



Representing the Residents and Ratepayers of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River  
[www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)

## NEWSLETTER August 2014

### CELEBRATING 11 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!

**Keep our communities safe**

**We live in a forested area; our local volunteer fire departments rate the fire index as HIGH to EXTREME. No open burning permitted.**

**Operating machinery in or near a wooded area may cause a wildfire.**

**The Otter Point, Shirley & Jordan River 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 over **400**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plans boundaries who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

**Lifetime memberships cost \$10.00 per person** and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site ([www.opsrra.ca](http://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.

Our society's purpose is to:

- Ensure that the development of the communities of Shirley, Jordan River 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 email address? OPSRRA now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members as well as local elected representatives, media and archival organizations. Email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com) if you want to receive this membership service.

### OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

**Fiona McDannold** President  
Phone: 250-646-2730

**Marika Nagasaka** Vice-President  
Phone: 250-642-2133

**Brenda Mark** Treasurer  
Phone: 250-646-2598

**Sandy Barta** Director

**Debb Read** Director  
Phone: 250-646-9998

Contact any OPSRRA director at: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

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## 1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Marika Nagasaka at: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com) to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar here and on our website.

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Saturday  
August 2

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Hike to Grassy Lake and possibly to Sheilds Lake**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the Charters River parking lot on Sooke River Road.

A 10 km hike to Grassy Lake and possibly on to Sheilds Lake.

Bring a lunch, water, wear good footwear, and dress for the weather.

Everyone welcome.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767  
or email [sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca) for details.

Web site:

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

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Tuesday  
August 5

**Juan de Fuca Emergency Services**  
**Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.

JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building  
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

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Wednesday  
August 6

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation**  
**Commission (SEAPARC)**

Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road, Sooke BC

- Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the first Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.
- Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.

Agendas and Minutes posted for each meeting at:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm>

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Wednesday  
August 6      **Public Hearing Number 1**  
7:00 p.m.  
  
JDF Local Area Services Building  
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC  
  
To consider adoption of: Bylaw No. 3819 – cited as “Otter Point Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1, 2014”.  
The purpose of Bylaw No. 3819 is to repeal and replace Bylaw No. 3719, “Official Community Plan for Otter Point Bylaw No.1, 2010”.

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Wednesday  
August 6      **Public Hearing Number 2**  
7:00 p.m. (this meeting begins after Hearing Number 1 closes)  
  
JDF Local Area Services Building  
3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC  
  
Bylaw No. 3849 - cited as “Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 112, 2014”.  
The purpose of Bylaw No. 3819 is to repeal and replace Bylaw No. 3719, “Official Community Plan for Otter Point Bylaw No.1, 2010”.

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Saturday  
August 9      **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission / Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Mt. Manual Quimper Summit**  
9:00 a.m.  
  
Everyone welcome.  
  
A 10 km, difficulty level 3+ hike with a 440m elevation change.  
  
Bring a lunch, water, and dress for the weather. Good footwear a must.  
  
Contact Sid Jorna:  
Phone: 250-642-2767 or  
email: [jdf.cts@gmail.com](mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com) for more information

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Tuesday  
August 19      **Shirley Women's Institute**  
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

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Wednesday  
August 20      **Shirley Fire Commission Meeting**  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

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Tuesday  
September 2      **Juan de Fuca Emergency Services**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.  
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building  
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

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Wednesday  
September 3

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation  
Commission (SEAPARC)**

**Monthly Meeting**

6:30 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road, Sooke BC

- Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the first Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.
- Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.

Agendas and Minutes posted for each meeting at:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm>

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Wednesday  
September 3

**Shirley & Jordan River Citizens' Committee  
Official Community Plan Review**

7:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Read documents at: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/about-the-region/juan-de-fuca>

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Saturday  
September 6

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society  
Hike San Juan Ridge; Explore part of the Kludahk Trail**

9:00 a.m.

Everyone welcome.

Register with Rosemary as numbers are limited as this hike requires 4-wheel drive and car-pooling.

Bring a lunch and water, wear good footwear, and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767  
or email [sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca) for details.

**Web site:**

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

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Saturday  
September 13

**Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks &  
Recreation Advisory Commission / Juan de Fuca  
Community Trails Society  
Charters River to Grassy Lake**  
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the William Simmons Memorial Park (Poirier Lake) parking lot to car pool to the trail head. (Turn into the Sooke Business Park at 3220 Otter Point Road; the parking lot is behind the berm immediately to the left.)

Or, meet at 9:40 am at the Charters River bridge on Sooke River Road.

Expect an approximately 10 km hike, difficulty level 3+. Depending on participants and the weather, this hike may return via Monument Mountain. for some really spectacular views.

Bring a lunch, water, and dress for the weather. Good footwear a must.

Everyone welcome.

Contact Sid Jorna:  
Phone: 250-642-2767 or  
email: [jdf.cts@gmail.com](mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com) for more information

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Sundays

**Shirley Country Market**  
11:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.

Pioneer Park at the Shirley Hall

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Mondays

**Karate for all ages**

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

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Mondays

**Pilates**

10:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)

Contact Sandra Smith:  
website: [www.svakayoga.com](http://www.svakayoga.com)  
email: [svakayoga@gmail.com](mailto:svakayoga@gmail.com)

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Tuesdays

**Yoga**

6:00 to 7:15 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

Gentle Flow Class for all levels

Contact Nicole Spackman: [shirleyhallyoga@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyhallyoga@gmail.com)

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Thursdays      **Shirley Quilters and Crafters**  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall  
[Everyone welcome](#)  
Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

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Saturdays      **Pilates**  
9:30 am  
Shirley Community Hall  
Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)  
Contact: Sandra Smith  
website: [www.svakayoga.com](http://www.svakayoga.com)  
email: [svakayoga@gmail.com](mailto:svakayoga@gmail.com)

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Thursdays &  
Sundays      **Nia Dance / Movement Class**  
**Thursdays:** 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
**Sundays:** 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall  
Contact Melody Kimmell:  
250-646-2995  
[movingmelody@gmail.com](mailto:movingmelody@gmail.com)

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## 2. CHINA BEACH TOPS PARKS SURVEY

China Beach Provincial Campground, just west of Jordan River, has been given the highest visitor satisfaction rating in the province for the condition of its facilities. BC Parks surveys a quarter of its 129 campsites each year and have released the 2010 to 2013 results. Park users were asked to rate the campgrounds they attended on six criteria:

- Cleanliness of the grounds.
- Condition of the facilities.
- Sense of security.
- Control of noise.
- Cleanliness of washrooms.
- Ease of making advance reservations.

Ninety five percent of the respondents rated China Beach as excellent or above average and it placed third highest in the province for overall satisfaction. Find more information about the survey on the following sites:

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/research/statistic\\_report/statistic\\_report\\_2013.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/research/statistic_report/statistic_report_2013.pdf)

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/travel/Campers+rate+best+worst+provincial+campgrounds+with+video/10060121/story.html>

## 3. SHIRLEY DAY AUGUST 17, 2014

The Shirley Community Association will host their annual Shirley Day on Sunday, August 17, 2014, from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Shirley Community Hall and the adjacent Pioneer Park.

- Concession
- Crafters and artisans
- Children's area
- Closed-bid auction
- Salmon bbq 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Information: Mary Dunn, 250-646-2554

To book a table: Fern Dunn, 250-646-2009

## 4. VIRL MASCOT CONTEST

The Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) has a mascot and it needs a name.

The VIRL announced a "Name the Whale" contest for youth between the ages of 6 and 12. More information is available on their web site at: [www.virl.bc.ca/contests](http://www.virl.bc.ca/contests)

Completed entry forms need to be submitted to any VIRL branch by August 16, 2014. The Sooke Region Branch is on Anna Marie Road in Sooke.

The winner will be announced in September and will receive a certificate and special prize.

Follow the link to the contest form:

<http://virl.bc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Name%20the%20Whale%20Contest%20Poster.pdf>



## 5. WHERE IN THE JUAN DE FUCA?

**Where in the Juan de Fuca?** is a continuing feature in the OPSRRA newsletter. We present a picture and ask you to identify where the building or object is located, what it is, or any significance it might have.

Last month's picture was correctly identified as the old Jordan River Power House by Chris Cole and Bud Gibbons.



A view of the east end of the old Jordan River Power House. The building is located on the east side of River Jordan, behind what used to be the Western Forest Products work yard. Photo taken June 2014 by Arnie Campbell.



The Jordan River Power House c 1926, Sooke Region Historical Society archives.



The building is now completely obscured by dense overgrowth and, unfortunately, is no longer visible from West Coast Road.

Water came to the back of the Power House from Diversion Dam using a 5-mile long open wooden flume. Once its force was expended to turn the turbines and create electricity, the water left by the front of the building. The old Power House was replaced by a new one in 1971.

Follow this link to a story about the Jordan River Power House written for the Rural Observer (March, 2007) by Elida Peers, Archivist for the Sooke Region Historical Society and Sooke Region Museum:  
[http://www.ruralobserver.com/jordan\\_river\\_powerhouse\\_article.html](http://www.ruralobserver.com/jordan_river_powerhouse_article.html)

### **This month's Where in the Juan de Fuca?**



Tell us the location and its significance of the above vehicle. No prize for the winner(s), but we'll give you credit for your "find" if you're okay with us using your name. The answer will be in next month's newsletter. Send your guess by August 30, 2014 to: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

### **6. MEDICAL MARIJUANA DEFINED AND REGULATED IN THE JDFEA**

On July 16, 2014, a public hearing was held at the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Local Area Services Building in Otter Point to hear final community comment on an amendment to CRD Zoning Bylaw 2040. Once approved by the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board of Directors, this bylaw change will define and regulate medical marijuana production facilities as Intensive Agriculture in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JdFEA). Three members of the public attended.

The majority of the respondents to OPSRRA's March, 2014 survey on this topic agreed that medical facilities should be classified as Intensive Agriculture. Follow this link to view the entire OPSRRA survey results: [http://www.opsrra.ca/Survey%20Material/OPSRRA\\_MedicalMarijuanaSurveySummary.pdf](http://www.opsrra.ca/Survey%20Material/OPSRRA_MedicalMarijuanaSurveySummary.pdf)

## Background

As of April 2014, federal regulations governing the growing, processing, storage and distribution of medical marijuana require medical marijuana businesses to register their operation with local government, fire and police. The new federal regulations allow local government to limit where medical marijuana businesses can operate, however the province's Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) has placed some restrictions on local government.

The ALC considers the growing, processing, storage and sale of medical marijuana to be consistent with farm use and therefore permitted on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land anywhere in the province. However, non-ALR land, zoned Agriculture, remains governed by local bylaws.

Facilities on any property outside the ALR have to be specifically allowed by local government; which in the case of the JdFEA would be by a decision of the CRD Board of Directors based upon a recommendation from the JdFEA Land Use Committee (LUC) and the JdFEA Regional Director. This recently happened with the recommendation to spot zone an existing medical marijuana operation located at the Business Park in Otter Point.

## More Background

At its January 2014, meeting JdFEA LUC directed JdFEA Planning Services to consult with the JdFEA Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission and the community about the regulation of medical marijuana production facilities on all agricultural land in the JdFEA. The outcome of that consultation process was a recommendation that medical marijuana facilities be defined as Intensive Agriculture, which, through the issuance of a CRD building permit, regulates the location and setbacks of buildings from property lines. So:

- The federal government issues the license to operate and regulates all other aspects of the growing, processing and sale of the product;
- The ALC supports the use on ALR land; and
- The CRD regulates the location.

However, there appears to be a loophole in the federal legislation which only local government can address: while medical marijuana can only be obtained if you have a certificate issued by a federally recognized health practitioner, such as a medical doctor or nurse practitioner, there is no federal system to license locations which dispense cannabis products. A recent story in the Vancouver Sun newspaper highlighted this. Vancouver now has 45 dispensaries where alternative marijuana products such as cookies, chocolates, candy, fruit and other products containing marijuana can be purchased. Buyers, with the cooperation of the marijuana products facilities, are using a variety of ways to obtain their "purchase authorizations" including naturopaths, psychologists as well as licensed medical doctors. Therefore, while one part of the federal government's oversight of marijuana seems over-regulated by some, apparently another is not.

## And Even More Background

We've come to more or less tolerate many recreational chemicals in our time: coffee, alcohol, tobacco and now marijuana.

If you're old enough to recall the 1960s you might also recall the *Electric Acid Kool-Aid Acid Test* written by Thomas Wolfe in 1968. Considered by some as a remarkable first person account of the antics and adventures of renowned "acid trippers" of the era, the book also introduced an aspect of Counter Culture to those who struggled to understand why taking hallucinates like LSD would improve theirs or someone else's lives. While not an equivalent to LSD, marijuana has shared some of the same social history, medical benefits and controversy.





The psychedelic painted school bus FURTHR used by Ken Kersey and his Merry Pranksters in the mid-1960s. The bus travelled across the USA as the “travelers” used psychedelic drugs to hopefully acquire intersubjectivity.

LSD was a chemical discovery of the 1930 and became a “medical miracle” in the 1940s for its psychedelic ability to influence certain psychiatric symptoms: by the 1960s it had become outlawed in most parts of the world. Meanwhile, marijuana slowly moved from illegal drug status to the fringes of social acceptability and grudging acceptance by government; and by some in the medical community. While marijuana’s use as a recreational drug is now being surpassed by its apparent medical benefits, the question remains: what’s the difference between a chemical being used for medical or recreational use?

## 7. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

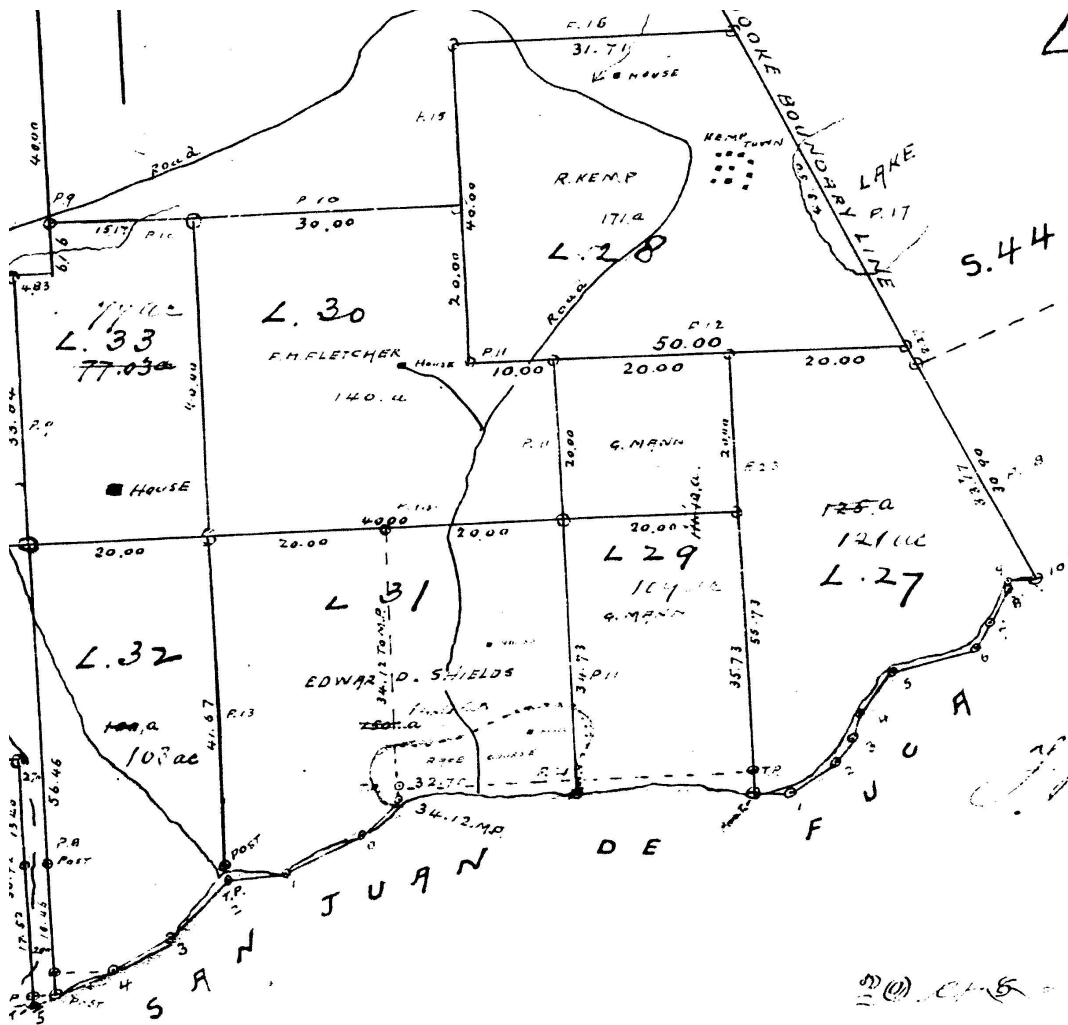
### There used to be a horse-racing track in Otter Point?

Two blurry pictures in the archives of the Sooke Region Museum are identified as being taken at the Otter Point racetrack. The only information is the date on one picture: c. 1922.

However, there's a likely connection found while searching old maps for the *History of Otter Point—Heritage Sites and Areas of Historical Interest*. This map is thought to date from 1894 and identifies who first preempted land in Otter Point from the Province. It also shows the location of a race course.

In 1894, Lot (L.) 31 covered an area approximately bounded by present day Carpenter Road to the east, Dollar Road to the north, the 8000 block of West Coast Road to the west and the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the south. All of Olympic View Home Park, the Kemp Café and the Otter Point Resort are on this property. The race track (as shown) was on the flattest portion of the property and covered an area of perhaps 30 acres and overlapped onto Lot 29 to the east, owned by G. (George?) Mann.

Lot 31 was purchased by Joseph Poirier Jr. in 1902 and farmed until the 1940s when it was subdivided among his children. A portion of the former race track, south of what later became West Coast Road, was expropriated by the federal government in the early 1930s for use as a Relief Camp and later an Army Camp. The property was never returned to the Poirier family.



A portion of the map with Kemp Lake at the top right, Kemp Lake Road through the centre and the Strait of Juan de Fuca at the bottom. The race course is the dotted oval at the bottom of Kemp Lake Road below the name of the property owner, Edward D. Shields (a misspelling of his last name which is Shields).

Information for this month's **Did You Know That?** came from *The Sooke Story—the History and the Heartbeat* written and published by the Sooke Region Historical Society and *Otter Point Heritage Sites and Areas of Historical Interest* written by Arnie Campbell with the assistance of the Archivist at the Sooke Region Museum.

Do you have a question or historical information about Shirley, Jordan River or Otter Point that you want to share? Contact [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

## 8. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

**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](http://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](http://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.

**Support local businesses.** [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  
Coastal Crunch Granola  
Eco Craft Lights  
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites  
Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.  
Full Circle Seeds  
Glen's Gardening Company  
Heron's Rest B & B  
"In A Fix" Bookkeeping & Accounting Services  
Jambo Pet Sitting Service  
Kemp Lake Store Cafe  
Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards  
Le Sooke Spa  
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage  
Ocean Wilderness Inn  
Otter Point Beach House  
Otter Point Electrical Service  
Perfect Grade Plumbing  
Reflexology by Marlene Barry  
Road's End Construction

Sandy's Drywall Ltd  
Stick in the Mud Coffee House  
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast  
Three Sisters Farm  
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm  
Tugwell Creek Meadery  
Welcome Wagon  
Wildewood Custom Homes  
Wood Visions

## 9. **BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER**

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

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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](http://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 or email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com).

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.

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