



## Lighthouse News and Information

*Dedicated to protecting and preserving since 2003. Established in Shirley, B.C.*

### **SPLPS NEWSLETTER - March 2015**

See below for important updates from the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society:

#### **In this Issue:**

- Message from the Executive
- Important Updates on Projects
- Meeting Information
- Take Action Now
- Contribution News
- Lighthouse 100 Year Anniversary
- Lighthouse Store Products
- Membership Update and Information
- About the Society



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE, I want to thank you for your continued participation in the Society, and for the confidence you've placed in the Society leadership. Don't forget, for annual members, it's time to renew.

For the last couple of years the Society has celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the lighthouse at Sheringham Point. Our volunteer membership celebrated with public events and new items featuring the 100th Anniversary logo.

Work continues in several areas including communicating with government agencies responsible for the lighthouse. As you know, effective February of 2010, the Federal Government declared the light station and surrounding land as surplus. That declaration triggered the recent actions under the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act (that was originally authored and sponsored by Senator Pat Carney - a strong supporter of SPLPS).

Since then the Society has petitioned the Federal Government to declare the Sheringham Light Station as a Heritage Property under the [Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act](#) (HLPAct), and we have also submitted a business plan further to the HLPAct. Our business plan was approved by DFO last year and we are now awaiting news on the Heritage designation and the final date and details for the acquisition of the property and lighthouse!

This newsletter and report is provided as part of the Society's ongoing commitment to provide members and friends of the Society with as much information as possible. This is report number 51 in a series of reports, however, it's the third edition of the new format.

Please let us know your ideas, comments, suggestions and how you might be able to help our efforts. We encourage you to check in frequently at the website to see the latest information on the Society.

The Executive would like to invite you to the next meeting. Please note the date and location in the "Meeting" section below.

*- Michael Galizio, President*

## SPLPS EXECUTIVE

**Officers:** Michael Galizio, President; Rob Vanveen, Vice President; Terri Alcock, Secretary/Treasurer

**Board Members:** Elanie Bruton; Bill Parkes; Bill Turner; Gary Geddes; John Walls

**Director Emeritus:** Doris Thomas (in memoriam)

**Board of Advisors:** Gary Geddes, Chair; Honourable Pat Carney, Senator (ret); Lee Boyko, Executive Director, Sooke Region Museum; Stephanie Croft, President, Shirley Women's Institute; President, Shirley Community Association

# IMPORTANT UPDATES ON PROJECTS

## 1. PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

According to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans the Society is very close to acquiring the lighthouse property and lighthouse under the Heritage Lighthouse Preservation Act (HLLPA).

As you know, the legislation was passed by Parliament and is now in effect. The legislation sets out a process to dispose of surplus lighthouse properties from the federal government, and to preserve them in communities and with other agencies.

The HLLPA process requires the Society to submit a business plan, a petition, and work through a process with Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to acquire the lighthouse and designated land. All these steps have been completed and now we are in the final stages of acquisition including signing a Memorandum of Agreement with the government to acquire the site.

In 2014 there were a series of meetings with staff from the Department of Public Works and DFO. During these meetings, DFO announced a plan to split the three parcels of land that make up the lighthouse site, and this is presently the plan under which we are operating. Under this plan, the local First Nations would consider the western-most parcels of land in their treaty negotiations and the eastern-most parcel (including the lighthouse structure), is included in the HLLPA - Society acquisition.

## 2. New Lighthouse Book

***“To the Lighthouse”...a guidebook by Peter Johnson (as conceived, created and produced by the volunteers of the Society)***

The book that Society volunteers have been working on for over four years is finally due to be published. While not the original concept of a coffee table picture book, nonetheless the book will feature all the lighthouses in and around Vancouver Island presented as a unique and interesting guidebook.

The Society is pleased to provide this report as written by Board member John Walls, the book's project manager:

***“To the Lighthouse”*** is going through the first round of editing as well as final photograph selections for the book. The Society should see something back from editorial by February. The detailed lighthouse maps and the foreword are complete. Still to go are the photo captions, back cover selection as well as one full overview map with all the lighthouses including corresponding numbers to the chapter numbers. The contract with the publishers should be signed by February.

We are on schedule for a May 2015 release, **“To the Lighthouse”** entails a projected initial print run of 3,500 copies. The next step for the Society is a marketing strategy as well as planning our book launch.

The BC book fair was held Feb 15, 16, 17 at the Laurel Point Inn Victoria, where the book was featured to the booksellers from across the Province. Early orders look strong including Indigo/ Chapters. - John Walls

### 3. Lighthouse View Trail and Jennie’s Trail

Located at the end of Sheringham Point Road, with a small adjacent parking area, the trail head leads to the [Sheringham Point Lighthouse View Trail](#). This almost 4 kilometer trail is open from dawn to dusk and available year round. The Society is proud to have entered into an agreement with the CRD to manage the trail through the summer of 2014. As a result of the community compromise agreement with the developer of the land adjacent to the lighthouse back in 2008, the Society negotiated creation of this loop trail over private property with views of the lighthouse, the west coast and through a beautiful forest all at no cost to the public. The Society has then maintained, managed and operated the trail for five years at no cost to the public.

The Society takes this responsibility seriously and has worked since 2009 to maintain and improve the trail under the agreement with the CRD. Since the end of summer 2014, the Society has been requesting renewal of the agreement and extension to a longer term lease to ensure the Society will, into the future, manage, maintain and care for the trail it acquired for the public almost 6 years ago.

**TRAIL VANDALISM** - Unfortunately, sign destruction continues at the trail. Some visitors have broken and knocked down trail markers. While this continues, the Society has replaced and repaired the signs. Understandably, this process is quite expensive, so we are asking you to please consider [making a donation](#) to the trail/park fund to assist the Society with the trails.

Please sign onto the Society website and click on [“Lighthouse View Trail”](#) to find more information about the loop trail and Jennie’s trail.

### 4. Flea Beach Park – Status Report

[Flea Beach](#) (a “right of way” owned by the Ministry of Transportation - MOT) is now managed, maintained and operated by the Society under license. In 2013 the Society entered into an agreement with MOT to manage and maintain the foreshore “park”.

The Society reached out to the community and others to create a “Vision” for the area. After drafting the “Vision” it was distributed and reviewed by members of the Society, the community

and others interested in Flea Beach. An extensive community consultation was completed and a final "Vision" and work plan was drafted and posted on the website. The MOT was given both documents for review before any actions were taken.

Recently two danger trees were removed, the short roadway now has a plan for improvements in the Spring, the ecosystem is being restored, signs are in the process of being placed in strategic locations to present some basic rules and to protect areas being restored to their original state.

For more information, please go to the Society website, click on [Flea Beach](#).

---

## 5. Lot 113 - Denewood - Land Preservation and Environmental Protection

Effective in 2014 Lot 113 on Denewood in Shirley was donated to the Society by the local family who owned the lot for many years. The land is being held by the Society as an environmental buffer for Goudie Creek, the domestic water supply for over 100 residents of Shirley.

The creek and water system have a long history with the Sheringham Point Lighthouse dating back to the creation of the water system. The original water system in Shirley provided water for the light keepers and their families at the lighthouse. The pipe from the water supply went through the two western properties and connected to the light-keeper's dwellings on the eastern parcel. It was later connected to the Victoria Air Marine Radio relay building that was built on the middle section. The water continued to flow until the final keeper left the station in the 1980's.

**Thank you to the Pattison family for their generous donation!**

---

## 6. Oral History Project

The Society has already collected some interesting [oral history](#), historic facts and information, and has reached out to families of light-keepers and others who have information about the 100 plus years of service to mariners. Recently added is an extensive interview with [Rodney Sullivan and Lynda Fisk](#), who have vivid and interesting recollections of their time at Sheringham Point.

The Society continues to work to add more oral histories and information about the long and fascinating history of the lighthouse and property. Should you have information about more oral history subjects, please contact the Society at [info@sheringhamlighthouse.org](mailto:info@sheringhamlighthouse.org)

---

## MEETING INFORMATION

Please join us...the next SPLPS meeting is a **Membership Meeting**:

**The next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 21, 2015 -- in Sooke. The meeting will start at 2:00 p.m. and be held in the meeting room of the Sooke Region Museum (next to the cottage). Address: 2070 Phillips Road, Sooke**

The agenda will be posted on the website and the time certain for adjournment is 3:30 p.m.

Don't forget to check the minutes of the last meeting ahead of time by logging on to the [web site](#) using your member sign in.

## TAKE ACTION NOW...

***Critical Times Require Quick Action... Please act today to Preserve and Protect our Lighthouse at Sheringham Point.***

The federal government is in the process of making FINAL decisions about heritage status of the lighthouse, land and access for Sheringham Point.

We are very close to success, but without your immediate action, the site may still be lost forever. The Society has submitted all the proper paperwork and now it is up to the Federal Government to decide whether or not the land and structure are protected under the Lighthouse Heritage Act.

Please help support our efforts to protect the lighthouse by sending a letter or signing the petition on our website. Sign on to [www.sheringhamlighthouse.org](http://www.sheringhamlighthouse.org) and click on "[Send a letter today](#)"

## CONTRIBUTION NEWS

There are several ways to provide financial support to the Society:

- Go to the [web site where you can donate](#) via Canada Helps or Pay Pal. (Use your Visa, MasterCard or American Express to donate via Canada Helps or PayPal)
- Or Send your cheque to the Society at PO Box 1002 Sooke BC V9Z 1J1

Please make your tax deductible contribution TODAY...

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION NOW SO YOUR SUPPORT CAN BE USED TO HELP SECURE THE LIGHTHOUSE and LAND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. Every dollar you contribute starts working immediately for the Society's preservation work.

## LIGHTHOUSE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

### Celebrate 100 Years

2012 was the official 100th anniversary of the light station at Sheringham Point.

Please log on to the [Society website](#) to learn more about the 100 year celebrations.

## LIGHTHOUSE STORE

The On- Line Store is open! You may now purchase Lighthouse Society products including the Book, T-Shirts, Mugs and Magnets. Go to the website and click on [LIGHTHOUSE STORE](#) to purchase your commemorative products:

### Lighthouse History Book

The final few copies of *A History of the Sheringham Lighthouse* (ISBN # 099186440-9) are available now. The book was researched and authored by Rebecca Quinn and the volunteers of the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society.

It is a 20 page, full colour book covering the illustrious history of the lighthouse at Sheringham Point. Featuring over 30 photos, maps, journal entries, biographies of the light-keepers and their families, information on the junior light-keepers, the land purchase, the building of Sheringham Point Road and the process of the Society, the book is fun and interesting reading for anyone. The book was produced by the Society with generous assistance from the JdFEA Economic Development Commission.

Please log on to the website and purchase your copy of this first edition publication.

### Products

**SPLHPS Logo/Picture Mugs:** Member Price \$3.00 / Non-member \$6.00

**Logo/Picture Magnets:** Large - Member Price \$2.00 / Non-member \$4.00; Small - Member Price \$1.00 / Non-member \$3.00

**Logo T-Shirts:** Short Sleeve/Gray - Member Price \$20.00 / Non-member \$25.00



## Special 100th Anniversary Commemorative items

**100th Anniversary T-Shirts:** Short Sleeve/White vintage picture of the Lighthouse and 100th Anniversary Logo - Member Price \$10.00 / Non-member \$15.00

**100th Anniversary Mugs:** Vintage LH picture and 100th Anniversary Logo - Member Price \$5.00 / Non-member \$7.00

Should you want to purchase any item, and want to pay by cheque, please send a cheque to the Society address with \$3.00 shipping and handling (in Canada) included for each item, or use the easy [PayPal option](#). Items will be shipped in 4 to 6 weeks. Please indicate T-Shirt size. Thank you.

---

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

On behalf of your fellow volunteer members of the Society, we'd like to invite you to ask your friends and neighbours to join in the fight to save the lighthouse. It's as simple as one click. Go to the lighthouse website and under "[Become a Member](#)" just click on [JOIN NOW](#) and use one of the payment options (Canada Helps or PayPal) to join and pay your membership dues.

Membership allows your active participation in decisions facing the Society including future use of the site. It also permits access to the private section of our web site for more detailed background information, meeting minutes, agendas and finance reports. In addition, you will receive the Special Member Updates via email to keep you informed about the progress of the Society. Don't wait - ask your friends and neighbours to join today. *Thank you.*

## Family membership special is now available

**"Family Membership"** is now available for only \$25.00. The membership includes 1 year dues for 4 members of a family.

Just send your information with one family member's name, address, email, and phone number with your cheque for \$25.00 the Society address. You may also go to the website and click on "[Become a Member](#)" and then click on "[Family Membership](#)". This offer is available for a \*Limited time only\*

Members may log in to the special "[Members Only](#)" section for meeting agendas, minutes, etc. Please report any errors, new information or omissions to the Society. Thank you.

---



## ABOUT THE SOCIETY

*...created in 2003 to preserve and protect the lighthouse, surrounding land and access.*

The land and lighthouse located at the end of Sheringham Point Road is an important part of British Columbia and local history. The Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society is trying to keep the history of this facility alive, as well as working to protect and preserve the light station and the beautiful waterfront parkland surrounding it. We're almost there - and with your help we can meet our goal and achieve success in our mission to preserve and protect.

The Society continues to work with the CRD, Provincial and Federal governments and is in communication with First Nations and other stakeholders to see that the land is open to the public, is preserved "as is", acquired by the Society, and is protected for the future. The Society is also working every day to ensure the building is protected and maintained.

**NOTE:** The Society makes every effort to provide as much information and reporting on events surrounding the Sheringham Point Lightstation and land as possible. The website or our Facebook page may contain more up-to-date information. The Society invites you to view our website at: [www.sheringhamlighthouse.org](http://www.sheringhamlighthouse.org)

**WEBSITE:** [www.sheringhamlighthouse.org](http://www.sheringhamlighthouse.org)

**EMAIL:** [info@sheringhamlighthouse.org](mailto:info@sheringhamlighthouse.org)

**FACEBOOK:** [sheringham-point-lighthouse-preservation-society](https://www.facebook.com/sheringham-point-lighthouse-preservation-society)

**PHONE:** 250-646-2528

The Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society was established in 2003. The Society is incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia, File #S47588 - May 17, 2004. The Society is registered as a charity by the Canada Revenue Agency, #858885940RR0001, July 29, 2004.

SPLPS is a proud member of Volunteer Canada.

[Unsubscribe](#)

Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society  
PO Box 1002, Sooke, BC V9Z 1J1