

LARK HARBOUR

THE

YORK HARBOUR

BLOW·ME·DOWNER

ABOUT THE OUTER BAY OF ISLANDS, NEWFOUNDLAND

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NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

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WINDSTORM OF SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8



On 2014 November 8 a powerful wind and rain storm hit many areas of the Island of Newfoundland, with damage to buildings, electrical services and shore installations sustained in many communities. Winds were recorded in excess of 100km/hr in many coastal locations for up to 24 hours, barometric readings were well below 29.0in/975kPa for more than 24 hours, heavy rainfall caused flooding and washed out roads, and West Coast ferry services were suspended. Temperatures however remained above freezing, avoiding potential further damage due to freezing temperatures. High onshore winds also caused tides to be higher than normal around noon hour.

In the Outer Bay of Islands one of the risks facing a number of residents of the "Down-Below" area of Lark Harbour was the high tides along the length of the breakwater that was replaced a couple of years ago. The picture (above left) shows how the waves created by the high SW wind were flooding over the breakwater, beating against the buildings, and on that part of Main Street.

With the increased melting of the polar ice caps causing significant rises in ocean levels all around the world, many coastal communities are endangered. At times of full moon and new moon, tides are higher due to the alignment of the moon and sun which are the major influences on tides, and when this phenomenon occurs with high winds in the right direction, abnormally high tides can result, causing floods in nearby low-lying areas. For this reason the "Down-Below" area of Lark Harbour, often exposed to strong winds blowing across and into the harbour, is notably at risk, and the breakwater along the eastern end of Main Street therefore needs to be made higher. This would not prevent flooding, but it could provide some protection from increased wave action as ocean levels continue to rise.



The two remaining pictures show the entrance to Bottle Cove. The top right picture is taken near the red house. Waves and spray are easily seen coming over the Eastern Point where the James Cook marker is located. The remaining picture shows the entrance to the Cove from the upper parking area.

Bottle Cove is particularly vulnerable to the wind when westerlies are a factor, and when heavy rainfall also occurs, the brook that drains into the Cove has been known to change its course where it enters. A few years ago the culverts under the road accessing the fishermen's buildings were washed out, and the entire beach near the picnic and parking area was completely changed.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LH = Lark Harbour YH = York Harbour JB = John's Beach
 HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer

2014	DECEMBER	2014
6 th	Sat	Annual Christmas Parade - will start at the bus turnaround in York Harbour and will end at the Town Hall in Lark Harbour. Refreshments will be served.
7 th	Sun	Advent 2 - 11:00am LH, MP; 7:00pm JB, EP.
9 th	Tues	6:30pm - Carol Service & Lighting of Christmas Tree Hot Chocolate served in Church Hall afterwards.
11 th	Thur	VON Footcare Clinic - See below.
12 th	Fri	<i>Drawing of OBIEC 50/50 Fundraiser. See at Right.</i>
14 th	Sun	Advent 3 - 11:00am LH, HE; Also Memorial Lights Service at 7:00pm at both LH and JB. JB also EP.
21 st	Sun	Winter begins. Advent 4 - 7:00pm LH, EP, Sunday School Pageant. 10:30am JB, HC.
24 th	Wed	Christmas Eve - 4:00pm LH, HC; 7:00pm JB, HC.
25 th	Thur	Christmas Day
28 th	Sun	Christmas 1 - 7:00pm LH, EP; 10:30am JB, MP.
2015	JANUARY	2015
1 st	Thur	New Year's Day
4 th	Sun	Christmas 2 - 11:00am LH, HC; 7:00pm JB, Pr & Pr
11 th	Sun	Bapt of the Lord - 11:00am LH, HC; 7:00pm JB, HC.
18 th	Sun	Epiphany 3 - 7:00pm LH, Pr & Pr; 10:30am JB, HC.
25 th	Sun	Epiphany 3 - 7:00pm LH, EP; 10:30am JB, MP.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

2014 December 06, Saturday

The Parade will start at the bus turnaround in York Harbour and will end at the Town Hall in Lark Harbour.
 Santa Claus will be present.
 Refreshments will be served.

FOOTCARE CLINICS IN LARK HARBOUR

The Victorian Order of Nurses is now holding
FOOTCARE CLINICS
 at the Town Hall in Lark Harbour!!

If you or someone you know is Diabetic, has corns, calluses, etc., and needs a Qualified Footcare Nurse, please give the VON a call for more information or to book an appointment for an upcoming clinic.
(709) 634 2042.

The next clinic to be held is December 11th, 2014.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY FEET

BUSINESS & ORGANISATION DIRECTORY

A list of local businesses and organisations. No charge.

Published also on our Website: www.blowmedowner.webs.com

Email: blowmedowner@gmail.com or Phone 681-2256

!!! **Please support local enterprises** !!!

Local businesses may contact 681-2256 for free inclusion

Listed alphabetically :-

- ! **Byrne's Store, Main Street, York Harbour ***
 groceries, hardware, gas & diesel, souvenirs 681-2040
- ! **Captain Cook B&B & Cottages, York Harbour**
 Email: info@captaincookbb.ca 681-2906; 1-877-681-2906
- ! **Curling ONE Stop Service Station, Corner Brook ***
automotive repairs, servicing, fuel 785-2619
- ! **Drop In Lounge, 23 Main Street, Lark Harbour**
entertainment, food, licenced 681-2103
- ! **Eddie Joyce, MHA, Bay of Islands, Corner Brook**
Member, House of Assembly. Corner Brook Office 634-7883
- ! **Fillatre Memorials, 1 St Mark's Avenue, Corner Brook ***
memorial furnishings 634-1529
- ! **Gerry Byrne, MP, Humber-St Barbe-Bay Verte**
Member of Parliament. Corner Brook Office 637-4570
- ! **Lark Harbour Taxi, Jay Barry, Main St, Lark Harbour**
Lark Harbour - Corner Brook - elsewhere 681-2449
- ! **Quik Lube Plus, 65 Humber Road, Corner Brook ***
automotive repairs, servicing 639-5823
- ! **Sheppard's Clover Farm Store, Lark Harbour ***
groceries, hardware, gas, Sears agency, marine 681-2160
- ! **The Roost, Gift Shop and Gallery, York Harbour**
sea glass, paintings, handmade glass beads 681-2341
- ! **Vater Family Daycare, Frenchman's Cove** 789-3940

OUTER BAY OF ISLANDS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

50/50 FUNDRAISER

Get yourself some extra dollars for Christmas

Tickets \$5.00 each.

Draw Date December 12th, 2014.

Maximum Prize is \$5,000.00

Tickets available at: Sheppards Store, Lark Harbour
 Byrnes Store, York Harbour
 The Roost, York Harbour

or by calling 681-2214 or 681-2906.

IMPROVING CANADA'S DEMOCRACY

The term *democracy* is derived from two words from Ancient Greek: *demo* meaning *people*, and *kratia* meaning *rule*, hence “rule of the people”. In its most basic form, the concept of democracy at that time, about 500BC, meant little more than the formation of laws by individuals elected within a relatively small city state. It did not include as participants all who lived in the city, since slaves and women were excluded. The representatives who formed the government were elected directly by the people, and may have been known personally to most. Slaves had a social position comparable with the common people in western countries a few centuries ago, and did not have a vote; women, too, both in Greece and in the West, were generally considered to be the property of their fathers or, after marriage, of their husbands, and had no need to be enfranchised. It is only within the last hundred years or less that all citizens in our societies have been enabled to participate in the democratic process.

In modern times, democracy has changed vastly from the original Greek concept. The small independent city state has been replaced by huge units comprising millions of people. In such circumstances direct representation is often impossible. If these large democracies continue to use a simple system where the person who receives the most votes becomes the representative (as in Canada) the needs and aspirations of some segments of the population may tend to be ignored. This is a serious limitation of these “first past the post” electoral systems: the selection process is too simple to take into account the many subtle variations of opinion to be found in a modern sophisticated society.

The Canadian system, where the party that elects the largest number of members to the legislature becomes the government, can sometimes result in the governing party representing not a majority of the voters, but instead a group of less than half of those who voted. This situation may partly explain why many voters have become disaffected, feeling that the government in power does not represent their interests. As we have seen in Canada in recent years, it is a short step to their withdrawal from participation, or to activism over controversial issues such as pipelines.

[Results of the 2011 Canadian Federal Election](#)

Party	Elected	Popular Vote	Pop Vote %
Conservative	166	5,832,401	39.62
NDP	103	4,508,174	30.63
Liberal	34	2,783,175	18.91
Bloc Québécois	4	889,788	6.04
Green Party	1	576,221	3.91
Total	308	14,589,759	100.00

No candidates of any other party were elected.

It is clear from the above figures that the Conservatives had more members elected (166 or 39.62% of the Pop Vote) than any other single party, which is why they formed the government.

However, the popular vote was another matter. The other parties, *even when their elected members were all added together, ended up with fewer than the Conservatives* (103+34+4+1 = 142 or 59.49% of the Pop Vote). If the voters who did not vote Conservative were added together, they had almost 3 million more votes than the Conservatives (8,757,358 or 59.49% of the Pop Vote). Thus the Conservatives

formed the government under our “first-past-the-post” system, but *they do not represent a majority of voters*. Is it therefore correct to refer to this as a *majority* government when more than half the voters have no one directly representing their interests?

In a functioning democracy the government should take into account not only the concerns of those whose votes elected it, but also the concerns of those who voted for other candidates. The Parliament of Canada has sometimes been rather neglectful of the needs and opinions of minorities such as Indigenous Peoples, Women, Immigrants and even Provinces, hence the mounting dissatisfaction among some segments and minorities in our population.

In efforts to avoid criticism of their election processes and to encourage people to vote, some nations have instituted electoral reform measures. [Proportional representation](#), in which members of the legislature are selected *in proportion to the number of votes cast for them*, is one such measure. The methods suggested are variable, but if properly defined they can have the effect of limiting the power of the majority who supported the first-past-the-post candidates. Under a carefully designed system some controls could be introduced to allow the votes of supporters of the candidates with a lesser share of the votes cast, to have some influence. It is a more cumbersome system, but it can have a significant moderating influence in the legislature, and it provides more opportunity for opposition parties to affect the legislation. A similar result can be achieved by giving voters the opportunity to select more than one candidate on the ballot, with first choice receiving a weighted vote, while second, third and later choices receive various degrees of lesser weighting depending on the order of preference of the voter.

There are now some 75 countries using various systems of Proportional Representation, including Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, South Africa, Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, and Iceland. At present the United Kingdom, the Mother of Parliaments, has not introduced it. Nor at this time has Canada, but perhaps we should begin investigating it as a solution to some of our national discontent over the functioning of our Parliament.

SLH

INFORMATION SOURCES

The links listed below represent a selection of general references on the topic, and a search of the Internet will yield a number of others.

Democracy <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democracy>
 Liberal democracy http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberal_democracy
 Proportional representation
<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/479181/proportional-representation>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proportional_representation

**HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKET FOR THE O.B.I.E.C.
 50-50 FUNDRAISER? MAXIMUM PRIZE \$5,000
 DRAW TAKES PLACE ON DECEMBER 12TH
 AT LH TOWN HALL**



LIBRARY NOTES

by
Susan Harvey



Back to action type of books, plus a new book by Margaret Atwood.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Moral Disorder</i> | Margaret Atwood |
| 2. <i>Dead Sleep</i> | Greg Iles |
| 3. <i>NYPD Red</i> | James Patterson & Marshall Karp |
| 4. <i>Silken Prey</i> | John Sandford |
| 5. <i>The Forgotten</i> | David Baldacci |
| 6. <i>Blood Memory</i> | Greg Iles |

1. *Moral Disorder* is a collection of stories. Most of them concern the same characters, but they are not exactly sequential. The reader may be confused when the first story seems suddenly to be set in ancient Rome; but it turns out to be one of the character's imagining them back in Rome. After that, at least they stay in modern times. The stories describe different events in the life of one woman, and we see how her life develops and she changes. Typical Atwood, there are lots of details that you would not expect, but do fill out the story. It is easy reading if you don't miss crucial bits. Hope you enjoy.

2. *Dead Sleep* is a rather creepy story hinging upon a series of portraits depicting several women who are nude, and who are apparently asleep - or dead. The main character is Jordan Glass, a photojournalist. In her travels, she comes upon an exhibition of these portraits, which she finds very disturbing. She feels that most of the women appear to be actually dead, rather than merely asleep. Aside from this, she is shocked to see that one of the women looks like her; or perhaps like her twin sister, who had disappeared several months earlier. Naturally, she wonders if her sister is actually dead, or what has happened to her. She immediately begins trying to find out who painted the pictures, and about the models; but no one can give her any information at the exhibition. When she tracks down the man who sold the paintings, he is no help either, so she goes to the FBI. From the FBI she learns that several of the "sleeping women" look like a number of women missing and apparently kidnapped in New Orleans, which is where her sister disappeared from. Jordan becomes part of the FBI investigation, and, after several months and quite a bit of travelling, they have the story and reach a relatively happy ending. The plot is somewhat complicated, but the reading is easy and hard to put down. It's a pretty good story.

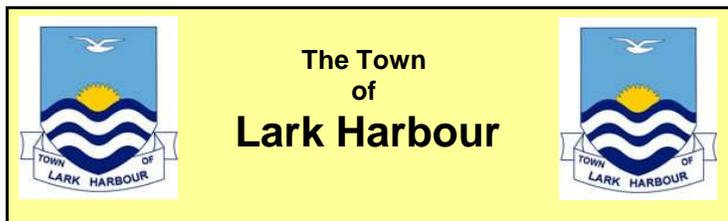
3. *NYPD RED* is the story of an investigation by the elite "Red" unit of the NYPD. The Red unit is assigned the most high profile crimes in New York City, involving the rich and famous. In this book, they must tackle a series of unpleasant murders of wealthy women. Detectives Zach Jordan and Kylie MacDonald must deal with some political situations, including the race between two candidates for mayor, which complicates the murder investigation. There also seems to be some concern about police involvement in the crime, which confuses things. In the end, it does get sorted out, with a surprising twist, which the reader might suspect, but it is still a surprise. It is another easy reading book, again hard to put down.

4. *Silken Prey* is another complicated investigation of a crime, again with a lot of political aspects, this time in the state of Minnesota. Lucas Davenport is a policeman, asked by the governor to investigate a news story that a candidate for the Senate had a lot of child porn on his computer, which ruins his reputation with the electorate. Plainly, the woman who is running to replace him is happy with the story;

Lucas is to try to find out whether she had anything to do with the porn's being discovered on his computer. The story tells how he must check all of her staff and their connections to see what he can find out, and he must use his own connections with other policemen, who know the people who are likely to be involved; and with experts who can check Internet activity and can get information off of the net. He does find out enough to believe that he knows who was guilty, and what they did, but there is a problem proving it. In the end the problem solves itself, and the political lady does not gain from her evildoing. In fact, the author has let the reader behind the scenes several times, and we always knew who the villains were, and what they did. At least two of the books dealt with here have contained information about how politics could be involved in crimes; we just have to hope that it is not as regular an occurrence as you might think from these accounts.

5. *The Forgotten* has a lot of action in, much of it from a military point of view. The main character is an experienced soldier, working in military CID; his name is John Puller. He has arrived in the small town of Paradise, Florida in answer to a letter from his aunt Betsy who has lived in Paradise for some time, and has become uneasy because "things are not right". In fact, it turns out that aunt Betsy is dead, supposedly accidentally drowned in an ornamental fountain. John finds the circumstances suspicious, and, given his aunt's suspicions, believes that she might have been murdered. It also turns out that there is a large smuggling operation bringing people in at night. We find out something about that operation before John does; but he has a few friends who help him investigate and he does discover a number of very suspicious activities. After a few more disappearances and violent confrontations, he does find out what is going on, and who is involved. He organises action that pretty much stops all the bad stuff. The reader will enjoy the ending; it really does seem as if the really bad guys get their just desserts - and the good guys win. There are a couple of surprises, of course, and lots of action; an exciting book with a different sort of plot.

6. *Blood Memory* begins as what seems like a fairly typical FBI investigation of a series of murders in New Orleans. To the investigators it looks like the work of a serial killer; the six victims are all similar types, and all were killed in the same way - including bite marks all over the bodies. The expert on bite marks is Dr. Catherine Ferry, known as "Cat". She turns out to be somewhat troubled psychologically, with panic attacks and troubling memories; but she seems to recognise the type of crime, and she is soon pursuing her own ideas to investigate. However, her investigation almost immediately abandons the expected track, and she seems to be distracted by personal queries. For a long time she has been troubled by what seem to be almost memories - seemingly BAD memories - but she can never see them clearly. Her psychiatrist has suggested that they seem like repressed memories which are typical of those suffered by victims of sexual abuse in childhood, and Cat wonders if something like that may be the motive for the New Orleans murders. Most of this rather long book tells of her personal investigations; she has a southern family with a home in Natchez, Mississippi, just up the river from New Orleans. Most of the story deals with her visits with her rather strange family, who give her several different versions of the facts of her life. Finally she does discover the truth; and, in the process, she figures out the facts on the New Orleans murders - which is a bit of a surprise for the reader. Don't really know how accurate all the info on repressed memories is, but makes for an interesting story.



The Town
of
Lark Harbour

REPORT OF MEETING OF 2014 NOVEMBER 17

Present:

Mayor: Jamie Park; *Deputy Mayor:* Jeremiah Barry
Councillors: Rose Sheppard, Kerry Barry, Dennis Sheppard
Clerks: Peggy Sheppard (Recording), Joanna Pottle
Guest: Kimberly Herritt

Meeting commenced at 6:00pm

- ! Meeting commenced with resident Kimberly Herritt expressing her displeasure and concern with the breakwater Down Below. She feels that the existing breakwater in front of her property at 66 Main Street has completely washed away and this problem needs to be addressed. Council assured her that they have applied for additional funding under the CEEP grant. In the event that additional funds are received they will assess the problem and work towards a solution. Ms Herritt left the meeting at 6:40pm.
- ! Adopted the regular meeting minutes of 2014 October 23rd.
- ! Water/Sewer Update - Phase 2 funding applications submitted.
- ! Amalgamation – Mayor Jamie spoke to Mr. Keith Hutchings (Minister of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs) last week. Mr Hutchings advised that funding for a new fire truck for the York Harbour/Lark Harbour Fire Department has been approved. The truck is sent to tender. All agreed that both councils should meet with the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief to discuss the process. Mr Hutchings also advised that things were moving with regards to amalgamation and that a proposal should be presented to Councils before Christmas.
- ! CEEP 2014-2015 – The project is underway, and work is once again being carried out to replace the breakwater Down Below. Motion was made to purchase additional material in the amount of approximately \$1745.00 to complete the portion of the breakwater that has already been started.
- ! Route 450 – Review of letter received from Mr David Brazil, Minister of Department of Transportation and Works. Funding for this year's provincial roads has already been committed; the concerns for Route 450 will be considered for future funding. Clerk directed to contact Mr Cyril McCarthy to follow up on concerns of the area of Copper Mine Brook.
- ! Vehicle wreck removal – Rod's Autosalvage has been contacted.
- ! Water Issue has now been resolved. Agreement has been sent to the NL English School District.
- ! 911 Emergency Call System – Brief discussion on the meeting held at Marble Mountain on November 13th regarding changes in the 911/dispatch services currently being provided by the RNC. Review of letter received from Mr Sean Dutton (Deputy Minister, Department of Municipal and Intergovernmental Affairs) advising

that the Corner Brook and Bay of Islands region will continue to have the option of receiving 911 fire call relay and verification services from the RNC until 2016 January 1st.

- ! Financial Report and accounts payable of \$5.42 approved.
- ! Collections Update – To date there are 43 delinquent taxpayers for 2014 and prior. The outstanding taxes to be collected are \$17,359.60. All agreed to proceed with sending those with taxes in arrears to Credit Recovery.
- ! Building Permits – All approved.
- ! 2015 Budget – Review of budget as presented.
- ! Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd in front of the Town Hall at 6:30pm. Following the tree lighting, hot chocolate and treats will be served at the Town Hall.
- ! Annual Christmas Parade will take place on Saturday, December 6th, 2014. The parade will start at the bus turnaround in York Harbour and will end at the Town Hall in Lark Harbour. Refreshments will be served. Santa will be there.
- ! Great Humber Joint Council – Invitation received for a Christmas social being held in Pasadena on Saturday, Nov. 29th.
- ! Complaint received from resident regarding the dilapidated condition of a neighbouring property. Clerk directed to follow up.
- ! Complaint received from resident regarding the location of the breakwater repairs/construction.
- ! Complaint received from resident regarding roaming dogs. A letter has been sent to dog owner.
- ! Brief discussion on cleaning position for Town Hall. All agreed to hold off before awarding this position until after the CEEP grant has been completed.
- ! Complaint received from tax payer regarding overdue account. Individual insists that he will no longer pay taxes on vacant land in our Town. This will be discussed at the next monthly meeting scheduled for Monday, Dec. 8th.
- ! Donation request received from the Girls' Volleyball Team; they won gold in the Regionals and will be heading to the Provincials next week. Motion made to provide a donation of \$100.00
- ! Municipal Assessment Agency will be hosting a Moving Forward workshop on Thursday, December 4th in Corner Brook. Motion made for Clerk Joanna and Clerk Peggy to attend this one-day workshop.
- ! Brief update from Paul Wylezol regarding the Global Geopark. Mr Wylezol advised that there will be another meeting Dec. 3rd or 4th. He will keep us updated.
- ! Canadian Union of Postal Workers. Resolution opposing Canada Post plan for cuts, or calling for a halt to door-to-door delivery cuts until there is proper consultation.
- ! Clerks left meeting at 9:20pm for Councillors to discuss wages.

Meeting then adjourned

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CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX COLLECTION



The boxes presented at St James Church on November 23rd
Picture courtesy of George Sheppard

Each year before Christmas members of the two churches of the Anglican Parish of Bay of Islands, St James in Lark Harbour and St Ambrose in John's Beach, organise a collection of gifts for children who otherwise might receive no gifts at Christmas time. The boxes are not actual shoe boxes, but are similar in size and decorated with Christmas motifs. Those who wish to take part make or purchase items that would appeal appropriately to children of both sexes and varying ages, and place them in the boxes. Certain requirements are applied — for example, perishable items are not permitted — and stocking stuffers like pencils, crayons, notebooks, small toys, clothing, and items appropriate for Christmas are encouraged. Simple objects are considered to be the best for countries where basic school supplies may even be too expensive for their parents to provide.

The boxes are brought to each church and then taken to a central collection point in Corner Brook where they are checked and finally shipped to various countries in time for Christmas.

This year our two congregations filled over a hundred boxes as their contribution to make Christmas more memorable for children whose Christmas might not be very exciting for them. At the same time, it shows to both the children and their parents that Christians in more affluent countries like Canada have not forgotten them at this time when giving is an important part of the celebrations of the birth of Jesus Christ who received gifts from the Magi at his humble birthplace in the Stable at Bethlehem.

Many thanks to all those who participated in this small but important demonstration of the meaning of this time of the year when we are often inclined to forget that we and our children in Canada are more fortunate than many others, especially children in poor and strife-torn regions of the world like parts of the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America.

*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these my brethren,
ye have done it unto me.*

The words of Jesus, in St Matthew's Gospel, ch. 25, v.40

PETS in WINTER

At Christmas time many people like to give gifts to their pets, and there is nothing wrong in this. Remember, however, that giving a piece of chocolate or Christmas cake to Fido or Kitty, while they may like it, and it might make you feel good, it may not be so good for them.



Obesity is a common affliction among humans, and we have all seen animals that are suffering from the same thing.

Animals have digestive systems quite different from ours, and while a small amount of what we enjoy may not hurt them, don't think that more is better. It's hard, sometimes, to look at your dog or cat who is watching you intently as you munch on a chocolate bar, or maybe a second helping of that delicious cake, or an ice cream, that you are doing your animals a favour by giving them some too. Instead, if you really want to give your pet a treat, why not pick up a few of the tried and tested treats to hand out, but not too generously. Even a small quantity of kibble, or some similar dog or cat food, will mean just as much as the sugar-laden food we humans enjoy, at our peril.



Bear in mind also, that on a cold winter night, or when a south-easter is howling round your house, the kindest thing you can do for

your pets is to make sure that they have a decent shelter, and if it is extremely cold, as were many nights last winter, you may even bring the animal indoors, if you don't normally do it. Our dogs and cats have lived close to humans for thousands of years, and while moose, caribou, lynx, bears and other wild creatures are completely at home in the Newfoundland outdoors, your domesticated animals are no longer used to conditions in the wild. They may lack food, or shelter, or even water to drink if there is only ice outdoors.

So if you sincerely care for your domesticated animals, do not make the mistake of giving them the same kind of treats we enjoy, because you may be doing that just to satisfy your own feelings at seeing Fido chewing happily on some human food item. And also, don't think that Fido or Kitty can happily survive a night of fifteen or twenty below zero, just because "they have thick fur coats" and "animals are used to cold and nasty weather". It simply isn't true. They need good appropriate nourishment, available water, and reasonable shelter.

Finally, society is coming round to the idea that animals that give us so much pleasure in our lives, should receive proper treatment all the time, not just when it suits us. Organisations like the SPCA, and even the law, are all beginning to take notice when this is not the case.

If you keep your dog tied up outside all the time, except for the odd occasions when he manages to get away for a run on his own, *why would you even want to have a dog?* And if, as some people still believe to be correct, you throw your cat out every night to fend for himself, *why do you even want to have a cat?*