

Tel. 717-2944 Fax. 717-2945
(note new numbers)

To leave messages outside these hours phone or fax to 732-8500

August Events Calendar

Saturday, August 8

GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Ocean Artworks
(just west of Ocean Cement)

* Computer books & resource material * various prints & art cards
* crafts * household items * children's toys
* a miscellany of other treasures

Contributions will be gratefully received. Just hand them over to one of the volunteers.

Sunday, August 16

BLOCK PARENT / BLOCK WATCH

At Kids Only Market 12 noon - 3:00 p.m.

BLUEY DAY

Police Officers shave their heads in support of
Cancer Research for Children

Plaza of Nations 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 23

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

&

BICYCLE SAFETY ROADEO

At Kids Only Market 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Co-ordinator Charlie Kirkley and a dedicated band of volunteers, in cooperation with the Police Department, organize an ongoing series of safety awareness events and seminars. *The Creek* and the Community Police Office are gradually 'getting our acts together' to provide information about them on a regular basis.

Unfortunately we missed informing readers about a Child Find Fingerprinting session on July 12 and a Safety Fair on August 1 & 2, both at Kids Only Market.

Volunteers * Volunteers * Volunteers

The successful operation of the office and all these events is dependent on maintaining a large pool of volunteers. Charlie Kirkley will be delighted to hear from you whether you can give a lot or a little of your time. (Once you've 'signed on', an Events Calendar for the month ahead will be mailed to you by the 25th of each month.)



Kitsilano Showboat

continues until
Friday, August 21

If only we'd known what a marvellous evening it would be on July 27, when alumni of the KITSILANO BOY'S BAND gathered at the Showboat for a 70th Anniversary Reunion performance, we'd have told readers about it last month.

It was as astonishing as it was heartwarming. They only had two rehearsals and some of the players didn't get to either of them. Two of the soloists were in their mid-80s! And not short of breath either.

Eavesdropping on two fellows talking about the band and the tyrant founder-conductor Arthur Delamont we heard one say "I did go for an audition but old Delamont terrified me so much I never went back." He recalled the salutary experience silently for a moment, then added "But the boys loved him."

Showboat is a wonderful opportunity for all sorts of amateur groups to perform for an audience - and it's a lovely walk over to Kits Beach on a summer evening.

Here's the remaining line-up.

Friday, August 7

Vancouver Police Squad Demo Dogs
Chilean Folkloric Dancers

Slovenian Folkloric Dancers

Monday, August 10

Urbana Jazz Band

Indian Classical Dance

Wednesday, August 12

Bela Doingo Plynesian Dancers

Friday, August 14

Russiman Community Centre

Entertainers

Vancouver Sportive Baton Club

Monday, August 17

Darcell's Dancers

Wednesday, August 19

K & S Dance Products

Friday, August 21

"Polonez" Polish Canadian Song/Dance Co.

Creek Seens

by Elaine Sleath

I was counting adult seagulls when, from the north side of Charleson pond, I noticed a dull grey-black bump on a rock where no bump had ever been before. As I watched, a thumpy bulge lengthened into a thick neck and the evening light glinted off an outstretched blunt head with the red face patch signalling TURTLE - the kind, as children exploring Mara Lake, we used to call 'Red-eared Sliders.'

Slowly shifting slightly and then stretching upward on sturdy front legs, the turtle exposed its brilliant yellow undershield, marked with dark green ridges. After an elegant stretch, it settled back down to drowse in the warmth of evening's last beams.

I knew that three turtles bask in the sun on the rocks in the pond in front of Kids Only Market but never, since moving here in 1984, have I seen a turtle in Charleson pond - and the biggest one I'd ever seen at that.

Charleson pond is a fascinating place. We have two residents herons.

More Information from the Dictionary of Misinformation

Birds Listening for Worms

A robin worm-hunting on the lawn and cocking his head as though he were listening is merely trying to bring his eye into position so that he can see where the worm is. Birds' eyes (with a few exceptions) are set in the sides of their heads and they see out to the sides rather than straight ahead; they do not have bifocal vision as humans do.

Birdsong

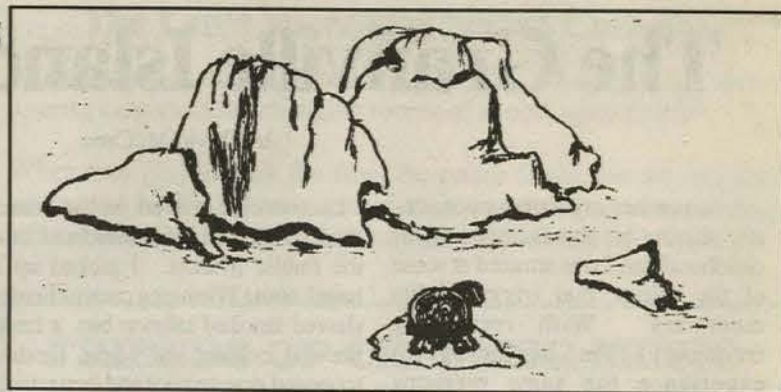
Poets - and most of the rest of us - have always assumed that birds sing for the pure joy of it... or possibly as a part of the mating process. It is now thought that birds sing as a means of staking out their territories and announcing their domains. Evidently, it has not been determined why birds sing so much more at some seasons of the year than others, and at some times of the day rather than others. One naturalist observed a bird that seemed to be staking out more territory in the morning than the evening - perhaps because he was less tired and more ambitious in the morning.

In honour of the Wooden Boat Festival here are two pieces of nautical misinformation.

Knots per Hour

No sailor would think of using such a term, although many other people do. The knot is itself a measure of speed, and speed only - it means one nautical mile per hour. It is impossible for one place to be so many knots from another, any more than two locations on land can be so many "miles per hour" from each other.

As a matter of fact, there are three different versions of a nautical mile. Or even four, in a sense, because navigators treat a nautical mile as equivalent to the length of one minute of the meridian at the place where they are taking the reading. Otherwise, what a nautical mile is depends on whose standard you are sailing under. The British, or "Admiralty", nautical mile is 6,080 feet; the United States nautical mile is just a bit longer at 6,080.20 feet. The international nautical mile is 1,852 meters or 6,076.1033 feet.



One evening, before the present twenty-seven adult grey-mantled large Glaucous-winged gulls (with their pink feet and legs, yellow red-spotted bills, snowy white heads, bodies and tails and pristine white edges to outstretched wings) had returned, I watched a game of 'Duck on the Rock' as played by two herons.

First, the younger skinny one landed on the highest rock in the middle of the pond, stretching tall and taper-thin as it surveyed the rippled surface. Dipping into a cleft nearby it drank twice and then stiffened, fully erect and rigid. From the sea glided in a large heron, directly aimed at that prize rock and the first bird flapped awkwardly to a nearby rock perch almost as high as the one

surrendered. The newcomer squatted, pulling in his long neck and hunching himself into a big, legless, rotund, puffy ball for a few threatening moments. With a leaping flop of huge wings it launched at the smaller bird's new perch. No squawk, no threat; just ZOOM! The young bird flapped across the pond to a new, lower perch. Both birds extended their long necks fully, with their eyes and long bills gleaming in the golden evening glow. Motionless we waited. Abruptly Junior leaped into the air with a flap and two powerful wing thrusts. Senior hunched down, puffed himself up for a moment, then deflated and followed.

Try a walk - and stop to watch.

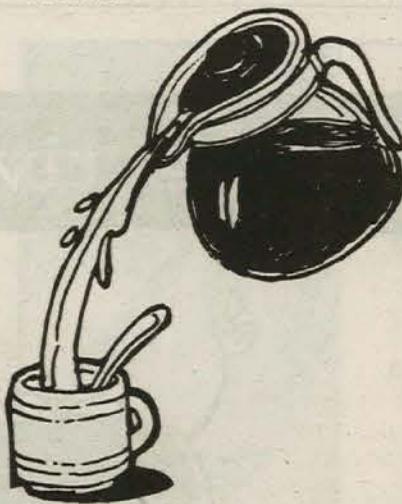
SOS

The universal symbol requesting aid, contrary to what is often said, doesn't stand for *Save Our Ship* or *Save Our Souls*. It doesn't, in fact, stand for anything. It was selected because it is very simple to remember and transmit - three dots, three dashed, three dots. It is not, by the way, an oral signal, but strictly a Morse code one. The oral signal is *Mayday*.

Coffee and Inebriation

Often forced upon the intoxicated to aid in sobering up, coffee is of help only in that it takes time to drink it. And time is the only remedy for too much alcohol in the bloodstream. What is sometimes called the great coffee myth is actually a dangerous bit of folklore; many drivers with a half-dozen cups of coffee forced upon them have gone out to die on the highway.

The human body burns alcohol at the rate of about one-half ounce an hour. And there is no way to speed up this rate.



Hangnail

A hangnail is not called because it hangs. It just hurts. *Ang*, in Old English, meant pain.

Greta Garbo - Feet and penchant for solitude

Everybody knows two things about Greta Garbo; she had big feet, and she once said, "I want to be alone". Neither is true. Her shoes were 7AA, about right for her size. And what she really said was, "I never said, 'I want to be alone'... I only said, 'I want to be let alone.'"

Nice

Nice has an interesting history. Deriving from the Latin *nescius*, "ignorant" (from *nescire*, not to know), its meaning in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries commonly meant *foolish* or *wanton*. To refer to someone as a nice person was no compliment in Chaucer's day. Through a process linguists sometimes call elevation, the word has gradually achieved its present favourable connotations.

However, something of the old meaning is still preserved in the expression, a nice distinction, which does not really signify a valid distinction, but a nit-picking or foolish one (Well, now, *that's* a nice distinction, I must say)

Desiderata

The poster, or wall-hanging, that goes by this name and opens, *Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence*, is thought to have been found at Old St. Paul's Church in Baltimore and to date back to 1692.

Actually it was written by Max Ehrmann and copyrighted by him in 1927; the copyright was renewed in 1954 by Bertha K. Ehrmann. First versions of the poster, which swept the country a few years ago and is still a standard item in gift shops, erroneously claimed that it dated to the seventeenth century and had been discovered during some remodelling at Old St. Paul's.

Old St. Paul's was founded in 1692, which perhaps accounts for the early confusion. Current versions of the poster carry a proper copyright notice, thus restoring to Mr. Ehrmann the credit he was entitled to.

Eunuchs and Erections

They can have them, all right, if castration involves removal only of the testicles and takes place after puberty. It has been said that certain ladies of ancient Rome preferred eunuchs as lovers not only because of the freedom from pregnancy but because they were actually able to maintain an erection longer than the uncastrated, although the method of establishing the statistical basis is a bit difficult to reconstruct.

.....

CENTRE POINT



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1318 Cartwright Street,
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E-mail falsecreekcc@city.vancouver.bc.ca

Fall '98 Registration

Look for our Fall brochure
which will be ready for
Monday August 24

Registration for Fall Programs
will begin on Wednesday
August 26

Register by phone by using your
Visa or Master Card or come on
down to the centre and register
with cash, cheque, debit card,
visa or master card.

SPORT COURT
The addition of this sport
court has been an
outstanding addition to
the community. We ask
for the community's
patience as we implement
and work with the court
policy, priority being
given to youth.

Canada Day Recap

The False Creek Community
Centre would like to thank all of
those people who volunteered on
Canada Day. The Success of this
special day is dependant on the
help from volunteers, once again
we thank you.



West Side Tennis Circuit at False Creek Community Centre August 8-16

There are still some spots
available, register now by
contacting the Centre.

SENIORS

DINNER CRUISE

Cruise English Bay while enjoying a
BBQ chicken dinner with Caesar
salad, potatoes and dessert. The
cruise starts and ends at the
Granville Island Market. Please
register by August 6.
FEE: \$36 August 10
Mon. 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Hearing Clinic

Test your hearing or your hearing
aids with the Vancouver/Richmond
Health Department's mobile unit.
This is a free service but you must
book a time slot at the community
centre front desk.
There will also be a talk on hearing
from 10:00-11:00am.

Thursday August 20

Just a Little Reminder
Remember to renew your False
Creek Community Centre
membership for 1999. Your
1998 membership expires on
August 31, 1998

Sorry folks - no Children's Bicycle Race this summer

We are sorry to announce that the hugely
successful Children's Bicycle Race held last
August along Millbank wasn't the First Annual,
as it was advertised. It's turned out to be the only
one.

The Cafe Riviera's Pasquali Combatti had a
wonderful time organising and promoting it and
was thrilled with the response. He talked a good
story about this year's being an even bigger and
better event but now he's not here to do it.

As regular patrons of the (former) Cafe Riviera
already know, Pasquali left again in July and the
new operators, Alfred Chong and Greg Heng,
have changed the name to **Fusion Bakery Cafe**.
They assure us they will be open DAILY from
8 a.m. to 10 p.m., having heard complaints from
locals that they could never be sure Pasquali
would be open when they fancied a cappuccino or
an ice cream cone.



Drive-in banks were established so most of the
cars today could see their real owners.

E. Joseph Cossman

The only place where success comes before work
is in a dictionary

Vidal Sassoon

APOLLONIA

Your Neighbourhood Greek Restaurant



Apollonia is owned and operated by the Prinianakis family.
The restaurant is small with a warm family atmosphere.
In the kitchen, Harry and Thea Prinianakis prepare Greek meals
the same way that they do at home with recipes they brought
with them from Greece 25 years ago.
The menu is simple from Cretan style Roast Lamb to vegetarian
dishes and the prices are reasonable: \$7.50 to \$11.95.

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Monday to Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
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This old house moving to the Gulf Islands

Most people who walked to
Broadway up Heather St. over the
years referred to this house as 'the
religious house' because of the odd
collection of religious artifacts in the
secluded yard.

When it was evident, not long ago,
that the never-seen occupant had
departed the house (and perhaps this
life) some hoped the funky old house
(of which there are too few left on
gentrified Fairview Slopes) would
remain. The new owners stripped
the enveloping ivy only to perform
structural repairs and interior work
and the ivy was soon as rampant as
ever.

Now the house is going, but not to
the wrecker's ball. We were quite
charmed by the elegant sketch and
message alongside the
Development Permit Application.

Dear Neighbours,

We're moving. (just the
house!).

After 88 years in Fairview
Slopes, this house is about to
get a new lease on life in the
Gulf Islands. In its place we
are building three English
style rowhouses.

We are giving a 10 foot strip of
property to the City in order to
open up full lane access to the
700 block of West 7th & 8th
Aves.

If you have any questions,
contact Howard at
Formwerks Architectural Inc.
685-5441



1998 SUPERWALK FOR PARKINSON'S

Sunday, September 13, 1998
10:00 a.m.
Ceperley Playground, Stanley Park

Run/Walk 10km, 7km or 2km

Prizes Galore!

To register or for more information call
B.C. Parkinson's Disease Association
662-3240 or 1-800-668-3330

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*Either way, I can help you.***I SELL THE FINEST
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Counts**

* * * * *

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BC invites people to sign up and
participate in an exciting nationwide
fundraising event to be held on
September 24, called **Alzheimer
Coffee Break™**. Hosts can hold
Coffee Breaks anywhere people
gather for coffee, with a donation for
every cup made to the Alzheimer
Society of BC.Funds raised help to provide
programs and services for 40,000
British Columbians (over 1/4 million
Canadians) and their caregivers who
are coping with the debilitating and
fatal effects of Alzheimer diseaseFun, social, and easy to organize, an
Alzheimer Coffee Break™ can be
held in homes, businesses, offices, or
bridge clubs. Turn an ordinary ritual
into a significant gesture. Please
contact Eric Winkelaar, Alzheimer
Society of BC, at 681-6538, ext.321,
for details.**To Advertise
in the Creek
call 734-3369****FREE FOR THE TAKING**Advertising space is FREE for any
still-useful items readers offer to a
second home. Leave details for The
Creek at False Creek Community
Centre front desk.**Grand Opening****LEG-IN-BOOTIQUE***(Under New Management)***August 14**Join us for
complimentary
refreshments!*High Fashion at Discount Prices***675 MARKET HILL***(the entrance to Leg-in-Boot Square in False Creek)*

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