

# THE NEW BAMFIELDER

*Frances Barkley hang in there. We need you!*

1 April 2024

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

No. 154/75

**Bamfield is now poorer. RIP!**



Photos M. Phillips



Two for the price of one, with refreshments! You are invited to attend the Bamfield HUU-ay-aht Community Forest Society and the Bamfield Community Hall Society Annual General Meetings on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 2 PM in person at the Fire Hall and on Zoom. Zoom link will be posted on the Bamfield FB Corkboard in the days before the meeting. Snacks, desserts and refreshments. **Stefan Ochman**

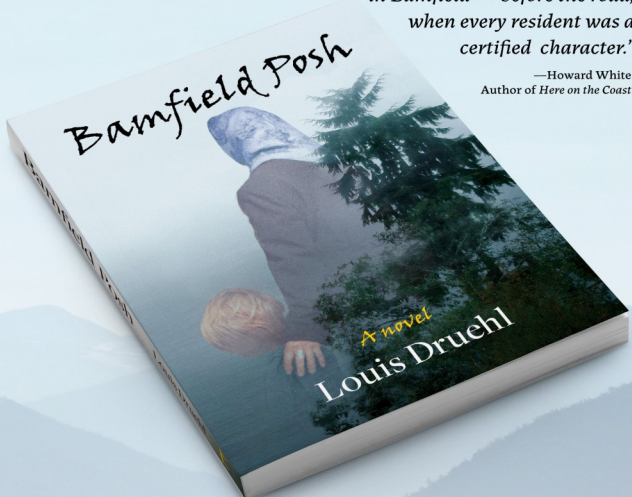
March Affairs or Bamfield Civics 101, attended by 28 Zoomers. The heart of this marathon meeting was **Bob Beckett** Regional Director and **Daniel Saillard** CAO, ACRD responding to questions presented by **Max Salamon** regarding Bamfield governance: credentials, responsibilities, protocol, and effectiveness. See [www.bamfielder.ca](http://www.bamfielder.ca), home page, Affairs link for full discourse. **Chris Donison** outlined the way forward for Music by the Sea. 18-22 July for concerts. Donated accommodation is sought for the players etc. **Allied Certifications -Julian Hocking-Grant** introduced the concept of “user” fees being collected by businesses for First Nations so that they would reap some of the benefits of tourism. The HFN approached Allied Certifications to look at the feasibility of HFN implementing this concept. A Community Visioning Session will be held in the House of HUU-ay-aht on April 10 from 4-7pm. Further information: Julian at 250 228 8526 or email [alliedcertifications@pm.m](mailto:alliedcertifications@pm.m). **Centennial Park - Sheryl Mass:** The new Park Manager is **Jaleen Rousseau**. **Jas Harbel**, Bamfield Community School Association – check website for action-packed activities. *Abstracted meeting draft minutes.*

## Anacla & Bamfield folks miss the bus


Tuesday April 02, 2024, a new regional public transportation service is launching on the West Coast. Connecting the communities of Ucluelet, Tofino, Hitacu, Esowista, and Ty-Histanis the West Coast Transit service will run 7 days a week. The West Coast Transit service is an interim measure until BC Transit can take over. ACRD Chair **John Jack:** “This service will fill that void, and we look forward to connecting the West Coast.” The ACRD will administer this service, with Pacific Western Transportation being contracted to operate the service. *Abstracted from ACRD release*

Sponsored by Granville Island Publishing and Munro's Books

“A bang-up tale of early days in Bamfield — before the road, when every resident was a certified character.”  
—Howard White  
Author of *Here on the Coast*



**Book Launch Event**  
The 3rd novel by “Captain Kelp”, Louis Druehl  
Sunday, May 5, 2024, 1:00pm to 3:00pm  
**Bard and the Banker Pub**  
1022 Government St, Victoria, BC  
(250) 953-9993



MUNRO'S BOOKS BARD & BANKER GRANVILLE ISLAND PUBLISHING

To order: [munrobooks.com](http://munrobooks.com) Event information: [bardandbanker.com](http://bardandbanker.com) Find out more: [granvilleislandpublishing.com](http://granvilleislandpublishing.com) - [louisdruehl.net](http://louisdruehl.net)

Submissions are welcome. They may be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. All submissions must have the author's name. Submit to [ldruehl@island.net](mailto:ldruehl@island.net). *The New Bamfielder* is free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. Louis Druehl



**Congratulations,**  
**Clifford and Marie Nookemus** on their 66th anniversary.  
*Photo Clifford Nookemus Jr. Facebook..*

**Heather Feeney**, Collections and Exhibits Manager for the Maritime Museum of BC. When Heather Feeney visited our archives recently in search of material on West Coast Trail history, she was pleasantly surprised. “It was great working with **Heather Cooper**. Everything is very well-organized, and you have a ton of information that much larger archives don’t have. It seems like a very good community effort.” “No Walk in the Woods: The History of the West Coast Trail” can be viewed from April 11 to October 26<sup>th</sup> at the MMBC, 744 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC. For more information about the trail, see the fascinating Times Colonist article by **Roxanne Egan-Elliott**, Feb 4, 2024. *Judith Phillips*



**Gentry exposed.** It was love at first sight when Vancouver stockbroker **John Evans** visited Bamfield, in 1972. He bought a waterfront property, built a home with stone from his beach and aptly named it Swn-y-mor, or Sound of the Sea, after a cheap Welsh whiskey. With a huge copper clad fireplace, rustic beams, and family antiques, he recreated an authentic Welsh cottage and made it the social hub of the village. A small cannon in the yard would be fired with an eardrum shattering blast, to celebrate birthdays, his annual New Year’s shoot, or as he quipped on national TV, (the 1<sup>st</sup> episode of Still Standing, still available on Gem), on the rare occasions when he got aroused.



**On February 28<sup>th</sup>, longtime Bamfield Resident, John Evans celebrated his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday at a party in his Vancouver Seniors’ Residence. Photo Marc Philips**

Many back and forth years later, often flying his own float plane, John retired to Bamfield.

His days started with cigarettes and strong coffee with a liberal dash of cognac kept in easy reach on a sideboard covered in bottles, many of them special liqueurs used in his fabulous culinary offerings. No meal was complete without a “pudding” loaded with butter or lard and topped with whipped cream. Guests felt like bit players in an episode of Masterpiece Theatre, as the Lord of the Manor, in velvet dinner jacket (from his favourite Kitsilano haberdashery, the Maple Street Salvation Army), entertained us locals with amusing stories featuring his large circle of wealthy, often eccentric, friends. Despite his disdain for healthy habits, John has outlived most of them.

The twice divorced, self-described “swordsmen,” was prone to enthusiastic crushes on younger women. He favoured women under 40. Just before turning 80, he met the beautiful TV chef, Laura Calder, not quite 40, who was inspired to dedicate her next cookbook, “with much love, to my dear friend and the best host I ever met, John Evans.” The relationship couldn’t be expected to last, but his luck with women continued. His final years in Bamfield were made possible by Klara Bebee, who had nursed two elderly husbands and wasn’t yet ready to retire, so she answered an ad placed on alberni.net by John’s son, Oliver. Klara worked wonders on the irascible patient until John required more care. When he moved his father into a fancy facility in Pt. Grey, Oliver placed an online ad for a companion: “Must have an interest in WWII, Winston Churchill,” etc. The position was filled by an extremely attractive, younger woman, who had travelled the world crewing luxury yachts, His charm is still intact; they get along famously. *Judith Phillips*

**New Hall roars ahead.** At its March 5<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting the Community Hall Board reviewed and approved the architectural drawings, understanding that dedication of actual space for peripheral activities (Historical Soc., and such) are confirmed and will be defined later. **Torrance Gilmore** noted the drawings will be submitted to the ACRD soon. Following that, foundation work will proceed. Later, the Timber Framing Guild will frame the build (seeking local volunteers: <https://www.tfguild.org/events/community-building-project-bamfield-community-hall-british-columbia>). **J.P. Hastey** reported Community Forest is donating lumber and covering harvesting costs.