

# THE NEW BAMFIELDER

On 30 August, 2023, there were 30 wildfires on Vancouver Island

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**Potential disaster avoided.** "I Just called the fire dept! Our neighbour has a bonfire going in his front yard in Grappler!!! *Facebook posting by Laura Hermann, 22 August.* Ed. Note. The Bamfield Fire Department visited the scene about 10 minutes after the call in.



**Officialdom visits Bamfield** as our MLA Minister **Josie Osborne** & Assistant **Andrea MacDonald**, and **Daniel Saillard** ACRD, CAO. Regional Director

**Bob Beckett** chaired a meeting in the Rix Centre on 28 August. Advocate attendees introduced their areas of interest. **James Willock**, Chair Community Affairs outlined community concerns: housing, parking, moorage, sewage, and water supply. Saillard responded with proposed positive positions/actions to the issues and noted the need to support BVFD volunteers, and the expense of an audible wildfire alarm system. Osborne noted fires and floods are more frequent and that a bunker refuge for Bamfielders could be part of the plan. She emphasized, as she has done earlier, the importance of community planning (She noted the Provincial government's move to more efficient land use in zoning). The general meeting adjourned after 2 hours and Osborne, Saillard, Beckett, Willock remained to consider what they had heard. The meeting was productive. The absence of invited frontline advocates for tourism and emergency/fire was offset by information given by others. Minister Osborne has the highest credential possible to assess coastal issues. Her interest in things Bamfield is genuine. She and her assistant MacDonald implied that they would knock on other ministry doors on our behalf. **JM Ledet**, BMSC, hosted us and **Edward Johnson** opened the meeting. Thank you, all & Excelsior, Bamfield! *L. Druehl. Photo Saillard, Johnson, Beckett, Osborne, MacDonald,*



**Harvest Dinner returns with a vengeance** after a 4-year lapse. The Bamfield Community Hall's Dinner and Auction focused on funds for the new Hall and provided an opportunity for folks to donate to a fire recovery fund. A \$12 dinner. **Really?** **Auction \$\$** (burger, potato and slaw salads, corn-on-the-cob, and dessert table) fed a sold-out Firehall (Thank you BVFD). The auction was shouted out by a spirited **John Hughes (Herrre's Johnny!)** and raised \$18,000+ (A record high, see side panel). The auction opened with the perennial **Jennings** cinnamon twist (\$150). Selected sales: A fish Gaff & club made by **Brian McKay** and charter (\$900), an antique hospital commode and **Trump** T.P. (\$150), 20 pds. Halibut and Rocky Point Tee shirt (\$150) **Really!**, a First Nation basket (\$1000), a blackberry cheese cake (\$400) and **Hawkins** black berry port (\$150). \$1500 for an antique rocking horse was the largest single sale. A draw raffle offered neat prizes and gave folks a less expensive way to support the Hall. The Hall Directors and Bamfielders thank the contributors, the bidders, the servers, & bringers of good cheer. *L. Druehl*, photos *M. Phillips*

	<b>Auction \$\$</b>
2012	\$5257
2013	\$2617
2014	\$4642
2015	\$6209
2016	\$6998
2017	\$10,676
2018	\$13,295
2019	\$11,330
2023	\$18,000

**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**



**Scotch on the Water.** The (much appreciated) steady rain on Tuesday, Aug 8 was not enough to deter Bamfield's Scotch Club from enjoying a very special evening on **Brian & Leanne Baird's Lucky Lander** barge in Bamfield inlet. Over 35 people showed up in rain gear, to sample 8 different whiskies that ranged from the legendary Lagavulin 8yr to Irish and Indian and BC's own Shelter Point. Pop-up canopies and a propane fire pit kept club members dry and warm. Excitement is building for the Bamfield Scotch Club Bruichladdich cask purchased in 2008 and now nearly as old as the Club itself (16 years). Hopes are to have the cask bottled in 2024 once importing details are sorted out. Photo & text by **Rich Palmer**

**A Post-Covid Excursion** by an aging Bamfielder started at a Thai Restaurant where, not to be too adventurous, Beef Ball Noodle soup was ordered...oops! Confused by a long-dead urge, refuge was sought at the movies, any movie. *Barbie* seemed innocent. Further confused, *Barbie* was seen a second time. Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dah, oh what a wonderful day!

**A Bamfield Summer.** What is there not to love about having bears as neighbors, waking to the song of the eagles every morning and being greeted by all manner of sea creatures as we venture out for another bountiful kelp harvest. For two artists, a summer pretending to be marine biologists was a great success. From the moment we arrived in Bamfield we were welcomed with open arms and after 3 months of adventure we were sad to leave. As we hit the gravel road on our return journey, Julia and I both agreed that Bamfield is one of a kind. *Alex Swanson & Julia Del La Puente*



**Double Duty.** **Suzanne and Katharine Jennings**, finish up their annual pottery/crafts sale on Sunday (more than 30 -years running). On the previous Saturday, they had shucked corn and chopped onions for the Harvest Dinner and that night, manned the Raffle Table. Thank you!



**This space and more could be your message! Think about it.**



**Figs, the fruit of Lovers & Poets,** harvested from **Andrea Butler's** tree in the Eileen Scott Centennial Park Community Garden. Come and garden! Photos by *Rae Hopkins*



**Visit your Bamfield Mall,** where the price (\$0) is right. And the recycle/reuse options are great. Cartoon by *Milana Yevtoshenko*