

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Happy Pride Month!

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Lucas Family outing to Kiixin with Justin, Azalea, Linnea, Kenny, Tyler, Jordan, Daisy, Aliyah, Peyton, Kylie, Telford, Willow and Frankee.

Motherhood in Bamfield: It Takes a Village... and Everyone's in It!

What is it like being a mother in a small town full of the kind of "crazy weird people" who choose to live at the end of the road, surrounded by ocean and forest on all sides? Since arriving in Bamfield, I've felt what I can only describe as a quiet parental force within the community. Everyone is eager to help look after their neighbours, even if you're a full-grown adult.

That same feeling seems to extend even more strongly to children. It must be a strange experience growing up in a place where every stranger already knows who you are before you've even been introduced. Kids here are very outnumbered, and in a way, they belong to the whole community.

The Bamfield Community School, with around 40 students from kindergarten to grade 12, means there are only a handful of kids in each grade. Childhood here unfolds in small cohorts, where everyone knows everyone, and daily life looks different than it does in larger towns.

For Linnea Lucas, raising a blended family of ten in Anacla, that closeness is part of what makes it special.

"Raising children in Bamfield is such a gift because they get to grow up with a freedom and sense of safety that feels rare now," she says. "Our kids spend their days surrounded by ocean, forest, family, and community, knowing there is always someone looking out for them."

Linnea writes that when visiting the city, she often finds herself thinking, "My kids know how to watch for wildlife, not... traffic!"

In a place where support often appears without asking, she adds: "Nobody truly parents alone here. Another mother or grandmother will step in without hesitation."

For Andrea Butler, who raised four children on the west side of Bamfield, that sense of collective effort has always been central.

"It takes a community to raise a child," she says. "We knew what they were up to before they even got home." Her memories include school boats, island camping trips, and kids ranging freely across the landscape. She reflects on the abundant opportunity for employment, recalling her kids selling wares to passengers on the Lady Rose and making more than she was as a stay at home mom. She also adds that back to school shopping was serious, as her kids were somehow losing shoes to the tide more often than expected.

Both mothers reflect a shared truth: in Bamfield, childhood isn't just shaped by family, but by an entire community that notices, supports, and inevitably knows your business, whether you want them to or not.

Abigail Andiel

Salty Hearts Festival

Under the glow of a full moon and surrounded by incredible weather, Salty

Hearts delivered a weekend that felt both intimate and unforgettable. Thank you to the Bamfield community for opening your arms to artists, music lovers, locals and travelers alike creating the kind of atmosphere that reminds people why gatherings like this matter.

From the beaches to the docks, there was an energy flowing through town all weekend long. People wandered between stages, reconnected with old friends and made new ones while the sounds of live music echoed through the trees and along the water. Bamfield always has a certain magic to it, and this weekend it shined.

The lineup was stacked with talent from Vancouver Island and beyond, showcasing artists who brought passion, creativity and incredible performances to every stage. Bamfield locals, Low Tide, packed the Hacas Inn stage and showed attendees the spirit of Bamfield.

The sense of community stood out most. Local businesses, volunteers, residents and attendees all played a role in creating the magic. A huge thank you to the community for the warm welcome.

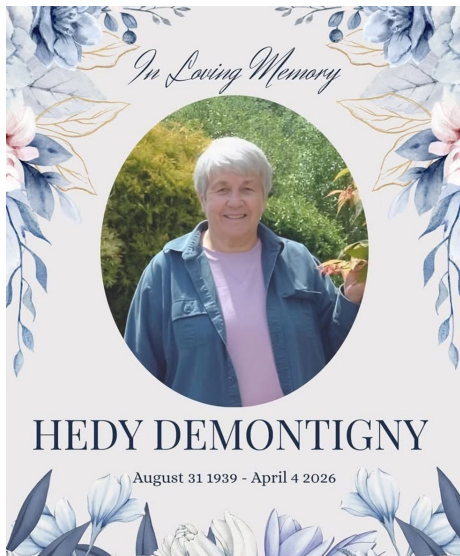
Long Shot Events Inc strives on strengthening connections, supporting local communities and reminding people how powerful music and gathering can be. Salty Hearts is a celebration of west coast culture, connection and is buzzing in the music community.

Long Shot Events Inc

Breakers Marine now Bamfield Boat Centre

About 65 Bamfielders, family and friends gathered to celebrate Gord Hawkins passing the torch carried for 39 years running Breaker's Marine, to the long time employee and now owner Dylan Richards. Breaker's is now christened the Bamfield Boat Center.

Amaya Black



Our Hearts are Heavy

as we announce the passing of Hedy Demontigny. Surrounded by her loved ones, she passed peacefully on April 4th 2026. As a beloved Wife, cherished Mother, and proud Grandmother and Great-Grandmother, she will be deeply missed by her family and all those who called her friend. She leaves behind a legacy of kindness, strength and creativity that will live on in the hearts of her family and the friends she adored.

A celebration of life will be planned to take place this summer in Bamfield.

Brandy Zannet

Three Stars Sustainable Seas Panel

Three Stars Sustainable Seas Panel Niki Wilson (middle) hosted Morgan Ursel (left) of Nova Harvest and Clay Steele (right) of Blue Futures Kelp for the Three Stars Sustainable Seas Panel during the Dark Sky Event at the House of Huu-ay-aht. Morgan discussed the importance of sustainable aquaculture and the role of locally grown shellfish as a protein source. Clay discussed how kelp cultivation can support carbon sequestration and broader climate mitigation efforts. Together, the panel highlighted the interconnected role of ocean-based food systems and ecosystem restoration in advancing a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.

Morgan, Clay, and Niki

Baby Announcement

Congratulations to Honey Martin and Robert Wells on the birth of their baby Gray Wells born May 19th at 1:20 am weighing 7lbs 3oz!

Amaya Black

Shahi Paneer

Shahi means royalty in Hindi. This recipe dates back to the Mughal Empire and is considered fancy due to the multitude of spices. Blender required.

Oil or ghee
 1 tbsp whole cumin
 ½ stick of cinnamon
 6-7 cloves of garlic
 ~10 cashews
 1-2 bay leaves
 4-5 whole cardamom (green or mixed)
 Peppercorns to taste
 1-2 tsp garam masala
 1-2 tsp coriander powder
 1-2 tsp cumin
 ½ tsp - kashmiri red chili
 1 tsp turmeric
 Pinch of salt (we add more again later)
 1 1/2 cups onions, roughly chopped
 ½-1 tbsp ginger
 2 little green chilis
 2 roma tomatoes, roughly chopped
 1 cup water
 1 cup cream
 1-2 packs of paneer (250-350g)

Start with 1 tbsp oil or ghee in a pan, heat to medium hot, add cumin, cinnamon, garlic, cashews, bay leaves, cardamom, peppercorns. Cook until fragrant. Add onions. Cook until translucent. When they first start to turn, add ginger, garlic, chilis. When onions are done add tomatoes. Cook tomatoes until water in the pan has mostly evaporated. Add in the rest of the spices, mixing well. Turn off the heat and let cook and cool for a couple minutes. Add veggie and spice mix to a blender. Blend and add ½ cup of water and 1 cup of cream alternatively, until very fine and pasty looking.

In a larger pot, add oil and heat to medium high. Add in the blended mixture. Add water until you've reached your preferred curry thickness. Bring to a boil. Add salt to taste. Taste test the curry if you want to add more garam masala or spice.

Community Events

June 21: Solstice
June 21: Father's Day
June 25: Last Day of School
June 29: Full Moon
July 4: BVFD Intertidal golf
Tuesdays, 7 pm: BMSC Summer Seminars

Add paneer to heart's content. Cook at least 5-10 minutes on medium heat. Prime Shahi is cooked until you see the oil starting to separate.

Kynat Bhinder

The Weathered Verse

Bamfield

Tell me where I want to go. Back where I want to be. Right here among the cedar trees
 Home.

In Barkley Sound, on Wizard Islets. Live four barnacle species and marbled murrelets
 Home

Purple snails, sand stars, red anemones. Between Pacific tides is where you'll find me
 Home

The edge of the sea
 Stick to the speed limit - or so I'm told
 Slow down for the curve in the road
 Wheels go round - safely carry the load
 I sure hope these bus tires hold
 Zoology, pathology, morphology, evolution. The wonder and mystery of life's solution
 Home

On the 19th of September 1902. 4000 miles of telegraph cable connected New Zealand and you
 Home

Now we study the ocean on the seaweed lab today, At the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre we learn, teach, and lead the way
 Home

The edge of the sea
 Stick to the speed limit - or so I'm told
 Slow down for the curve in the road
 Wheels go round - safely carry the load
 I sure hope these bus tires hold

Written by Sem Kelpin, on a trip to Bamfield driving students to the BMSC

Submissions are welcome. Please send them with the author's name to thenewbamfielder@gmail.com. The New Bamfielder is funded by donations. We appreciate anything you can contribute. Any extra funds will be donated to the Bamfield Community School Association's youth programs. Editors: Taylor, Amaya, Hannah, Abi, Caitlin