

# THE NEW BAMFIELDER

The old quaint Bamfield (p. 2), the present Bamfield (p.1), and the new Bamfield (TBA)

April 2020

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**Bamfield and COVID-19.** The following notes on the present status of Bamfield are from brief telephone discussions. They are presented in the order of the telephone calls. They may not be totally accurate, but hopefully, they reflect the new reality. I was unable to contact all parties. Delightful pastels by Bamfield's artistic chronicler, **Judith Phillips**, are on the flipside of this paper, that we might better remember the good old days. *L. Druehl*

**Bamfield Life Saving Station.** Business as usual. Rotating crew are asked to self declare COVID-19 symptoms, 14-day isolation may pursue. RHIOT School closed. *Ron Boucher*.

**Bamfield Builders.** Hours open remain the same. No restriction on service. Outside supplies available except for toilet paper and hand sanitizer. *Bob Baden*.

**Breakers Marine.** Store front closed. Shop open. "Keep your distance, and we will try to help you with car,

boat, propane, other." *Gordie Hawkins*. **Amy's Garden.** Subscriptions for 2020 fresh vegetables full. Seedlings for outplanting available, mid-April, free or by donation. Contact *Amy McConnell* 250-735-8243.

**HFN Market.** Closed Sunday & Wednesday, open 11-6 pm. No more than 2 customers (and only one family member) at a time. Gloves are provided, self-service, plexiglass shielded cashier. Some items from outside suppliers shorted. Meat being added to inventory. *Esther Jackaway*. **Bamfield Mercantile & Marine.** Open 12 – 4 pm, daily. Check [www.bamfieldmercantile.ca](http://www.bamfieldmercantile.ca) for photos of inventory. Order by phone (250-728-3351) or email ([bamfieldmercantile@mybamfield.ca](mailto:bamfieldmercantile@mybamfield.ca)). Prefer e-transfer or credit card. Stock good, flour a temporary issue. Please no reusable bags. Delivery for those unable to pickup.

*Marnie McAughtrie*. **Chamber of Commerce.** Discouraging visitors. Reservations are not being taken by local lodges. *M. McAughtrie*. **Motel/Hacas Inn & HFN Gas bar.** Motel operating but not encouraging tourists. "But if someone shows up and needs a bed..." Gas bar open 9-5 pm, Monday to Saturday. *Ron McDowell*.

**Bamfield Harbour Authority** moorage is not accepting visitors. *Amy McConnell*. **Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department.** Wednesday fire practices on hold. Health cautions taken when addressing callouts. Online training for all volunteers. Hand sanitizer provided by Tofino Brewery. *Phil Lavoie*.

**McKay Bay Lodge.** The lodge is closed but gas will be sold in response to phone requests. *Cheryl McKay*. **Tish's Water-taxi.** Essential grocery and medical rides only.

Call *Tish McPhee*, 250-728-1295. **School Association.** Presently the school is locked, restricting access to library and foodbank. Situation to be reviewed. *Christine Gruman*. **Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre.** School field-trippers program and first summer term cancelled, being replaced with virtual field experience. Critical research and animal care continue but with reduced visitors to accommodate safety guidelines. Most staff retained. *Sean Rogers*. **Bamfield Health Clinic.** If possible, call first. When visiting there will be a symptoms assessment. Attempt to limit clinic access to two persons at a time. There is no ventilator but manual oral airway may be accessed. Ship-

ment out by land, sea or air when necessary. *Heather Peterson*. **Bamfield Community Gardens.** West side garden full. *Andrea Butler*. Garden plots in the Eileen Scott Centennial Park garden available. Please recognize social spacing. Sanitizer for communal tools provided. Contact *Rae Hopkins*, 250-728-3297 or [rhopkins@island.net](mailto:rhopkins@island.net).

**Canada Post.** Spit & sneeze stopper screen in place, mail handled by gloves. Mail from 64 countries restricted. No signatures required. Re boardwalk, "All of the goats are in their pens." Hours the same. *Rose Janelle*. **West Island Cable.** Realizing many will be working from home, WIC will not charge for overage. Fibre-optic cable now to west side, where hookups will be made as soon as possible. *Megan Geall*. **ACRD, Regional Director.** Emphasis on communication assuring effective interaction with major Bamfield and west coast players, and government agencies as we move forward, combating this virus. "We all have lessons to be learned." *Bob Beckett*. **Bamfield Recycle Centre.** Daily disinfection, gloves encouraged. Following usual protocol with much handwashing. *Suzanne Rompre*. **Eileen Scott Centennial Park.** Camping and the playground are closed. One restroom with sanitizer and shower remains open to the general public, as are the 'outhouses' on the boardwalk and at Brady's Beach. *Sheryl Mass*. **M.V. Francis Barkley.** Scheduling the same, but turnaround times quicker. Only local passengers will be transported (free!). Reservations to assure safe spacing needed. *Mike Surrell*.



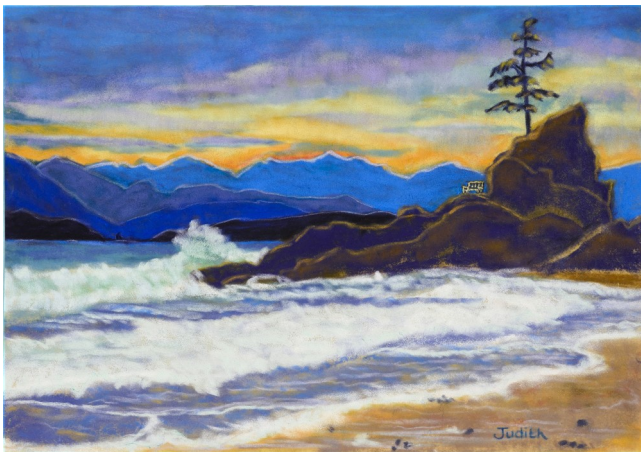
**THANK ALL OF YOU WHO CONTINUE TO SERVE THE VILLAGE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR SITUATION.**

Letters and comments are

welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to [ldruehl@island.net](mailto:ldruehl@island.net). *The New Bamfielder* is a free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. *Louis Druehl*



## Bamfield Past as portrayed by Judith Phillips' pastels



**The virtual Easter Bunny will be delivering Easter goodies, somehow. Stay tuned. Thank you , Bamfield Community Hall Society.**



**Bamfield Victory Gardens.** Presently, Vancouver Island produces about 3% of its foods, whereas during WWII it produced about 40% (CBC Radio, Victoria, 30 March). Presently, we are assured food supplies from outside are strong. Also, we know our local merchants are bending over backwards to keep us supplied. However, considering California's COVID-90 issues, that source could become restricted. Canadian and U.S. farmers will be hindered by the lack of access to immigrant labours. Then there is hoarding. Bamfielders can support much of local food requirements. During the days of the Cable Station, locals supplied farmed produce. Today, community gardens on the east and west side are accessible. The west side community garden is presently full but may be expanded. This could be explored with **Andrea Butler**. On the east side, there are a few plots available in the initial garden. The second garden, on the east end of the Smiley Rink, is totally unused and overgrown, but has grapes and berries. It is serviced with water and has access to garden tools: all that is needed is your sweat and seeds. If interested, contact **Rae Hopkins**. **Amy's Garden**, that is fully subscribed, is offering seedlings for outplanting, free or by donation. Contribute to Bamfield's food security, your physical well being and mental health and turn sod. *L. Druehl*. p.s. then there is poultry...8- week fryers, eggs, manure for veggies.

**Viral History.** When **Captain Cook** first visited this area it is likely residents experienced something similar to what we are seeing with Covid-19 today: A new virus introduced into a population. It can explode into the population. This continues until a sufficient number of people have been infected, and new encounters, mainly with previously infected people who have full or partial resistance, are ineffective. Then it will stop. It is likely the virus will mutate to a more benign form because such a form would be a "smarter" virus. That is, it could infect more people if it didn't kill its us. This might take a long-time or it could happen tomorrow. Such a new version of the virus would be a "natural" vaccine for people who catch it. When this outbreak is over scientists will study the genomes of the virus collected from around the world and with that information produce a description of what happened and how. This information will help us deal with the next pandemic and the next and next until we learn to reduce our global population to a level that does not favour the spread of disease. *David Baillie*